We are embarking on an exciting journey to create our own virtual choir video project. It won’t be as simple as singing when we are together, but with a little bit of creativity and practice, we can create something beautiful and meaningful that will be a wonderful gift to our students and Choir School community, and a completely new and unique contribution to the history of our program.

Many of you have seen virtual choirs before. Here are a few examples I’ve enjoyed watching over the years:

- [Eric Whitacre’s first virtual choir](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VzQ9zWw1kqQ), performing his a cappella piece “Sleep.”
- [Rodean School (South Africa)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VzQ9zWw1kqQ), performing Leonard Cohen’s piece “Hallelujah.”

In order to prepare our performance video, you will need some equipment. Please let us know if you don’t have access to any of these items, and we will do our best to find them for you.

**Equipment requirements:**

[http://www.stjohnsnh.org/for-students](http://www.stjohnsnh.org/for-students)

- **Headphones for listening**
- **Alternative device** (you will use this to watch and listen to the conducting track)
  - Alt. device must have:
    - headphone jack (to plug in and listen)
    - screen for viewing part track video
- **Mobile/recording device** (you will use this to record the video of you performing your part)
  - Mobile/recording device must have:
    - video recording capability, preferably self-facing camera (parents make great videographers, too!!)

**TIP:** Download the conducting video to your alternate device so you don’t have to stream when you record. Avoid issues with connectivity getting in your way of a successful recording.

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: THURSDAY, APRIL 30**

Please send submissions in ASAP. Middle schoolers should be in by the end of this week!

The recording instructions are below. **We would like to emphasize that preparation is key.** This is a piece you know well, but you will still need some practice runs. In a normal choir, younger singers would have more experienced singers to lean on. Jennifer and Ashley are happy to work one-on-one with any students who need extra support.
Instructions for recording and sharing your part:

● **Preparation:**
  - Practice with R headphone in, and L off (or partially on) so you can hear yourself blend with the piano and the lead vocal track
  - Practice your part as many times as it takes to feel really comfortable (recording is tricky, so being extra prepared is HIGHLY recommended!)

● **Recording:**
  - Make sure headphones are **unplugged** from alternative device at first
  - Begin recording video on your mobile device
  - Press play on accompaniment video (alt. device), wait for BEEP
  - Once you hear the BEEP, plug headphones into alt. device (do not stop the playback or the recording)
  - Record your part from start to finish without stopping using self-facing camera so we see your face while you are singing (you will have headphones on in the final video - you’re doing it right!)

● **Sharing:**
  - Upload your video to your Google Drive
  - Share with Ashley at ashley@stjohnsnh.org