



## North Shore Unitarian Children's Choirs

Develop vocal technique, choral ensemble abilities, the joy of singing, and a love of music.

The North Shore Unitarian Church is welcoming children and youth between the ages of 8 to 13 to participate in their fun and vibrant choral program led by Alison Nixon.

The focus of the choir is on developing healthy singing techniques in a joyful and creative environment.



*Music making with the whole body*

The Vivace choir is a fast-paced, high energy choral experience for children ages 8-10 to explore their singing voices, stage presence, and learn the skills necessary for ensemble singing...with lots of fun thrown into the mix!

**More inside!**

**Alison has worked professionally as a violinist and violist, and has taught both instruments for over 30 years. She is passionate about music, teaching, and children.**

**“It is an incredible privilege to be a part of giving voice to a young person’s emotional and musical experience, and to witness their emerging selves.”**

Alison has directed choirs with as few as 6 and as many as 250 singers with music that ranges from gospel songs to the Verdi Requiem.

She has conducted women’s choirs, men’s choirs, community choirs, church choirs -- and she loves working with children’s choirs.

*“Beat the queue before the secret is out. Adults travel far and wide for the chance to sing, play, and create with Alison. Our kids are lucky to have her around the corner and available for a song.”*

~ Kristin Jarvis



### **Choreographed Singing !**

The Allegra choir gives young people aged 11 – 13 opportunities to experience the joy and artistry of music making.

They learn to create a beautiful sound as a group, and develop the focus, self-discipline and collaboration necessary for rewarding performances.



### **What parents say ....**

*“When kids train with Alison they are too busy having fun singing to realize that they are collaborating as a large group, absorbing musical theory, reading music, and singing in harmony.”*  
Kristin Jarvis

*“Alison Nixon is an incredible conductor. I think if her hands held a magic wand, we would all levitate!”* Tanya Voormeij

# So ... What's Involved?

Commitment is an essential part of participation. Members will be required to attend rehearsals and all performances throughout the year. Full commitment is expected.

Children will be learning to read music, so they will need music theory and sight reading workbooks.

They will also perform all songs from memory, so practicing words and singing their parts at home will be essential.

## The Vivace Choir

- \* A short and friendly readiness interview with Alison
- \* Sing Twinkle with Alison for voice placement purposes. (Some children do not yet match pitch, and that is OK. Learning to do so will be part of the goals of this choral lab.)



## Details

### **Fees**

Church Members: Cost is covered by annual pledging

Non- Members: \$140/term for members of either choir

### **When**

Vivace Choir: Thursdays 3:30–4:30 pm

Allegra Ensemble: Sundays 12:00–1:00 pm

### **Where**

The North Shore Unitarian Church  
370 Mathers Ave., West Vancouver

### **First Rehearsals**

Allegra: Sept. 24th

Vivace: Sept. 28th

### **Voice Assessments**

Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> 3-5 pm

## The Allegra Ensemble

Allegra applicants will participate in a 10-minute friendly voice placement assessment and interview, where the applicant will be asked to:

- \* Sing a short known song like "Twinkle"
- \* Echo back short melodies (as an aural skills evaluation)
- \* Participate in a short interview. Alison looks for many things, including a positive attitude, a flexible and open learning style, and a willingness to grow and develop as a musician.

**Call the North Shore Unitarian Church for more information and to set up your voice placement interview:**

**604-926-1621**

## About the North Shore Unitarian Church

### **WE LOVE TO LEARN, PLAY AND SING...**

North Shore Unitarians are an inclusive, growing congregation of over 200 adults, 70 children and 20 youth. We come together to explore important life questions and support each other in living with meaning and purpose—and we have a lot of fun along the way! To carry out our mission we offer a full range of programs including Sunday services, religious and spiritual education for all ages, a full music program and much more.

We are a non-creedal spiritual community. We do not require allegiance to any religious dogma for membership or participation. We promote respectful tolerance and religious freedom.

It is our sense that the universe is of such scope—magnificent, vast and mysterious—that no one creed or dogma can encapsulate its entirety. We stand in wonder and awe before the beauty of our universe, hoping to do justice to this gift of life by learning to think and act well, to work for social justice, and to share with one another the insights and truths of our hearts.

### Children and Youth Choirs Calendar

#### Fall Term :

**Vivace Choir**      Thursdays from 3:30 – 4:30 pm  
September 28th - November 30th

**Allegra Ensemble**      Sundays from 12:00 -1:00 pm  
September 24th - November 26th

#### **Performance TBA**

#### Spring Term :

**Vivace Choir**      January 25th – March 29th

**Allegra Ensemble**      January 21st - March 25th