

Dear friends,

The Far Western District is home to a brand-new youth chorus: Pacific Standard (<http://www.pacificstandard.org>). This group of 25 young men has been working hard since July to prepare for and compete in the 2012 Youth Chorus Competition at Midwinter in Tucson, AZ, in January. Those of us who have visited their rehearsals have seen firsthand the high level of organization, passion and commitment they bring to our hobby.

The NW Division has organized a sendoff/celebration for Pacific Standard, which will also mark the chorus' first-ever performance (please see details below). If you have any questions or suggestions, please email Mike Cating at [mike.cating@gmail.com](mailto:mike.cating@gmail.com).

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**What**

Pacific Standard Celebration Send-Off

**When**

Sunday, January 15, 7 - 9 PM. This is the week before the chorus competes in Midwinter.

**Where**

Berkeley Hillel, 2736 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, CA

**The Program**

Pacific Standard will perform as the "headliner," and we are working to secure more young performers to make an afterglow-style show. The First Strike quartet will be there, and 13 other youth a cappella groups are being contacted to perform. Please send details if you know of a group who may be interested!

There will definitely be tags and informal singing as well in the tradition of the classic Barbershop afterglow.

**Who's Invited**

Anyone and everyone who loves a cappella music. Event notifications are being sent to choir teachers in the Bay Area, ba-acappella, all the FWD NW division members, fwd-list, FWD eNews, and Berkeley and Stanford college groups.

**Donations**

We will "pass the hat" to help Pacific Standard defray their costs of attending the competition. We're recommending a \$10 donation, but any donation is purely voluntary. The Berkeley Hillel has donated use of its facility, so all proceeds will go directly to benefit the young guys!

Let's show the young men of Pacific Standard what a classic Barbershop get-together looks like, and send them off to their first ever convention and competition in style!