



**We gather
breath in
silence—
and send it
back as
thunder**

notes from sherri

As we shape this concert into the strongest, most expressive experience possible, we've made the thoughtful decision to set aside two pieces for now. These selections ask for a depth and balance of voices that we're not yet able to fully support, and rather than present them in a way that doesn't honor their full potential, we're choosing to focus our energy where we can sing with confidence, richness, and unity. This is also a reminder of how vital each voice is—and how growing our ensemble will open the door to bringing pieces like these to life in the future.

We will be pulling "Resilient" and "They May Tell You" from this concert program, but hoping we will have the singing strength to program them in the not-too-distant future. I will be asking the small ensemble to fill the gap with another piece that will fit into our program theme quite nicely. I apologize to those who have put in a lot of work to learn these pieces. This decision, especially at this late date, is not made flippantly. Nor was it made solely by myself. Shawna and the Board agreed and approved this.

Let this be our renewed promise—to one another and to those who come to listen—that we will show up with care, commitment, and heart. Each rehearsal, each breath, each note is an offering we make together, strengthening not only our own voices but the collective sound we share. And to our audience, we dedicate a performance shaped with intention: joyful, meaningful, and alive with the connection that only shared music can create.

Sunday - April 12

Small ensemble at 5pm. I'll be asking you all about learning a new piece. Details will be emailed to you.

Rehearsal plan change:
We'll be starting the rehearsal with "God Says Yes"

Please be working to memorize "Dance" - we'll be trying this without music at it's next scheduled time.

SSN Festival Singers, and anyone else who can, we'll be memorizing Caffeine Polka so we can do more hand/face movements with the piece. Suggestions are welcome!

MOVIE NIGHT

THE SINGING REVOLUTION

Between 1986 and 1991, the people of Estonia protested against their Soviet occupiers in large rallies. Although these protests were fundamentally peaceful, the Estonians used a weapon powerful enough to rattle an empire: song. Patriotic songs, to be precise, which the Soviets had outlawed in Estonia.

Thousands upon thousands would assemble to sing in defiance. This documentary unveils the story of a population that stood up against their oppressors with nothing but their voices and their pride.

SATURDAY, MAY 2 at 6:30pm
at Sherri & Howard's
1024 W Sutton Ct, Palatine
EVERYONE INVITED! More details to come.