



*Philadelphia*  
**Doo Wop & Acappella  
Groups**

Compiled by Pamela Horner  
[www.ClassicUrbanHarmony.net](http://www.ClassicUrbanHarmony.net)

**Dedicated to all those who sang on the  
street corners of the Greater Philadelphia area.**

## PHILLY'S DOO WOP GROUPS

Al Russell Trio (Sapphire label), Angels (Grand label), Anthony & Sophomores,

Baby Dolls (Maske label), Bachelors (Mercury), Belltones (Grand label), Bill Harton & Dawns (Lawn label), Billy & The Essentials, Billy Abbott & Jewels, Blendtones (Don-EI label), Blue Belles, Bluenotes, Bosstones, Buccaneers, Buddies (Swan label), Butlers,

Cameos (Cameo label), Capris (Gotham label), Cardinals (Rose label), Carl Holmes & Commanders (Jadco label), Carter Rays, Casinos (Maske label), Castelles (Grand label), Castros (Lasso label), Celestrals (Don-EI label), Channels (Mercury label), Cherokees (Grand label), Chessmen (Don De label), Chip & Quartertones, Chords (Casino label), Chris Powell & Blue Flames, Citations (Don-EI label), Classic IV (Twist label), Clefts (V-Tone label), Clientells (MBS label), Co-Eds (Sheryl label), Co-Hearts (Vee Jay label), Cobras (Swan label), Companions, Contenders (Java label), Creators (Epic label),

D'Accords (Don-EI label), Dale & Cashmeres, Danny & Juniors, Day Brothers, Daytons (Norgold label), De-Los (Cedar label), Deckers, Dee Jays (Sonata label), Del Knights, Del-Aires (Delsey label), Del-Airs (MBS label), Delrays (Cord label), Destinations, Dials (Hilltop label), Dialtones (Best label) Dixieaires, Do Re Me Trio, Doc Starks & Nite Riders, Don Gardner & Sonotones, Dovells, Dreamers (Grand label), Dreamlovers, Dreams (Savoy label), Dynamics (Herald label),

Ebbtides (Teen label), Ecstasies (Amy label), Edward Sisters (Kaiser label), Equadors (RCA label), Ernie & Halos (Guyden label), Exceptions (Cameo label), Exodus, Exodus II,

Fabulaires (Mainline label), Fabulous Four (Chancellor label), Famous Hearts (Guyden label), Fantasys (Guyden label), Farrel & Flames, Fashons (V-Tone label), Filatones, Five Classics, Five Hearts (Arcade label), Five Hungry Men (Melmar label), Five Kings (Mercury label), Five Lords, Five Notes, Four Aces, Four Blues (Apollo label), Four Clefs (B-J label), Four Epics (Heritage label), Four Dates, Four Evers (Jamie label), Four J's, Four Naturals (Red Top label), Four Of A Kind, Four Thoughts (Womar label), Frankie Greer Quartet (Swan label), Frannie & Varcells (Lash label), Furness Brothers,

Gainors, Gay Charmers (Grand label), Gazelles (Gotham label), Ginger & Snaps, Grand Prees, Guytones (DeLuxe label),

Herb Johnson & Premiers, Hideaways, Hippies (Parkway label), Honey & Bees (Arctic label),

Illusions, Incinerators, Informers, Intentions (Jamie label), Intentions (Melron label), Intruders, Irma & Fascinators, Irma & Larks, Ivytones,

Jimmy & Sundials (V-Tone), Jimmy & Towers, Jimmy Eden & Revelers,

Jimmy Jacono & J's, Joe Van Loan Quartet (Carver label), Joey & Flips, Johnny Banks & Everglades

**Kenny & Starlites** (Ember label), **Keys** (Mel-o-dy label), **Keystoners**, **Kingsfive**, **Kittens** (Chestnut label),

**Lady Fox & Foxettes** (Don-El label), **Larks** (Crossfire, Jett, Sheryl labels), **Lavenders** (CR label), **Leisure Lads**, **Lee Andrews & Hearts**, **Lenny Rocco & Rocks**, **Little Jimmy & Sparrows**, **Little Jimmy & Tops**, **Little Joe Cook & Thrillers**, **Little Sammy & Tones** (Jaclyn label), **Little Sammy Rossi & Guys**, **Little Tommy & Elgins**, **Ly-dells**,

**Madison Brothers**, **Magnatones** (Cedargrove label), **Majors**, **Marquees** (Len label), **Masters** (Len label), **Medallions** (Essex label), **Messengers** (Beam label), **Metronomes** (Riverside label), **Metropolitans** (Junior label), **Modern Ink Spots** (Rust label), **Modern Red Caps**, **Mohawks** (Mutual label), **Mohawks** (Value label), **Moniques**, **Montereys** (Impala label), **Mystery Men** (Pow label), **Mystery Quartet**,

