Hey Retreat Goers!

It's time to sign up to sing for the RETREAT OPEN MIC NIGHT!

PLEASE NOTE: AS THERE ARE ONLY 20 SPOTS, THE SINGERS WILL BE DRAWN AT RANDOM IN A LOTTERY. You have until March 29 to register your interest in performing at the open mic by clicking the red button at the bottom of this email. I will draw the names of 20 singers at random (and a few as a "waiting list") on March 30. This lottery system is intended to give all those who are interested in singing an equal opportunity to sing, and to remove any bias or favouritism.

PLEASE NOTE: if you are selected to sing, you will need to submit your sheet music to Anthony RIGHT AWAY, as he will need 2 full weeks to prepare your song for a full band. Please make a confident song selection NOW!

Details below. Please read them carefully and in their entirety before emailing me with questions!

If you've never attended a retreat open mic, it's an opportunity to perform solo for your choir pals, singing a song of your choice with A FULL BAND! The atmosphere is relaxed, supportive, and casual. Here's how it works:

- There are 20 available spots to sing, and you can sing ANY song you desire!
- You have the option to accompany yourself (piano? guitar? ukulele?), or send sheet music to Anthony so the band can accompany you.
- Sheet music for Anthony should include the piano and vocal parts, and lyrics.
 <u>Musicnotes</u> is a great place to find affordable sheet music -- the more popular the song, the more likely it is that you'll be able to find sheet music for it! Please avoid obscure songs, and amateur sheet music websites (like MuseScore) that have user-submitted sheet music that is often inaccurate and hard to read.
- Try to pick a song that you can sing in the same key as the original artist (unless you fully understand how to choose sheet music in a transposed key).
- The better you know the song, the more effective your performance will be. Try to memorize the song -- but if that's not possible, printing out a simple large-font lyrics sheet can be a great help (avoid having 20 pages of sheet music with you!)
- Feel free to team up with a friend, but please no more than 3 people to a group -- we won't have enough microphones! If you plan to sing in a duo or trio, only one member of the group needs to register to sing.
- It's true that ballads and emotional songs can be really great to sing; but keep in mind that up-tempo songs work extremely well in an open-mic situation. If you've never done that before, consider choosing something upbeat and fun! (The crowd loves an up-tempo song, too!)
- NO KARAOKE TRACKS

• You do not need to register if you don't want to sing!

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Nancy

SIGN UP FOR THE OPEN MIC