

MNjcc Community Choir 2021 – 2022 → Frequently Asked Questions

The MNjcc Community Choir directed by Ariel Shetzen is a group of passionate, diverse singers who come together as a strong community and find fulfilment through their shared joy of creating music.

Please note the following dates and time changes:

Free trial Wednesday October 13

Not sure if singing virtually is for you? Attend a free rehearsal with our new conductor to see how uplifting and refreshing it can be! An email with free trial registration information will be sent out soon. You do not need to have been a member of the J to audition.

First official rehearsal is Wednesday October 20

All participants must be registered and their fee paid before attending.

Rehearsal times have been moved to 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm for all rehearsals

Q: Will the 2021-22 season be in-person or virtual?

A: We will be conducting virtual rehearsals on zoom for the fall term.

Q: Are there plans to return to in-person rehearsals and performances at the Miles Nadal JCC?

A: As the JCC is a multi use space currently used for pre-school, day-care, Jewish Day School, some fitness and aquatics, and capacities have changed, we are not offering in-person community/arts programs until further notice.

Q: When we are eventually back in person, will you consider a hybrid program where those who are not comfortable meeting in person can still attend via zoom?

A: This is something we are exploring, but we don't have finalized information yet.

Q: What format will the 2021-22 rehearsals take?

A: Participants will be rehearsing on Zoom from their homes each week. The choir will focus on developing confidence in singing, vocal technique, exploring the music of different genres, and community building. Although the choir will begin in a virtual format, emphasis will be placed on creating a supportive choir community through exciting learning opportunities. No video recordings will be made during this time.

Q: I am new to the choir. Do I need to audition?

A: We are offering a free trial of a single rehearsal on Wednesday October 13th from 7-8:30pm. You may register for the free trial without auditioning. If you would like to join the choir after the trial, please contact Choir Director Ariel Shetzen to book an audition between October 14 – 19. apshetzen@gmail.com

Q: Do former choir members need to audition? What if I've taken a year off?

A: Former choir members do not need to audition even if you have been absent.

Q: Do I need to be able to read sheet music?

A: Familiarity with music notation is an asset, but not necessary if you possess strategies for following along.

Q: What songs will we be singing?

A: The MNjcc Community Choir sings a wide variety of repertoire. Recent concert programs have included different genres such as classical, folk, pop, contemporary choral works, jazz, and musical theatre.

Here is a taste of some repertoire we will explore this year:

Winter Song by Sara Bareilles/Ingrid Michaelson (folk)

Gimme Some Joe arranged by Jacobson & Purifoy (jazz)

You Will Be Found, by Pasek and Paul (from the musical *Dear Evan Hanson*)

Q: I would love to join the choir, but I am unable to afford the fee. Do you offer subsidies?

A: The MNjcc Music Scholarship Fund is available for those requiring financial assistance. Please contact Wendy Moss at wendym@mnjcc.org or 416-924-6211 x6231 for more information. Confidentiality is assured.

Please note:

Gretchen Paxson Abberger, Manager of Music Programs, Esther Arbeid, Director of Arts & Culture, and Deanna Di Lello, Coordinator of Arts & Culture have upcoming away dates due to the Jewish Holidays and personal days. We ask for your patience during this time regarding email response time.

We are excited to start our fall term with our new choir director, and look forward to making music together.

Regards,
Gretchen, Esther and Deanna

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The Miles Nadal JCC is an accessible, inclusive and positive space.

Charitable #140344243RR0001

