

A Note from the Artistic Coordinator:

Greetings NYC families!

I sincerely hope that you all have been safe, healthy, and content these past five months. I've missed seeing and hearing you!

We want you to know that the NYC conductors, staff, and board members have been working hard all summer developing and preparing a creative, engaging, exciting, and safe curriculum for you. In addition, we are hard at work planning our first in-person (but physically-distant) community activity. Stay tuned for more details!

NYC's entire fall season will be taught via remote learning (Zoom) beginning on September 21 and concluding on December 7. Rehearsals will remain on Monday afternoon/evenings with the following schedule:

- Junior Singers (Grades 1-2) 4:00-4:25pm
- Treble Choir (Grades 3-5) 4:30-5:30pm
- Anima, Troubadours, Concert Choir (Grades 6+) 6:30-7:45pm.

The fall season will conclude with a beautiful **Virtual Winter Concert Program** to be released via YouTube on Sunday, December 13th.

NYC has made the difficult decision to postpone classes and rehearsals for Poco a Poco and Chorale until we can safely sing together again.

While rehearsals will be different this fall, I am thrilled that we can provide these new and exciting opportunities for our singers to develop their individual musical skills. This includes:

1. Bi-monthly private (or small group) voice lessons

Held in conjunction with the regular rehearsals, voice lessons allow each singer to develop aptitude in breath management, pitch-matching and intonation, resonance, vowel selection, and confidence through a series of carefully-designed vocal exercises. (This opportunity may be one of those Covid unexpected blessings!)

2. NYC's Saturday Skill Building events

Once a month, singers can log on to a 45-minute session exploring topics such as music reading and solfege, music composition, poetry interpretation, and ear training. Although we cannot make music side-by-side right now, we will become better musicians in preparation for the time when we can be together!

Finally, it is with deep gratitude and also a touch of sadness that I must announce that Ann Kay is stepping away from Junior Singers. Ms. Kay's responsibilities to her family - her beautiful granddaughter and parents - require that her attention be elsewhere. We are immensely grateful for her incredible creativity, pedagogy, and leadership, in addition to her unwavering dedication to quality children's musical experiences for NYC's youngest singers. We will miss her very much!

This news is bittersweet, yet we are excited to announce that our own Nicole Thietje, current director of the Treble Choir, will be the new director of Junior Singers! Mrs. Thietje is a masterful music educator for all ages and her commitment to personal development through vocal music is exceptional. How lucky the Northfield Youth Choirs organization is to have such beloved and exceptional choral music advocates for our community of young singers.

Please do not hesitate to contact the NYC office or any of the directors with questions. And please be on the lookout for vocal check-in dates so each director can briefly hear new and returning singers.

Just keep singing!

Allyss Haecker

A message from the Board of Directors:

We are excited for NYC's fall 2020 season to begin! Our highly accomplished group of conductors is working hard to deliver a quality online program with new opportunities for our singers to learn and grow through individual/small group voice lessons and skill-building events. On top of that, our conductors are exploring creative ways for the entire NYC community to stay connected through in-person (but physically distant) events. And there will be a virtual concert celebrating the work that has been done by our singers on December 12. NYC is truly fortunate to have the support of such caring and dedicated professionals. This fall is sure to be fun and enriching for all of us.

Because we are online, we won't be limited by geography. If you know of anyone who would like to try this experience with NYC, please pass a warm invitation on to them. Wouldn't it be fun if cousins, or even cross country friends can sing together in this unique high quality experience! These times allow us to think creatively, so we invite you to think big to help expand the NYC footprint!

The Board recognizes that these are challenging times; therefore, we have reduced our pricing by 40% or more to allow as many as possible to join our gifted conductors for this special season! The opportunity for private and small group voice lessons and the added skill building events will be new program enhancements for our singers. This is an amazing learning opportunity for our young singers. If you are able to support NYC by paying the past full price tuition, this would enable us to provide additional young singers with scholarships. Any additional gifts are greatly appreciated.

As in the past, scholarships are available. We want all who wish to sing with NYC to be able to do so regardless of cost. Applications can be obtained by contacting the office.

Registration forms and pricing are included with this announcement. Please complete the form and return to the office online.

We are looking forward to having you back with us! We are also looking forward to meeting new singers. We hope you will recruit a friend to join us this year! Singing with NYC singers is a joyful learning, sharing, and belonging experience. Welcome back, NYC families!

NYC Board of Directors:

Mary Quinn Crow

Anna Lisa Rustad

Student board members:

Cindy Carlson

Amanda Tracy

Kyah Olson-Sola

Jonathan Norrie

Megan Nelson

Emma Johnson

Christopher Weber