

N&NW

North by Northwest Region 13

January 19, 2021

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CHORUS HISTORIES

HARMONY NORTHWEST CHORUS



outside, distanced, and wearing masks.)

Singing Christmas and holiday songs in several neighborhoods, plus caroling one afternoon and evening, were the highlights of our holiday season. How JOYFUL it was to be able to share our music and actually perform for an audience! They were so receptive and encouraging. (Yes, we were



During our Secret Santa gift exchange, chorus members and one participating guest revealed themselves during our online party. Some gift recipients had to go on a scavenger hunt, or they received their items in the mail or (secretly) on their doorstep. We have some very creative and clever Santas. Some gifts included lottery tickets, coffee cards, calendars, cat plaques, and Pete the Cat's new book. We had a chance to show off our cookie decorating skills at our party and played plenty of reindeer games.

Alfred the Alligator (left), our mascot, is looking forward to this new year and, hopefully, more in-person singing with Harmony Northwest Chorus.

*Submitted by Cheryl Isaacs
Director*

PRIDE OF PORTLAND CHORUS

the music alive" and continue learning. We've also utilized more online educational opportunities and helped each other navigate Zoom's technology. Special guests have included Sharon Babb, Marge Bailey, Joan Boutilier, Patty Cobb Baker, Jana Gutenson, Ryan Heller, Lori Lyford, Rob Mance, Renee Porzell, Judy Pozgay, Mary Rhea, and Sandi Wright.

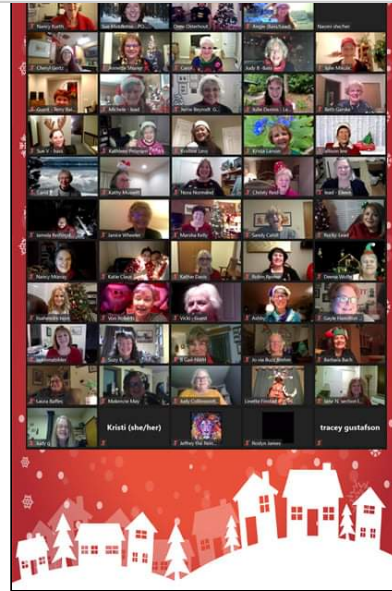
Keeping strong heart-connections is a vital part of Pride's ongoing virtual world. Quizzes, games, theme nights, a talent show, and a karaoke night are a few activities that have kept our virtual rehearsals engaging. Party-theme nights included Disney night, International week, and a year-end holiday party.

When we started sheltering in place, Pride's membership team suggested small groups meet outside of chorus to discuss similar interests between rehearsals. Pride's mascot is a lion, and since a clowder refers to a group of cats, that's what we call these little gatherings! Our clowders have been a great way to keep connected.

Weekly Wellness Classes on learning to cope with recent changes are offered by a member who is a certified counselor. A Health Committee was developed to share ongoing COVID-19 information and learn how to manage in-person singing as it develops. A Diversity & Inclusion Committee has also been developed. The chorus polled its members, worked in small committees, and expanded our discussions on envisioning our future goals.

Recently, Pride produced two virtual projects released online: "Sweet Dreams" and "White Christmas." As we kick off 2021, we're working with Oregon Spirit Chorus (R12) on another virtual project: "Can't Take My Eyes Off of You."

Guests are welcome to join our regular weekly Zoom rehearsals to sing, learn, and connect with us. Contact info@prideofportland.org for more information.



*Submitted by Linette Finstad
Team Coordinator*

FAIRBANKS FRONTIER CHORUS



Our chorus has always been active during the Christmas season, and 2020's COVID Christmas was no exception.

Typically, we begin learning Christmas music in September in preparation for our biggest stage production of the year. In November, we began singing Christmas songs during our weekly Zoom rehearsals, which culminated with a wonderful rehearsal on December 17, where we opened gifts and revealed Secret Sister Santas. The joy and camaraderie during these rehearsals is exceptional.

We didn't have a show, but we sang Christmas songs with quartets on Facebook, shared a song in an email thanking our supporters, and shared the gift of good health and financial stability by donating to Santa's Helpers and sending cards to residents and staff in assisted living facilities.

