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### Summer 2020 Web Update

Friends of Diverse Harmony,

These past several months of dealing with Covid-19 have been a challenge to all of us, and the youth of Diverse Harmony have been no exception. When activity came to a halt in March, our choir was putting the final touches on a concert that was scheduled for presentation on March 21<sup>st</sup>. In addition to that concert preparation, the group was also getting ready for a July trip to Minneapolis for the GALA Festival which takes place every four years. Of course, all of these plans had to be cancelled with many other activities we all experienced.

During the period from mid-March until late July the choristers continued to meet via Zoom chat each Tuesday evening during the normal time of their rehearsals. In addition to keeping social contact, the singers made recordings of their parts of some of the songs that had been slated for the concerts. Our Artistic Director, Allen Leslie, and Accompanist Kate Jansen consolidated the input from each of our singers and produced three numbers that were used for the virtual opening of Pride Week.

Our performance year usually ends with Pride Week at the end of June when school is also out. This year we continued the Tuesday night Zoom chats until the end of July. As of the beginning of August we are in our "off season" mode with no scheduled Diverse Harmony activities. Normally our next season would start in September when the school year begins. Considering that most schools will be operating by remote instruction and our normal rehearsal facility will not be opened, we are not planning to try to start our next season in September. Like many other organizations we will be monitoring the situation as the months pass by to determine when it will be safe to have our youth together and singing again. The well-being of our members will always be our highest priority.

When the time comes when we can safely meet and sing, we will be conducting an active recruiting campaign to welcome new members, ages 13 through 18, to join Diverse Harmony. Until that time I would ask you to be thinking of folks you might know that would enjoy the community that Diverse Harmony offers to youth of all orientations and those questioning who they are. Our mission statement is included on this web site. We will keep you informed of changes in our program via this web site.

Thank you for your interest in and support of Diverse Harmony.

Be well,  
Bob Sittig  
Board President