

MORE THAN 400 SINGERS EXPECTED FOR FIRST PERFORMANCE OF NEW OFFICIAL CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL SONG AT CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

Spring coming soon with Festival banners now lining Burrard Street Bridge

VANCOUVER, BC (February 15, 2018) – After 12 years of celebrating Vancouver’s 43,000 ornamental cherry trees with hundreds of community events and cultural performances, the Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival (VCBF) now has its very own official festival song, “*Cherry Blossoms For You & Me*”, written by JUNO award winning artist Tom Landa and Robin Layne. To celebrate the blossoms, VCBF is inviting singers from across the Lower Mainland to be a part of its first public performance at a Christ Church Cathedral event on April 3rd (6:30-9:30pm) called ***Vancouver Sings one Song***.

More than 300 singers from more than 30 choirs have already signed up for the free choral event, which will be co-presented by the Canadian Music Centre and led by accomplished choral director Kathryn Nicholson and her vocal ensemble Sound Eclectic. Nicholson will teach four songs that will be sung in unison to welcome the arrival of the beloved cherry blossoms to the Lower Mainland: “*Cherry Blossoms For You & Me*”, Beethoven’s *Ode to Joy*, the Navajo chant *Now I walk in Beauty* and the Japanese folk song *Sakura Sakura*.

Vancouver Sings one Song is open to amateur and professional singers, choirs, children, families and anyone who enjoys singing. Singers are urged to register now as the first 400 participants to register will receive a free “Vancouver Sings One Song” T-shirt commemorating the event, courtesy of the Leith Wheeler Investment Council Ltd. The deadline to register is February 28th. To register, click [here](#) or visit <http://www.vcbf.ca/community-event/vancouver-sings-one-song> for additional information about participating artists and for sheet music.

While ***Vancouver Sings one Song*** is a one-night event, participants are encouraged to carry these songs with them and sing them around the city as Vancouver’s cherry trees blossom in every neighbourhood. We also invite everyone to join in other VCBF pop-up singing events: Cherry Jam Downtown Concert (April 5, Noon at Burrard SkyTrain Station), Sakura Days Japan Fair (April 14/15 at VanDusen Botanical Garden), and The Big Picnic (Date TBD at Queen Elizabeth Park).

About the 2018 Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival:

Presented by Coromandel Properties and the Vancouver Board of Parks & Recreation, the Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival is a charitable not-for-profit organization with the objective to sustain and renew Vancouver’s cherry tree heritage, while educating and actively engaging diverse communities in local arts and culture to celebrate the fragile beauty of the iconic cherry blossom. Cherry blossom viewing has become a joyful springtime tradition in our city now as people marvel as 54 different varieties blossom across our city. Raffle tickets offering a one-in-500 chance to win an Economy Class Round-trip, Air Canada System Wide Ticket, valid on flights operated by Air Canada, Air Canada Rouge and Air Canada Express. Raffle tickets are available at all VCBF events. For more information, visit: www.vcbf.ca

Participating Choirs:

- Bonsor Singin' Seniors & Grace Community Choir
- Burstin' with Broadway
- Carousel Chorus
- Carousel Chorus

- City Soul Choir
- Delta Choral Society
- Door Cantata
- Douglas Signing Dragons
- Dunamis choir
- Highs and Lows Choir
- Italian Choir of B.C.
- Joyful Rebellion
- Local Vocals
- NAV Chorus
- Princess Choir
- Roots 'N' Wings
- Saint Mary's Parish 8AM Choir
- Shaughnessy Heights United Church
- Sound Eclectic
- St. Paul's Anglican Church Choir
- The Sakura Singers
- UBC Med Choir
- Universal Gospel Choir
- Vancouver Chinese Choir
- Vancouver City Singers
- Vancouver Oratorio Society
- Vocal Local
- West Van Seniors Choir
- Woodward's Community Choir
- Zing! Children's Choir

- 30 -

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