



Dear Friend,

At this time of the season, we would typically be sharing our schedule and news of our upcoming year of choir performances and community events, along with the pleasure of welcoming a new group of young people to our program.

Well, for the first time in 34 years, things are radically different.

Like you, we have spent the last six months watching the news and the numbers, learning about the challenges of singing in COVID times, and doing our very best to plan for a new normal which changes, it seems, daily. And for the first time in our 34 years, we are faced with a global pandemic that strikes at the very core of our mission: to sing together. This fall, that means no retreats, no camps, no concerts, and no in-person rehearsals.

Candidly, this season has challenged the Choir financially. We can't hold any of our planned in-person fundraisers, be a part of community events, or do so many of the things that make us who we are and provide financial assistance. And yet we still have important work to do to support our young singers and their families. Artistic staff are planning a virtual start to the season, and there's so much that we are excited to offer. We will be able to have one-on-one instruction with each student, and to bring in guest instructors and special sessions. This will prepare everyone to be a strong and unified team when we can be back together.

**Will you give to sustain us? Our goal is to raise \$10,000.** Any amount is appreciated, and will help us to provide programs and maintain our organization. You may easily donate through our website at <https://saychoirs.org/donations/>. Or, checks may be mailed to the address below.

Is singing a family activity that brings comfort and joy? Is hearing the clear tones of SAYC a treasured holiday tradition? Did choir help you or your child through a challenging time in life? However you are connected to the Spokane Area Youth Choirs through the power of song, we thank you for your past support, and we ask for your help now.

We hope you will help us to ensure that the Choir is able to continue to remain a vital and sustaining part of our Spokane community as we emerge from this crisis, to offer the joy and humanity of choral singing together for another 34 years.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gordon Ritchie'.

Gordon Ritchie  
President, Board of Trustees

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Judy Pearson Hafso'.

Judy Pearson Hafso  
Artistic Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Hopkins'.

Sarah Hopkins  
Executive Director

*Developing respect and commitment through musical artistry since 1987.*

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