

Sunday, January 26th

SOUNDRAX MEMO – JANUARY 26th, 2020

Dear Soundtrax Members and Parents:

I hope you are enjoying this cloudy weekend. I am writing to update you on a few events coming up in January and February.

Thursday, January 30th

As per the schedule, we are having a Soundtrax rehearsal this Thursday from 4:30-6:30. As Thursday 3:10 marks the end of the high school exam period, we will be having a rehearsal. That is, assuming there are no inclement weather days. I have checked the forecast, however, and there does not seem to any snow for this week. This is an important rehearsal as we only have 4 rehearsals left until one of our biggest concerts of the season on February 22nd – Winterlude. (See below)

Thursday, January 30th – Soundtrax Get Together

With a choir comprising 54 students, students can feel that there is just not enough time to get to know everyone in the choir. A sense of connection and community are two key ingredients in any music ensemble, I believe. In consultation with the section leads, we explored several scenarios around finding opportunities for the whole choir to socialize. Last Thursday, we finally settled on a pizza-and-games nights happening this Thursday after rehearsal. To that end, we will be having a get together at Citadel High after rehearsal. It should last until 8:20-8:30. I realize this is a recent addition to the schedule. I do hope that all students will be able to attend.

If there are any parents who might be willing to help chaperone this event, (from 6:30-8:30) please let me know.

Winterlude

Winterlude is a showcase of Halifax Regional Arts West music ensembles that happens during the day and the evening. It is the Fine Arts Parents' Association's biggest fundraising initiative of the year. Every ensemble receives funds raised from this event. This year, these funds will be divided between the general Soundtrax account and the Soundtrax Cuba trip account. One fundraising project that happens at this event is

raffling off gift baskets. Each ensemble is asked to donate items to a theme basket. Please see the attached letter from FAPA for more information.

The event is on Saturday, February 22nd. We typically have a dress rehearsal in the late afternoon. I can confirm the time in the weeks to come. We will be performing in the evening at the McInnes Room (Dalhousie SUB building).

This concert is one of the Soundtrax highlight concerts of the year. I do hope you can join us.

CUBA

A goal for this week is to give an update on the trip. I am in contact with the tour guide and am hoping to get some information out to you by the week's end. In the meantime, there is a memo about passport signatures that one of the parents alerted me to. You can find this on the Soundtrax website.

<https://soundtraxhalifax.weebly.com> Please feel free to poke around this website as it has a lot of information about upcoming events, etc.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

I am attaching a link to an inclement weather statement from HRCE. Essentially, if all schools are closed in the HRCE due to inclement weather, this means that HRAW rehearsals are cancelled as well. If select schools are closed for the day by HRCE, this does not necessarily mean the HRAW rehearsals are cancelled. Another key point to highlight is that if, during periods of inclement weather, HRAW rehearsals are still moving ahead, it is always up to the parents to decide whether or not their child will be attending. Safety is the number one priority.

<https://www.hrce.ca/about-our-schools/parents/inclement-weather>

Thanks, everyone. Soundtrax, I will be sending out rehearsal notes in the next day or so. In the meantime, good luck with your exams this week!

Ms. Farrell