

GEORGETOWN COWBOY HEADED TO WORLD YOUTH CHOIR

ONE OF THREE CANADIANS HEADING TO FRANCE IN JULY

BRYAN MYERS
bmyers@metroland.com

A Georgetown cowboy is also one of three Canadians chosen to represent Canada as a choir boy.

Ben Done, a tenor, splits his time between choral music and corrals.

In July, Done is headed to Occitanie in France, to be a part of the World Youth Choir.

For three weeks, choral musicians from around the world, 56 members from 27 countries, will participate in the 30th anniversary of the choir.

"It's a great way for people to experience world choral music," Done said.

Done began singing choral music while studying music at Laurentian University in Sudbury.

"That's sort of where I

started my choral experience," Done said. "Over the four years I was there, I grew to love it."

Prior to university, Done grew up singing country music with his family.

"We have a karaoke machine in the living room and we all sing," Done said.

Last year, Done successfully auditioned for the Ontario Youth Choir, singing under the direction on John Washburn.

"That solidified it," Done said. "It was amazing to sing with such talented singers and musicians."

With the age limit for the Ontario Youth Choir capped at 23, Done, who turns 24 in July, is no longer eligible for the Ontario choir, but found the World Youth Choir has an age limit of 26 years old.

Done successfully auditioned for the international choir, first advancing - along with 11 other Canadians - to a second audition, before being accepted with two other Canadians, bari-



Bryan Myers/Torstar

Ben Done, 23, is headed to France as one of three Canadians selected to take part in the World Youth Choir.

tone, Graeme Climie of Calgary, and alto, Elyse Delaney of Nova Scotia.

Choral singers will arrive in France on July 18 and spend the first week rehearsing from 10 a.m. until 10 p.m. every night.

"You have to be careful on your downtime," Done said. "You want to socialize but you have to chill out and rest your voice, even talking can be straining."

The choir will perform

several times over the three-week period, including at the International Festival of Sacred Music in Lisbon, Portugal.

When Done returns to Canada, he said he's interested in pursuing another passion: Rodeo.

Done currently works on a thoroughbred horse farm in Halton Hills.

He said he got interested in horses after discovering the show Heartland.

"I found a place to volunteer," Done said. "I didn't even know how to put a halter on a horse."

Now, Done cares for thoroughbred horses as part of his summer job.

"It keeps me in shape," he said. "I live in two completely different worlds: I'm at school for the winter and fall, practicing piano and singing and then I come back here."

Last year, Done took part

in the Ram Rodeo's Build-A-Cowboy program and learned to ride broncos.

While Done said he didn't have the equipment to ride in the upcoming Grand Valley Rodeo, he hoped to borrow some.

More information about the World Youth Choir is available at www.worldyouthchoir.org.

Done's music can be heard on YouTube as BenjaminDoneMusic.



UCHS kitten shower

It's spring and it's showering kittens.

You're invited to the UCHS kitten shower. Bring your friends and neighbours. Treats for humans.

Date: Jun. 23, 2019

Time: 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Location: UCHS shelter

(5383 Trafalgar Road North, Erin, Ontario)

Come to visit the kittens and learn about fostering them.

**DO YOU HEAR Ringing? Buzzing?
Book a TINNITUS Consultation Today!**

**NORTH HALTON
BETTER HEARING
CENTRE**



Hearing Testing, Hearing Aids and Accessories

Ph: 289-891-8833 120 Mill Street, Georgetown