



**The Lesbian & Gay Chorus
of Washington**
"Every Voice Matters... in a World That Listens"

The Rag

November 17, 2009

November: Tenors in charge of set-up & providing water

Our Season Sponsor:

Brother Help Thyself

WE HONOR:

▪ our legacy as a proud & outstanding non-auditioned musical & educational chorus
▪ effective consensus-based decision-making
▪ community
▪ our financially healthy, not-for-profit arts organization
▪ our LGBT identities
▪ artistic integrity
▪ gender cooperation & gender equality
▪ having fun
▪ diversity
▪ our commitment to developing talent
▪ the LGBT choral movement

NEWS...

Spring 2010 Repertoire Ideas

At our last rehearsal, Paul presented a number of pieces of choral repertoire that could fit into the themes of "Words and Music" (settings of texts), "Music!" (songs about music and music-making), and "A New Start!" (songs about the LGCW and its reversioning: our music-making, our mission/vision, recruitment, fundraising, etc.).

In addition to presenting a traditional choral concert, we could also consider ideas such as:

- a collaboration with an organization representing a different artistic discipline (this potential is one of the benefits we cited when moving to CHAW)
- a collaboration with Jon Arterton (formerly of The Flirtations) and his partner James Mack in a presentation about legalizing gay marriage (see a video of excerpts from Jon & James' performances at www.youtube.com/watch?v=omBqOfAylJQ) * note that Jon & James would not be available to come to DC after mid-May due to their business in Provincetown; it's a possibility that CHAW could co-sponsor an event hosting Jon & James
- a presentation of a musical, such as:
 - John Rutter's *The Reluctant Dragon* (already in our library); a good choice to reach out to families with children
 - Kurt Weill's *The Threepenny Opera* (an adaptation of John Gay's *The Beggar's Opera*; for more information visit: www.threepennyopera.org/)
 - Gilbert & Sullivan's *Trial by Jury* (a sung-through piece; only 40 minutes in length; plot centers around marriage, so it could possibly be connected to a presentation with Jon & James - see above; Jill indicates that her friend Joan could probably assist with costumes and props)

There are other ideas out there, just waiting to be voiced and explored! Your input is needed and valued!

Your Stories Wanted!

At a recent social gathering of LGCW folk, an idea was born to feature the stories of LGCW singers in our upcoming fundraising mailing and beyond. The idea is to share LGCW members' stories with our audience and donor base. We are asking each member to please supply a short statement (no more than 200 words) of why you sing in the LGCW. Five of these stories will be included as part of our early December mailing, and others will be included on our web site and in future printed programs. Members are asked to submit their stories by e-mail to Jill by Friday, November 20th. (Many thanks to Jill for compiling the stories.) PS: with this project, there is a natural connection to Facebook!

Mailing Party on December 1

We will have a mailing party at CHAW on Tuesday, December 1st. Stay tuned for further details.

Interested in Being the LGCW's Grant-Writer-in-Training?

We are so fortunate to have the expertise of Jill Strachan as our intrepid Grant Writer. Jill's work has garnered the LGCW countless thousands of dollars, money which has been well-spent in furthering our music, our mission, and our vision. Some day (hopefully in the very distant future!), Jill may wish to retire as Grant Writer. With this in mind, we want to share with the chorus information about opportunities such as the one below, which are offered on a regular basis to help new grant writers obtain the skills they need to work effectively. If any member of the LGCW family is interested in attending a workshop like the one below, let us know!

Grant Development Workshop at GWU: December 7-9, 2009. Participants will learn from professional grant writers how to write grant proposals and secure funding from various agencies. Coordinator: Mike Harrington (866- 704-7268)

We Need to Plan for January Rehearsals and for the Spring Semester

In the near future, we need to plan our rehearsal schedule for January, and establish and plan for our Open House and spring semester schedule. Tuesdays available in January: 1/5 and 1/12 (1/19 is our performance night, for the MLK Remembrance). It would also be a good idea to plan what we will wear for the MLK Remembrance. The MLK Remembrance would be an excellent opportunity to distribute flyers about the S10 semester: our calendar, our repertoire, new initiatives (such as having a small ensemble meet twice a month and the "full ensemble" meet twice a month), etc.

Calling All Section Leaders!

Because this has been a non-traditional semester, we have been less formal in our organizational structure. Along the way, we have not identified leaders for each section. However, it would help us moving forward to have people identified in each section who are the "go-to" folks for communicating with absent members and coordinating water and set-up. Please let the group know if you are willing to take on this task for your section.

REMINDERS

- Please pick up your June concert CDs from Jill.
- Your music folder should now contain "Rejoice and Sing," "Up to the Mountain," "Song of the Exile," and *Under the Greenwood Tree* (movement 7, "All That We Dream," is being rehearsed)

TRANSITIONS...

- Music Director **Paul Heins** and his partner Matt moved to their new home TODAY! The online LGCW roster will soon be updated with Paul's new address. Please excuse Paul if he is somewhat flaky (flakier?) tonight.
- Arnie Medvene, the husband of former LGCW Soprano **Anne Collins**, is recovering well from a serious illness. Please keep Arnie, Anne, and their family in your thoughts and prayers.

UPCOMING EVENTS...

- through 11/21 - *Caroline, or Change* at GU's Gonda Theatre (see 10/27 *Rag*)
- 11/19 - first in a series of special musical events at Fairfax Unitarian Church (see 10/20 *Rag*)

FALL CALENDAR...

A few notes about the calendar:

- The semester calendar is usually published in *The Rag* the first Tuesday rehearsal of every month during the performance season (September – June). The full season calendar is also online at the Members section of www.lgcw.org.
- Chorus members are invited and encouraged (but not required) to participate in all Meetings. Chorus members are expected at all Rehearsals and Performances. Advance notice of planned absences is very much appreciated and helps with planning.
- All listings are at CHAW, 7:00-9:00 PM, unless indicated otherwise.
- Sections listed in parentheses are in charge of set-up and providing water for the month indicated. All choristers assist with clean-up.
- Tutoring is available by appointment - contact Paul to schedule a session.

November (Tenors)

Tue 17 Regular Rehearsal

Tue 24 Regular Rehearsal

December (Basses)

Tue 1 *Mailing Party (details TBA)*

Tue 8 Regular Rehearsal

Tue 15 Regular Rehearsal

January (Sopranos)

TBD until...

Tue 19 **Performance** at MLK Remembrance at CHPC (7:00 PM)

Special Offer: Ed Wood, a long-time LGCW supporter, member of the LGCW-affiliated ensemble Not What You Think, and DC Realtor will donate 5% of his sales commission to the LGCW for referrals he receives from a member of the chorus family that result in a sale. This offer applies to both sellers and purchasers. If both seller and purchaser in the same transaction are referrals, he will double the contribution, making it 10%. Ed at City Houses: (202) 232-4167.

The Lesbian & Gay Chorus of Washington, DC (LGCW)

*** CFC # 30249 ***

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Chorus Hotline: (202) 546-1549

www.lgcw.org

The Rag is usually pub'd for every Tue. rehearsal during the LGCW's concert season. Submissions for *The Rag* are welcome and should be received via e-mail no later than 8:00 PM on Sunday. Send submissions to Paul at music.director@lgcw.org. *The Rag* is also available online at www.lgcw.org