

Farewell to Interlink and a Look Back throughout the Years



This fall, CMHA HKPR made the difficult decision to say farewell to our Interlink Choir program after 30 years.

Launching in 1992, Interlink was a unique intergenerational program that brought together children and seniors through the celebration of words and music and the exchange of pen pal letters. It provided an opportunity for seniors to interact with children and gave the youngsters a greater awareness, understanding and appreciation of older adults.



Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic presented many concerns for the future of the Interlink program. Because of provincial restrictions and with safety concerns in mind, the choir groups were not able to rehearse safely in-person and concerts were halted. Unfortunately, the pandemic also meant that most schools were not running extracurricular, volunteer activities, such as Interlink.

After nearly two years of the pandemic and the program being on pause, CMHA HKPR made the difficult decision to not proceed with the Interlink program.

"I would like to thank all who have been involved in Interlink throughout the years, particularly our Interlink Music Director, Faye McMillan, Program Coordinator, Harry Lundrigan, the teachers and faculty at the many elementary schools that have participated in Interlink over the years, and the volunteer choir members who made it all possible," says Mark Graham, Chief Executive Officer, CMHA HKPR.

Thank you to all of the staff and volunteers who dedicated their time through weekly choir rehearsals, concerts, and letter writing. Because of you, through the Interlink program, bonds were created, life experiences shared and a wonderful sense of achievement was felt by the seniors and young people alike for three decades.