While 2020 will be remembered as a difficult time never to be repeated, it was also a year of fulfilling ways to be together and share with others.

*Submitted by Carol Slater
Team Leader*



Our chorus has sung together for 40 years. Founder Gail Shelton (Queen Mum) was an experienced barbershopper when she arrived at Hood River. Through her hard work, the Hood River Valley Chorus received its charter in December 1983. In 2008, the chorus was renamed Harmony of the Gorge Chorus to reflect the span of its membership, which came from all over the Gorge.

The chorus has sung annually at events in most nearby towns, focusing on community performances. After singing at the ribbon cutting of a large coastal company, the chorus was included in the company's ad, which ran during Monday night football games.

To expand visibility in surrounding communities, the chorus invested in Chamber memberships in The Dalles, White Salmon, and Hood River. In return, all chorus activities (performances, guest nights, fundraisers) get promoted through newsletters, e-blasts, and feature articles. (One management team position is as a Chamber Liaison.) The Chamber featured the chorus singing "Silver Bells" on their Christmas events website. Through Chamber memberships, chorus members have taken free classes in marketing, social media, and individual image production.

The chorus reached out to youth and provided music lessons (rehearsals) to home-schooled students. And in an appeal to couples, we helped facilitate the founding of a men's chorus that meets in the same facility and on the same night and time.

Currently on hiatus, Harmony of the Gorge is exploring future possibilities for the chorus and looking forward to singing harmony together again.

*Submitted by Judy Beckman
Director*

AN EXCITING FUTURE THROUGH TRANSITION

We've all been in transition for quite a while now. Thankfully, we have many wonderful leaders in our region's choruses and quartets who are guiding us through the craziness of COVID Zoom rehearsals and developing new ways to reach their singers. Yet, survival in this crazy time is different from preparing for our new future.

Now, it's time to begin planning for an exciting and compelling future! On **Saturday, February 20**, Region 13 will host a Zoom workshop from 9:00am to 1:00pm for everyone to begin the journey to our new beginning. **Dr. Leslie Galbreath** (right), International Board member and Faculty member, will join us to explore how we can prepare for the time when we can be together again. Exciting futures don't just happen—we build them—with strong leadership, out-of-the-box creativity, and shared energy. You won't want to miss this!



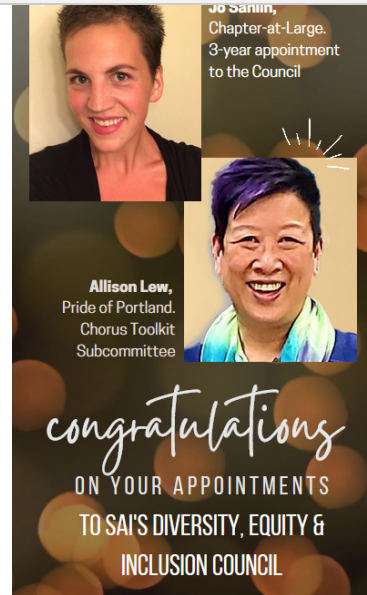
Watch this publication and future emails for more information. The future awaits us!

*Submitted by Paula Davis
Leadership Development Specialist*

HEART OF THE NORTHWEST AWARD NOMINATIONS

Each year, the Regional Management Team presents the Heart of the Northwest Award to a Region 13 member who displays enthusiasm, commitment, and exemplifies "all that is a Sweet Adeline."

February 5, 2021 is the deadline for submitting nominations from chorus chapters. Nomination



The Region 13 Management Team is looking for women to fill a variety of jobs in our region. Some are "one and done" positions, others are short-term spots, and still others are for a two-year position.



Featured Openings:

Marketing Coordinator
Convention Communications Chair
Assistant Webmaster
Social Media Administrator

Please consider becoming involved in your region! If you're interested in any of the open positions, we'd like to hear from you. Take a few moments to read the detailed Job Description you are interested in and complete an application today! Both documents are found on the Members Only [website](#).

*Submitted by Sandy Smith
 Region 13 Communications Coordinator*

RMT MEETINGS

Have you ever wondered what your RMT actually does? Members are welcome to visit monthly meetings which are held via Zoom. If you plan to attend, you will need to register **at least**

