

MCC 2020/21 Season Scenarios based on COVID-19 Issues

Based on several recent studies, it has been made clear in the past several weeks that music ensembles, choral ensembles in particular, face a serious safety challenge in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Numerous scientists and doctors have presented case studies showing that there may not be a safe way for singers to rehearse together until there is a vaccine and an effective treatment in place. (please see [this article](#) outlining the studies).

Because of these recent findings, MCC has created 3 different scenarios for how our 2020-21 season might be structured. I encourage you to consider these various scenarios, and share your thoughts/comments with us as we look to finalize our planning.

These scenarios were created using various information shared by a number of Youth Choirs around the country, as well as input from our own MCC artistic staff.

Bill Busch
Executive Director

Rachel Maki
Artistic Director

Plan A

- Schools open back up in September (and it is safe to sing and meet together.)
- We hold a one (or two) day local retreat on Aug. 28/29
- Tuesday night rehearsals for IC, PC and LC begin at MYAC on September 8.
- MYC rehearsals begin September 13 - location tbd.
- Our 1st MCC All-Choir concert is Nov. 7th @ St. Sebastian,
- Winter Concert (w/MYC, PC, IC) on Dec 12 (location tbd),
- All Choir Concert #2 on Feb. 27 (location tbd)
- All Choir Concert #3 on May 8 (location tbd).
- Season also includes Nutcracker w/Milwaukee Ballet, ACE Concert w/MSO and other events to be scheduled.
- In other words, a 'normal' MCC season, including a possible Summer Choir Tour.
- (see 2020-21 Season Schedule, below)

Plan B

- Schools don't open until later, perhaps October or November.
- Rehearsal space at MYAC is limited to small groups of 10 or less.
- We will offer a 'virtual retreat' on Aug. 28th online for all groups, including learning new music, introductory ice breaker games, music theory, etc.
- Weekly 'virtual' rehearsals and lessons will begin the week of Sept. 8th.
- Rehearsals **may** include in person sectionals or small groups if it's safe
- The majority of rehearsals/classes would remain virtual and teach new music, as well as music history/theory along with possible monthly collaborations between choirs. Combination of commercially available accomp tracks and MCC created tracks (utilizing our staff accompanists)
- Possibly include monthly "parent support groups". Also include parent 'room assistants' in each virtual rehearsal to help each director.

Instead of Fall retreat, we will have a virtual retreat highlighting personal development in addition to music, so we can continue to build confident, smart, and well-rounded young people. Topics may include time management, goal setting, personal care, and communication. Possibility of adding on special content (electives) with guests from outside of the organization (Hal Leonard writers)...a composition class for older students, or sight singing elective or advanced theory elective. Work toward producing a 'virtual choir' concert for late Nov/early December (including some seasonal repertoire.)

Once it is safe to rehearse together we will begin rehearsing for the next scheduled concert event and return to in-person full group weekly rehearsals and or/sectional rehearsals. Possibility of continuing Zoom electives online.

Plan C

We know it is a possibility, but if schools do not open or if it is deemed unsafe to sing together throughout the 2020/21 season, we will continue to provide the online content outlined in Plan B and work to create quality virtual concerts for both the February and May concerts. This plan is basically virtual, online learning and concerts for the entire 2020-21 season.

Tentative 2020-2021 MCC Season **(Plan A)**

All Choirs Retreat

Aug 28-30

Location TBD - Daytime rehearsals and activities

Start Date for Semester 1

Tuesday September 8 (Labor day is Sept 7) (MYC- Sept. 13th)

Fall Retreat

Sat. Oct. 10 for IC/PC/LC

Sun. Oct. 11 for MYC

Family Concert

Saturday, Nov. 7 4pm

St. Sebastian Parish

D.R. Friday Nov. 6

Thanksgiving Break

Thanksgiving- Nov. 23-29 (No rehearsal on Tues 24th or Sun. 29th)

Nutcracker - Dec 5 - 27

Winter Concert

Sat. Dec. 12 and/or Sun Dec. 13

Location TBD

MYC, PC, IC(?) Assuming LC covers Nutcracker performances

All Choir Holiday Social

Tuesday Dec. 15- Location: TBA

Winter Break

December 21- Jan 4th (No rehearsal on Dec. 22)

Start Date for Semester 2

January 5, 2021 (MYC- 3rd)

Winter Retreat

Sat. Jan. 16 for LC, PC, IC

Sun. Jan. 17 for MYC

All Choir Concert #2

Sat. Feb. 27 4pm

Location TBD

D.R. Friday Feb. 26

ACE Concert w/MSO - Sometime in April

Messiah Community Sing-Along

March 2021

Date/Location TBD

Spring Break- Families on their own Spring Break

All Choir Concert #3

Sat. May 8 4pm

Location TBD

D.R. Friday April 30

Tentative 2020-2021 MCC Season **(Plan B)**

All Choirs Retreat

Friday August 28
Virtual Online Fall Retreat

Start Date for Semester 1

Tuesday Sept 8
Virtual Rehearsals/Zoom Meetings begin
IC/PC/LC

Sunday Sept. 13
Virtual Rehearsals/Zoom Meetings begin
MYC

Week of Oct. 5

Virtual Electives begin w/Guest Composer from Hal Leonard

Week of Nov 9

Begin video submissions for 'virtual choir' content

Deadline: Nov. 20

All video submissions due for Virtual Concert

Thanksgiving Break

Thanksgiving- Nov. 23-29 (No rehearsal on Tues 24th or Sun. 29th)

Saturday Dec. 12

"MCC Virtual Concert" - online featuring all Choirs

Zoom: All Choir Holiday Social

Tuesday Dec. 15

Winter Break

December 21- Jan 4th (No rehearsal on Dec. 22)

Start Date for Semester 2

January 5, 2021 (MYC- 3rd)

Resume Plan A Semester 2 for the remainder of the Season

Tentative 2020-2021 MCC Season
(Plan C)

Begin with Plan B Season

Start Date for Semester 2

January 5, 2021 (MYC- 3rd)

Winter Retreat

Sat. Jan. 16 for LC, PC, IC

Sun. Jan. 17 for MYC

Virtual Online

Week of Feb. 1

Begin video submissions for 'virtual choir' content

Deadline: Feb. 5

All video submissions due for Virtual Concert

All Choir Concert #2

Sat. Feb. 27 4pm

Location TBD

D.R. Friday Feb. 26

Week of March 8th

Virtual Electives begin w/Guest Composer from Hal Leonard

Spring Break- Families on their own Spring Break

Week of April 12th

Begin video submissions for 'virtual choir' content

Deadline: April 16th

All video submissions due for Virtual Concert

All Choir Concert #3

Sat. May 8 4pm

Location TBD

D.R. Friday April 30