

Welcome Back to La Jeunesse!

After a year of celebrating the arts online, with the many logistics and challenges, La Jeunesse Choirs and Musical Theatre Intensive is returning to meeting IN PERSON!

The Board of Directors, our Safe Return Committee, and the leadership of Trinity United Church have reviewed and considered the best ways that La Jeunesse can safely gather to share our love of music and the arts, while mindfully caring for the health and safety of our choir family and the greater community. Programming has been adjusted to follow safety guidelines established by community leaders, the facilities we use, and the comfort level of staff and many families. We know there isn't a perfect solution for everyone, but we strongly feel that we are offering the best options for the greatest numbers, while maintaining safety for all.

Choir-Theatre Combo - Tuesdays, 4:15-6:15

"Voices Inspired" and "Legally Blonde Jr" (45 minutes, 75 minutes)

Full Choir and Musical Theatre Intensive will be combined for the first time into a performance package on Tuesday afternoons from 4:15-6:15. The ensemble will work on uplifting music that fills our souls with the joy of singing choir repertoire in the "Voices Inspired" Series. Then we pivot, muster up some sass and wit, and throw on something pink. No one will *object!* as we dive into the script and score of "Legally Blonde Jr". This high-energy, hilariously empowering musical will be the perfect vehicle to welcome us back, under the spotlights. Finally La Jeunesse will be back doing what we love the most in this season of music, laughter, and togetherness.

Necessary Safety Measures and Precautions - Three Options

La Jeunesse will be following the highest of safety standards while welcoming as many of our young people back in person, and we offer you three options to consider.

Option 1: Singers who are vaccinated can participate in the Tuesday choir-theatre combo with an additional 5 Saturday Legally Blonde Jr rehearsals in the fall.

Option 2: Unvaccinated singers will be required to do rapid testing (provided by the choir) at the beginning of every rehearsal, along with a temperature check. This will require an arrival 20 minutes ahead of the session, to be administered outside. They can then participate in the Tuesday choir-theatre combo and the additional 5 Saturday Legally Blonde Jr rehearsals in the fall.

Option 3: Legally blonde camp experience. For younger members of the community and those who may not be able to meet our indoor safety requirements, singers may participate in a 5-week Legally Blonde Camp Experience. For 5 weeks in the fall, they can join the full cast for an outdoor, socially distanced workshop where you will learn choreography, music, and scene work with the Artistic Team, and guest workshop leaders! Members of camp will give a short performance on their last day to show what they have worked on. We hope many of our younger members will consider this fantastic option, and feel like they are a part of the La Jeunesse Legal Team!



It is our hope that as vaccinations become available for younger members, camp participants previously not comfortable or able to participate in options 1 and 2 will be able to transition to join us on Tuesdays and become chorus members in the final production.

Masks, hand sanitation, and social distancing will continue to be in place both indoors and outdoors. (our mask policy when outdoors will evolve as per current mandates.)

Clue: On Stage A Hilarious....and Dangerous Farce

In addition to our "Voices Inspired" and "Legally Blonde Jr." projects, members of La Jeunesse will also be a part of a smaller project, "Clue: On Stage", a play based on the board game and the 1985 movie hit, Clue. With workshops from the Stratford Festival's Gabi Epstein, and the Randolph Academy's Cara Pantalone Brown, performers will conjure up their best Col. Mustard or Mrs. Peacock.

How to Register

Please visit www.lajeunessechoirs.com to conveniently register and pay online. Or email ljchoirs@gmail.com and we will be happy to make alternative registration and payment arrangements.

Registration Fees

Options 1 and 2: Participation in "Voices Inspired, Legally Blonde Jr and Clue: On Stage"

\$550/year

Payment options: Online registration by Paypal or post-dated cheques (in person)

One payment of \$550 -online, by cheque or cash

6 post-dated cheques for \$91.66 dated Sept 1- Feb 1

Option 3: Legally Blonde Camp Experience - 5 Satrudays

\$100/session

Registration accepted in one payment online or by cheque

Dates

Tuesdays 4:15-6:15pm Fall session; Sept 14 - Nov 23. Rehearsals resumes Jan 11

Saturdays 10am - noon Sept 18, 25, Oct 2, 9, 16

Performance Dates

We are not anticipating a Christmas concert this year. We are hopeful that performance dates for Voices Inspired, Clue: On Stage and Legally Blonde Jr. will be able to happen in the Spring, with dates To Be Announced.

