



Dunedin Music Society

Connecting Local Communities With Live Music

March 21, 2020

Public Notice - Plan of Crisis Action

Greetings,

I really do hope you are being cautious, caring and optimistic during this unsettling time.

There is a ton of information, misinformation, and outdated information being repeatedly thrown at us right now. Some of it is the same advice distributed by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as well as a whole host of event cancellation notices, sales pitches, 'opportunity' rallying emails, Facebook Lives, and so on.

At the Dunedin Music Society, we are taking a bit more of a considered approach to helping musicians and fans of live music deal with this pandemic and its resulting economic fallout. You can still read our initial [Coronavirus Response](#) and our [Updated Public Notice](#), but since then our Board of Directors and Executive Committee have stepped up the game by developing a Plan Of Crisis Action to help you stay connected with others over the next six weeks or so:

1. We compiled a list of reading materials in case you find yourself with extra time due to no commuting, cancelled rehearsals and concerts, or worse. [Download that free list here](#), and share your insights in our new [Facebook group](#).
2. We hope to present TWO free, one-off interactive workshops highlighting effective strategies to help you navigate the coming months: "Choose How to Respond to COVID-19" and "The Changing Structure of Community Music." Logistics are still being worked out, but they will either be live online webinars, or Facebook Lives. While we are also getting inundated with COVID-19 emails from sources we'd completely forgotten about, these sessions are likely to be announced via email. Please make sure we are in your email program's white list of contacts so our emails don't go to your spam folder and you miss out.
3. Each week we will be encouraging performers in the Dunedin Concert Band and the Pinellas Community Players to focus practice time on specific passages of repertoire, both existing as well as new repertoire we will be sharing.
4. On Tuesdays at 7pm Eastern, we will host an open workshop on the [Dunedin Concert Band's Facebook Page](#) exploring recent, current or upcoming repertoire.
5. On Saturday April 11, when we would have been hosting the Pinellas Festival of Community Bands, we will instead host an online "Music in the Community" summit, with leaders from bands, orchestras and choirs throughout Florida, the USA, the UK and Europe sharing their

insights with you throughout the day.

6. On Friday April 24, when the Dunedin Concert Band would have been hosting its Spring Concert "Take Five Jazz Romantics," we will instead host a live telethon, featuring performance excerpts, guest participants from DMS activities, free giveaways, and generally just one big online hug fest for all Dunedin Music Society Committed Members and our friends.
7. Finally, we want to encourage you, be accessible to you, empower you, and support the way you approach the next few weeks and months as we transition into a new era. Again, the easiest way for us to stay in touch with each other is via our [Facebook page](#) so be sure you like that page!

This is how the Dunedin Music Society plans to help you cope with the immediate future.

And, like you, we're still working out what the long term future has in store for us.

Are there any other ways the DMS can help you find joy through music these next few weeks?

Please share them in our [Facebook group](#), or [contact us](#).

Rest assured, we are determined to diminish the effects of this unsettling time by continuing to conduct our business and making sure we identify every effective opportunity to connect our local communities with music - even if it may not be in a live, in-person environment. To put it bluntly: we already miss each other, we miss you, and we know there are many who miss us. Some of the smaller businesses, restaurants, and organizations that have become a staple part of our lives just might not make it through these next few weeks, and our leadership is focused on providing you with some much needed stability. With your focused and enthusiastic participation, we can ensure all our ensembles, performers, audiences and larger communities will be here for you as we have been these past few years, during these current social restrictions, and well beyond.

All in all, the advice we are giving is that you should show up, fully engage in the activities listed above, and actively celebrate your survival. After all, if you think about it, you have a 100% success rate of surviving all the crises you have experienced in life so far :)

Together, we can maintain and improve the general health and well-being of our communities by making sure live music will play as strong a role as ever, as long as we remain cautious, caring, and optimistic.

We'll be in touch soon,

Be well,
Stephen P Brown
General Director, Dunedin Music Society