

Greetings, Jubilate Singers:

The Jubilate leadership team are hoping that you are all well and keeping safe. We have been working with our Music Director, Isabel, to find innovative ways to keep singing in this time of social distancing. Attached to our June 14th email was a Q&A letter explaining some of the approaches we plan to take. And at our AGM, Isabel shared an outline of her plans to turn our current challenges into opportunities.

WE WILL BE SINGING!

Since we cannot yet safely sing together as a choir, we will be meeting in virtual rehearsals—that is, online—to make and enjoy music together. Our regular rehearsal nights will continue on Tuesday evenings, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

We will continue this approach until there are positive announcements from public health authorities that will allow a gradual return to our singing together physically. Moving into that stage, we will adopt a hybrid rehearsal model, which will combine virtual participation with safety-conscious, in-person rehearsal at St. Leonard's attended (at their discretion) by smaller numbers of singers.

First Rehearsal and orientation: Tuesday, September 8, 7:00 p.m.

What will virtual/hybrid Jubilate look like?

- Each rehearsal will include warm-ups, singing a familiar piece, and learning about some aspect of singing technique, e.g. pitch and blending, harmony and diction.
- We will sing in sections regularly.
- We will sometimes sing in small mixed-voice groups.
- We will sing some new music and revisit some familiar pieces.
- We will have workshops with special guests to learn about aspects of singing in choral groups.
- Once a month, we will have short presentations by choristers in our new "Singer's Corner" feature.
- We will learn how to create virtual choral recordings – and make some!
- We will build community in a variety of ways with your ideas and participation.
- For further information, click here: jubilatesingers.ca/members/

Virtual Singing

For those of us who need technical help, for example with Zoom participation or with equipment issues, we will have some tech-savvy Jubilate members available to offer guidance and support. This year, we are also including in our registration survey some brief questions designed to help you share your technology needs and concerns.

Expenses

For the coming season we will have no income from ticket sales, but we still have expenses: staff salaries, association fees, some music purchases, and possibly rehearsal space rental. We are aware that some of you will be experiencing financial uncertainty, and we do not want that to be a barrier to your joining us in song. Therefore, we are asking you to pay a membership fee of \$225 *or any portion of that which you can manage*. And remember, your membership fee is tax deductible.

Payment: You may send an Interac e-transfer to: treasurer@jubilatesingers.ca

We suggest a security question such as "Who is our accompanist?" or "Who is our conductor?" with a one-word answer (Sherry, Isabel).

If you cannot do e-transfer, you can write a cheque made out to Jubilate Singers and send it to Carol Chin, 106 Sussex Ave., Toronto M5S 1K3.

Everyone can sing!

We encourage you to reach out to former Jubilate members, family, friends, and neighbours. Invite them to join us by registering for what promises to be an exciting, exploratory year of singing together.

Registration

To register with the Jubilate Singers for our 2020–21 season, follow this link and fill in our Survey Monkey form:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JX9VHMQ>

Isabel and the Jubilate Board of Directors wish you all a wonderful summer. We will be in touch again in mid-August with more information, including a calendar of events from September to December. Please stay safe and make the most of your summer!