**GBCC COVID-19 Forum**

March 19, 2020

Resources and suggestions from members

**General Resources, Relief Grants and Impact Assessment:**

*Participants who offered resources included: Yoshi Campbell (Coro Allegro), Nick Page (Mystic Chorale), Tori Cook, Brad Dumont (moderator)*

—Boston Singers' Relief Fund (Boston Singers’ Resource): <https://www.bostonsingersresource.org/programs/bsrf>

—Chorus Management Network (Chorus Connection)- COVID-19 Preparedness, Response, Etc. Resources: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/chorus.management.network/learning_content/?filter=2442171462701569&post=815968935479103>

—*COVID-19 Tools and Resources for Nonprofits:* <https://nff.org/covid-19-tools-and-resources-nonprofits>

—Chorus America Impact Survey (**your choir’s response requested**): <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc_HBykuxBNI_aisUsD7yi7a7f9qPoWul3SIcvkoG3nBhp0SQ/viewform>

—Americans for the Arts Impact Survey - <https://www.americansforthearts.org/by-topic/disaster-preparedness/coronavirus-covid-19-resource-and-response-center#impact>

—Choral Arts New England has grants program (Peter Pulsifer); is considering special grant opportunities related to the pandemic

—Performing Arts Alliance Impact Survey - <https://www.theperformingartsalliance.org/issues/voter-voice/?vvsrc=%2Fcampaigns%2F72358%2Frespond>

**Suggestions for rehearsal/community engagement:**

—Apps to look out for if you're interested in virtual choir projects (Tori Cook): A Cappella, Sing by Smule, Audacity, Soundtrap

—Use of the whiteboard feature in Zoom to provide lyrics and/or sheet music PDFs: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/205677665-Sharing-a-whiteboard>

—Ask singers to sing for 20 seconds while washing their hands, send a video to everyone

—If your organization has a vibrant history, use it! Share old recordings, programs, materials from archives

—Encourage audience members to be a part of the process and sing with the group (Nick Page is creating YouTube links to simple songs so that we can feel connected): <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWKnbM9PylaaGwIe2N1QZVA>

—A sing-along with a guitar player or pianist where people can sing along on their own

—Members record themselves improvising in a specific key, someone compiles a new artwork from those sound files

—Regular community check-in on Zoom, not to sing, but just to connect and support one another (meet everybody's pets!)

—Mini-sessions from the director: how to warm-up and maintain your vocal health on your own, listening to music together, watch the Met opera broadcasts (you can watch together using the app Kast), etc.

—Can this be an opportunity for your organization to become more of what it wants to be? To shift its priorities and structure, revisit its vision and mission, etc.?

**Audience Engagement:**

—Tickets can carry forward to another performance, refund, or tickets can turn into a donation

—Try to reach every audience member directly (via phone), then follow up with an email—helps to encourage continued buy-in from audience members

—Maybe even connect with audience by sending them videos or other recordings

—Connect with audience through virtual sings (à la Jamie Hillman's virtual hymn sing throughs on Facebook Live - <https://www.facebook.com/VirtualHymnSings/>)