**No Names** (Guyden label), **Notes**, **Nu-Trends**, **Orlons**,

**Pacers** (Guyden label), **Pals** (Turf label), **Parktowns** (Impala label), **Parliaments** (Len label), **Patti & Emblems**, **Perfections**, **Philadelphians**, **Philly Stompers**, **Pixies** (Don De label), **Playboys**, **Premiers** (Mink label),

**Quadrells** (Whirlin Disc label), **Quills** (Casino label),

**Re-Vels**, **Richie & Royals**, **Richie Allen & Ebonistics**, **Rick & Masters**, **Rivals** (Darryl label), **Robin Hood & Merri Men**, **Ronnie & Classmates**, **Roxy & Daychords**, **Royal Demons** (Pek label), **Royal Five** (P&L label), **Royal Knights** (Donna label),

**Sensations**, **Shar-mels** (Palm label), **Sharmeers** (Red Top label), **Sherrys** (Guyden label), **Silhouettes**, **Sinceres** (Richie label), **Sonny Fulton & Mixmasters**, **Starfires** (Bargain label), **Stereos** (Mink label), **Steve Gibson & Red Caps**, **Stompers** (Landa label), **Students** (Red Top label), **Styles** (Swan label), **Sundials** (Guyden label), **Superbs** (Heritage label), **Superiors** (Mainline label), **Swans** (Swan), **Sweethearts** (Harris label), **Swinging Phillies** (DeLuxe label),

**Tams** (Heritage label), **Teddy & Continentals**, **Teddy & Twilites**, **Three Degrees**, **Tiffanys** (MRS label), **Tiffanys** (Swan label), **Tommy Cook & Fantastics**, **Tony & Masquins**, **Tony & Raindrops**, **Tony & Twiliters** (Red Top label), **Tops** (Singular label), **Troupers** (Red Top label), **Turbans**, **Twilights** (Harthon label), **Tymes**, **Tyrone & Nu Ports**

**United Four** (Harthon label), **Universals**, **Uptites** (Rasel label),

**Varnells**, **Vernalls**, **Versatiles** (Rocal label), **Vespers** (Swan label).

**Great Lead Singers Born in Philly who Achieved Fame Elsewhere:**

Bill Kenny (Ink Spots), Joe Van Loan (Ravens), Richard Barrett (Valentines), Larry Chance (Earls), Rudy Lewis (Drifters).

**Other Great Lead Singers Who Once Lived in Philly :**

Sonny Til (Orioles), Pookie Hudson (Spaniels), Barbara Jean English (Clickettes)

# PHILLY'S ACAPPELLA GROUPS

Throughout the years, Philadelphia has been at the forefront of street corner acappella singing. Here's are some of our acappella groups over the years. Most, but not all, recorded. Those listed here that didn't record, at least made radio or live performances. This list is broken down into eras: the 60's or first wave of acappella; the 80's resurgence; and finally groups that have been active over the past ten plus years. Some groups that started in the 80's are still very active but we've listed them in the era they started.

## **Sixties (First Wave)**

Compulsions, Contenders, Distinctions, Durhams, Five Fortunes, Five Scripts, Froggy & Destinations, Illusions, Lytations, Natural Facts, Potentials, Q-Tones, Regencies, Sands, Satan & Angels, Vibratones.

## **Eighties (Second Wave)**

A Moments Pleasure, Acappella Gold, Balladeers, Charm (Philly), Delane Brothers, Destinations, Ecstasies, Five Grand, Foundation, Golden Hearts, Keystoneers, Memories, Memory Lane, Neighbors Complaint, New Emage, Nostalgia Five, Omega Five Maestros, Reminisce, Reunion (Ocean Co., NJ), Solid Gold (Philly), Sound & Soul, Spontaneous Combustion, Street Corner Five, Street Corner Unity, Street Dreams, Tycoon, Zip Codes

## **Modern Age**

45 RPM, 49th Street, 5/3 Woodland, A Perfect Blend, Accords, Bandaleers, Classic Harmony, Cornerstone, Credentials, Doo Wop Depot, Dukes of Doo Wop, Emeralds, Flashback, Frankie & Fashions, Hearts Of Stone, Junior & Four Seniors, Mid-Life Crisis, Mintones, N-2-Deep, New Harmony, Norristones, Now & Then (Philly), Quiet Storm, Relatives By Appointment, Remember When, Rick & Masters, Royal Blue, Second Chance, Sleepless Knights, Stan & Topics, Steel Belted Radials, Time Was

Can you identify the 1955 North Philly group on the cover? Like many who sang here, their names have faded but their harmonies are still heard in the voices of the hundreds of groups who came after them. A Philadelphia legacy lives on!

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