

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SUMMIT CHORAL SOCIETY (SCS) (Akron, OH) announces the 2021-2022 Season, **FORWARD**. This 32nd season of musical excellence overflows with beautifully creative, high-quality music education and performance opportunities for all of Akron! SCS's family of musical programs are all proudly directed by certified, degreed professionals with live, acoustic musical accompaniments! Experience SCS live this season as a participant, patron or audience member.

Akron City Gospel Singers will have in-person community sing sessions for people of all ages this season! Under the direction of dynamic Akron local community leader, Jaron LeGrair, you can enjoy the Akron City Gospel Singers at Summit Artspace for free on select Saturdays this season. Mr. LeGrair has a passion for gospel song and has devoted his career to spreading the love of music throughout the community. SCS looks forward to returning to live performances with this choir as they perform at SCS's annual benefit event, *choral•ography* and JML Studios Spring Showcase.

Children's Choir Program is a nationally recognized, award-winning program that serves children in grades 1-12. Through an emphasis on the Kodály philosophy of music education, children in the program experience learning through sequential development of musical skills with emphasis on music literacy. Under the direction of professional, degreed music educators, children in grades 1-12 rehearse weekly and enjoy teamwork, engagement and fun through song, while learning vocal skills, music theory and instrumental techniques. Youth in the Children's Choir Program will perform throughout Akron and the State of Ohio this season with more than 15 live performances scheduled! Concert opportunities include formal concerts, community events, private and public invitation events, as well as a collaborative performance and educational tour with renowned choirs in Columbus and Cincinnati!

DRUM&SING is an innovative hybrid musical experience for high school age youth and young adults, combining traditional drumline with vocalized melodies. Under the direction of Matt Dudack, the musical programming ranges from traditional drumline cadences to various pop & rock influences with multi-cultural tones, techniques and vocalizations. They play throughout Downtown Akron on Saturdays throughout the summer, including the Akron Marathon, PorchRockr and Pride Festival!

Metropolitan Chorus is a beloved community choral experience focusing on intimately-performed repertoire that provides relevant, inspiring and ingenuitive programming. This adult choral ensemble rehearses weekly this season in three concert sessions. The annual *Christmas Candlelight Concerts* at the historic St. Bernard Catholic Church will feature the Vivaldi *Gloria* under the direction of Dr. Britt Cooper. *choral•ography*, SCS's annual benefit event – a masquerade ball, at Akron's historic Greystone Hall recognizing Paul Thomarios (THOMARIOS) and John Blickle (Rubber City McDonald's) as Honorary Chairs. *Balladry*, the spring concert under the direction of Dr. Britt Cooper, features beautiful choral songs filled with the text of your favorite poets sung in the gorgeous sanctuary of St. Bernard Church!

sing with me is a comprehensive early childhood music program for caregivers and children from birth to 5 years of age. This music enrichment activity engages young children and fosters a love of music while stimulating brain synopsis and reinforcing positive neuromuscular development through song and movement in weekly class sessions.

Summer Music Camps are one-week camps for school age children that explore a variety of musical themes for the positive musical growth of greater Akron community children. *Frozen for Kids*, July 26-29, 2021 and Summer Music Camp, June 27-30, 2022 bookend Summit Choral Society's season offerings in music to the community this year.

Executive Director, Shara L. Cocchiola says "Summit Choral Society is proud to have provided live, in-person singing opportunities throughout the 2020-2021 season with no instances of Covid19 transmission. We look forward to providing more safe, in-person music this year." Health and safety protocols remain fluid. SCS does not require proof of vaccination status from singers or patrons. Masks and/or temperature checks may be required at events.

More information and registration is available at www.summitchoralsociety.org

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