

# An Announcement of *Grand* Proportion

*Dear Members,*

*On behalf of the Sweet Adelines International Board of Directors I am very excited to announce that our annual convention will be held at the MGM Grand Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas in 2015, 2016, and 2017. Competition, lodging, dining and gaming in one location. That's a four-of-kind hand that we bet is unbeatable.*

This is an unprecedented decision. For the first time since chorus competition was introduced in 1973, and for three years in succession, all convention attendees will be lodged in a single hotel. The competition venue and the site of Harmony Bazaar are located just outside your door.

Gaming destinations historically have been popular with Sweet Adelines. We had 9,575 attendees in Reno in 1994. In 2006, there were 11,207 in Las Vegas, a 137 percent increase in attendance over the average in 2005-2008.

Some of the wonderful benefits you will enjoy are:

- ◆ The MGM Grand has 5,035 rooms and suites and has given Sweet Adelines confirmed, affordable rates for all three years.
- ◆ All contests will be held in the Grand Garden Arena, a 15,200 seat facility that was launched by the incomparable Barbra Streisand, who broke her 20-year hiatus from live performing for the occasion.
- ◆ You'll never have to leave the hotel for a delicious, affordable meal. There are 18 restaurants plus a food court where you choose from McDonald's to Emeril's, fast-food to fine dining.
- ◆ There is more meeting space in this one property to accommodate chorus competitors' riser rehearsal and meal function space needs than in any other convention city we've ever booked.
- ◆ When you are ready to try your luck there is gaming galore: blackjack to baccarat to Casino War® and the largest selection of slot games anywhere on the strip.
- ◆ A 6.6 acre swimming complex features several pools, one of them is open year-round, barring inclement weather.

- ◆ Other amenities include a spa and health club, hair salon, shopping, and an exciting lion habitat.
- ◆ The wedding chapel on the property is open daily.
- ◆ A Las Vegas monorail station is on the property to transport you quickly and economically to other spots along the famous Las Vegas strip.

We're wagering that this important decision will be as good for you as it is for the Corporation. Using this fantastic facility for our convention will save the Corporation almost \$500,000 per year in busing costs and facility rental. Busing typically has been the largest single convention expense, ranging from \$200,000 to \$400,000 depending upon the location, the cost of fuel and the busing schedule.

This is going to be an MGM *Grand* experience. Set your sights now on joining us then!



Sweet Adelines International President