Multi-Child Discount

There is a multi-child discount available of \$50 for each additional full-time child from the same family. Please use the coupon code "Multichild" during online registration to apply your \$50 discount.



Recruitment Incentive

La Jeunesse is looking for new choir members aged 7-19 who love to sing, dance and act. As an incentive for your help in spreading the word about our incredible new programs, a \$50 reduction of fees will be granted to any chorister who refers a new registrant into La Jeunesse. There is no limit to the number of members you may refer, and the incentive will be offered for each person you successfully recruit. This person must name you as their reference upon their registration and audition.

Auditions

This year, new singers can audition for La Jeunesse on Saturday Sept 4 in the morning in person or online through Zoom! The audition process is fun and easy and your child is welcome to prepare a song that they like, but is not required to do so. To book an audition, please email <u>lichoirs@gmail.com</u>.

Request for Fee Subsidy 2020-2021

La Jeunesse Choirs offer a limited subsidy program for families needing financial assistance. The subsidy program will be administered with sensitivity, confidentiality, and respect for the privacy of the individual.

Families unable to pay the entire registration fee may be eligible for financial assistance. Parents/guardians will be asked to provide family income detail in the form of proof of current income and last year's tax return or T4 or provide a letter indicating their need.

Subsidy requests must be initiated by the end of September 2021 for consideration. All fee subsidy requests will be reviewed and approved by the La Jeunesse Treasurer.

Please feel free to ask for a subsidy package by emailing ljchoirs@gmail.com.

Fundraising & Volunteer Hours

La Jeunesse Choirs is a non profit organization that relies on fundraising, donations and sponsorship in order to keep our fees down, while maintaining the highest quality in

instruction and programming. Although we won't be collecting cheques for fundraising or volunteer hours this year, we hope that La Jeunesse families will participate as much as

possible within their comfort levels. We will keep families informed on fundraising and volunteer opportunities as they arise. Typically expect a fundraiser in the fall (poinsettias) and another in the spring.

La Jeunesse Bingo Policy 2020-2021

Bingo is by far our best fundraiser. As we are a licensed charity at Hometown Bingo in Cobourg each of our La Jeunesse volunteers working the Bingo is covered for liability.

Bingo will NOT be mandatory for families this year. No Bingo or Fundraising deposit cheques will be required this year.



While Bingo participation is not mandatory we are certainly hoping that some folks will support our Bingo Captains, Bryan and Denise, with your presence at Bingo during this year. Also new this year is the fact that only one volunteer needs to be a member of the organization. So if you know of anyone who loves to help at Bingos we can use them as long as they are 18 or over.

Bingo Time Commitment: Roughly 5 hours

Average Earnings from a Bingo: \$400 which works out to about \$150 per volunteer at the Bingo. Cheques from Hometown Bingo to the charities are paid at the end of the month. We are currently signed up to do 3 Bingos a month.

Honorariums: Hometown Bingo pays an honorarium of \$10 per volunteer per Bingo. This year as an incentive we will match the Honorarium from Hometown Bingo. So you walk home with \$20 cash! For our Bingo Captains, we will up the honorarium to \$30. If you would like to donate the honorarium back to La Jeunesse we can issue you a tax receipt. If you would like to join Bryan and Denise as a Bingo Captain we would be delighted to welcome you to the team.

Bingo Captain Duties: These are people who arrive a little early to get the paper-work done, and cards counted and ready for the bingo session. They assign tasks to other volunteers. They need to be more familiar with the Bingo routines than the regular volunteers.

Bingo monies: Bingo monies earned by La Jeunesse Choirs are put into a separate bank account and the Government attaches some rules to how the funds can be used. We find it most useful for workshops, musicals and so on.

Bingo Coordinator: Bryan Gelineau is our Bingo Coordinator who makes sure we have enough volunteers [3] at each Bingo. The Bingo Coordinator and the Treasurer attend two

meetings a year with Hometown Bingo to sign the license agreement and fill out session forms. The Treasurer also submits monthly reports to the Town of Cobourg regarding our Bingo sessions.

Safety during the COVID-19 pandemic: Lots of precautions have been put in place for the safety of Bingo Volunteers and Patrons. Regular disinfecting, plexiglass and mandatory masks during sales times are but a few of the precautions Hometown Bingo is taking. Thank you for considering volunteering to help work Bingos and support this very important fundraising initiative.