

FROM: CHILLIWACK ARTS & CULTURAL
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High Resolution photo: [SoundOfMusic_Press.jpg](#)

Photo Description: Excited audience members dress up for the costume contest.

Photo Credit: N/A

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SOME OF OUR FAVOURITE THINGS: SING-A-LONG WITH THE SOUND OF MUSIC!

Raindrops on roses? Check! Whiskers on kittens? Check! Brown paper packages tied up with string? Check, check, check!

If the Sound of Music makes the list of your favourite things, you're not alone - which is why the Chilliwack Cultural Centre is excited to host a sing-along version of the classic film this **December 19** at 7:30pm in the HUB International Theatre.

Come see Julie Andrews and the von Trapp family larger than life on the big screen in ***Sing-a-Long with the Sound of Music*** - and lend your vocals to the hit soundtrack! The event will be filled to the brim with wry commentary, laughter, and more than a little singing along.

Produced by production company **Sing-a-long-a**, the film is complete with subtitles and a musical host to guide the audience along. This year's host and local theatre star **Caroline Buckingham**, who played the role of Maria in Secondary Character's edition of the musical last year, will lead the fun.

“The role of the host is as an enabler, like the best man at a wedding,” says Sing-a-long-a’s worldwide producer Ben Freedman. “And Caroline is someone who loves the movie as much as the audience!”

If you don’t think your vocals are up to par, have no fear - there’s so much more to sing-a-long-a than singing along! Boo the Nazis, cheer for Maria, hiss at the baroness and bark at the post-boy in this rollicking, immersive version of the classic musical. Each audience member will receive a goody bag at the start of the show, filled with props to use throughout the screening.

Even better, the evening starts off with a bang with an audience-wide costume contest. Everyone is encouraged to participate: low maintenance costumes include dressing as a brown paper package tied up with string or as a chintz curtain, but a trip to your local thrift store could have you looking like a nun, a naval captain, or a Viennese baroness! The craftier costumer may consider dressing as the Alps or the gazebo. And have no fear: official policy bans real-life nuns from competing in the costume contest in their everyday habits.

This classic film has touched a lot of hearts in the last four decades, celebrating its 49th birthday this year. Maria is just one person and a nun at that - but is able to inspire seven children and one stand-offish naval captain to be kind, passionate, and brave. It’s a message that sticks with viewers for the rest of their lives - and an important example of how a single person can change the world!

“In Maria’s case, she’s the princess that saves the prince,” Freedman explains. “And I think that’s very important in explaining why the Sound of Music has served such an important role in many lives for such a long time.”

This sing-along version of the film allows audiences to not only appreciate but join Maria and the von Trapps in their journey. Get ready to yodel, wave your edelweiss, dance in the gazebo with Liesl, and join in with the choruses of some of the world’s favourite songs!

Tickets are \$18 for all seats and all ages. Contact the box office at 604-391-SHOW(7169) or visit us online at www.chilliwackculturalcentre.ca for more information or to purchase tickets.

Sing-A-Long with the Sound of Music is proudly and generously sponsored by Star 98.3, The Chilliwack Times, A&W, the City of Chilliwack, and the Department of Canadian Heritage.

Additional Information

[Sing-a-long-a's website](#)

For additional information and to arrange interviews, contact:

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Chilliwack Cultural Centre

Owned by the City of Chilliwack, the Cultural Centre houses two unique performance venues, an art gallery, music instruction studios, arts and crafts studios, meeting rooms, offices, and is home to the Chilliwack Academy of Music and the Chilliwack Art Gallery. Since opening in 2010, over 188,000 tickets have been sold through the Centre Box Office, with a value exceeding \$2,600,000. The Centre is overseen by The Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society on behalf of the City, and boasts The Chilliwack Academy of Music, The Chilliwack Visual Artists Association and The Chilliwack Players Guild as partners.

Chilliwack Cultural Centre highlights:

- 597 seat performance theatre
- 168 seat recital hall / rehearsal space / dance studio / meeting space
- Chilliwack Art gallery (22-foot high display area)
- 21 music instructional rooms
- Arts and crafts studios
- Storage and Archival Resource Room

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The Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society is registered under the British Columbia Society Act as a not-for-profit society (society number S-54973), and is a registered Canadian charitable organization under the Canadian Charities Directorate. (charity number 805742897 RR0001)

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