

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Seaway Valley Singers Cancel their Spring Concert**

Morrisburg, April 3, 2020 — In the wake of the COVID-19 crisis, the Seaway Valley Singers, like all other arts organizations, have been forced to cancel their Spring Concert.

"We had high hopes for our Spring semester this year," comments Artistic Director Robert Jones. "Teaming up with the Cumberland Community Singers (directed by Kurt Ala-Kantti), the Seaway Valley Singers were going to sing concerts in Orleans and Williamsburg. Each choir was to sing repertoire on their own and then join forces for other pieces. We were to bookend the concerts with two Hallelujahs, starting with Leonard Cohen's and ending with Beethoven's from The Mount of Olives, to mark the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the composer's birth. But perhaps it isn't all for nought as we can sing the Beethoven at our Christmas concert in December."

The cancellation has had an impact on SVS's previously announced Student Bursary Program. The organization normally hands out one or two bursaries each year to students of music who are currently attending or have enrolled in any full-time studies program at a post-secondary institution. "With the loss of revenue from the Spring Concert, the choir's annual Student Bursary Program was at risk," explains SVS President Michael Ouellette. "We are delighted that an anonymous donor in the community has stepped forward with additional funding to allow the Program to award one bursary in 2020."

Applications for the bursary are being accepted until April 10. Full details of the program and the application form are available on the SVS website at <a href="https://www.seawayvalleysingers.ca">www.seawayvalleysingers.ca</a>.

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