



The Lesbian & Gay Chorus of Washington

"Every Voice Matters... in a World That Listens"

Our 26th Season

The Rag

March 16, 2010

March: 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

TONIGHT...

Tue. 3/16, at CHAW

- 7:00-7:15 – Set-up by Tenors
- 7:15-7:25 - Stretching, breathing exercises, vocal warm-ups
- 7:25-7:45 - Life is Happiness Indeed
- 7:45-8:20 - *Wicked*, m. 6-66, plus review of m. 68-205
- 8:20-8:40 - Frog Went a-Courtin'
- 8:40-9:00 - Fare Well, m. 53-79
- 9:00-9:15 - review
- 9:15 – all assist with clean-up

NEXT REHEARSAL...

Tue. 3/23, at CHAW (Small) - facilitated by Barbara Schelstrate

- 7:00-7:15 – Set-up by Tenors
- 7:15-7:25 - Stretching, breathing exercises, vocal warm-ups
- 7:25-7:50 - We Are Made for Music *
- 7:50-8:15 - We Shall Be Free *
- 8:15-8:40 - We Can Be Kind *
- 8:40-9:15 - Everything Possible *
- 9:15 – all assist with clean-up

* distributed next week

NEWS...

Thank You, Barbara!

A sincere and hearty thank-you to our talented and skilled accompanist Barbara Schelstrate for facilitating last week's rehearsal, while Paul was on vacation. In that rehearsal, we started work on "The First Kiss," "The Best of Times," and "Frog Went a-Courtin'," plus we reviewed previously-learned sections of the *Wicked* medley (m. 68-205) and "Fare Well" (m. 1-52). Thank you, Barbara!

Thank You, Mailing Party!

Many thanks to Penny, Spike, Jeff, Jill, Jane, and Rick for getting our March 13 letter out in the mail on Saturday. The team finished 1,300 letters in a record 2 hours time! A special thank-you to Rick for donating the funds to print our letter.

Communications Update

Thank you to Jane, Jean, Jeff D, Jeff S., Jill, Paul, and Rick for their help crafting the message to communicate to our stakeholders about our decision regarding the future of the chorus. A press release went out today (March 16). A PatronMail e-blast will go out to all 354 people on our e-mail list tomorrow (March 17). Thank you to Jeff Sherwood for creating the press release, and to Rick Mauery for creating the PatronMail e-blast.

Jean has made great progress contacting Commission singers and inviting them to come rehearse with us to finish out this season. Our web site manager, Greg Bolling, has been contacted about the creation of a memory-sharing space on our web site.

Welcome, and Welcome Back!

Welcome to any new singers who have joined us this evening - we are delighted to have you with us. Welcome back to our returning singers, with special recognition of soprano Jill Strachan and alto Josette Desfayes, who have re-joined to help us celebrate our final semester of music-making.

Librarian Update

Jeffrey DeHart has volunteered to assist the chorus with librarian tasks this semester. In this capacity, Jeff will be the "go-to guy" for the following:

- Distributing music to visitors throughout the semester.
- Providing music to choristers as needed.
- Helping organize the collection and re-filing of music.

Josette Desfayes is continuing her heroic efforts to catalogue the music of the LGCW library, and will join forces with Jeffrey when she returns from her travels in May.

Please Sign In

On the table where you picked up your *Rag* tonight, you noticed an attendance chart. Would you please sign in for each rehearsal and performance? This will help Paul keep track of music instruction (i.e., who might need review of music following an absence). When you know you will be absent, please record an "A" on the date. This will help Paul plan for future rehearsals. Thank you for your help.

Music to be Distributed Next Week

Next week, we will (should) receive new music that we have ordered: "The Arrow and the Song," "We Are Made for Music," "We Can Be Kind," and "We Shall Be Free." Paul is also adapting "Everything Possible" to mesh with the version Jon & James have in their repertoire, and that new version will be distributed and started next week.

UPCOMING EVENTS...

- Sat. March 20 (4:00-6:00 PM) - "Let Us Rise in Love," by NWYT, at CHAW. (See 3/2 *Rag*)
- Fri. March 26 (5:30-7:30 PM) - Choral Workshop by the GU Concert Choir, at Georgetown University. (See 3/16 *Rag*)
- Fri. March 26 & Sat. March 27 (8:00 PM) - "CHAWbaret 7," featuring Barbara Schelstrate & Rick Mauery, at CHAW. (See 3/2 *Rag*)
- Sat. April 10 & Mon. April 12 - auditions for *The Mikado*, at CHAW. (See 3/16 *Rag*)

GU Concert Choir Presents Choral Workshop March 26

The Georgetown University Concert Choir, under the direction of C. Paul Heins, will present a 2-hour choral workshop featuring the music of Samuel Barber, William Schuman, and Frank Loesser, all of whom celebrate their 100th birthdays this year. The workshop will take place Friday, March 26 (5:30-7:30 PM) in McNeir Auditorium, on the main campus of Georgetown University. Guest scholars Barbara Heyman (from Brooklyn College), Steve Swayne (from Dartmouth College), and Thomas Riis (from the University of Colorado) will speak about the three composers, and the Concert Choir will perform several works-in-progress from its April 21 spring concert program. The workshop is free and open to the public.

Auditions for *The Mikado* - April 10 & 12

CHAW and the GLBT Arts Consortium invites auditionees for its summer 2010 production of Gilbert & Sullivan's *The Mikado*. Auditions will take place at CHAW on Saturday, April 10 (3:00-5:00 PM) and Monday, April 12 (7:00-9:00 PM). Auditionees are asked to prepare 16 bars or an excerpt of one minute ("Happy Birthday," for example) and read from the script. Please bring a copy of your music for the accompanist. If you are unable to audition either of these two dates, please contact Jill (see below) to set up an appointment.

The performance dates will be August 5-7 and 12-14, with rehearsals beginning in May. The production is under the musical direction of Barbara Schelstrate, Peter DiMuro (choreographer), and Jill Strachan (producer). For more information, please visit www.dcgbltarts.org, www.chaw.org, or contact Jill at jpstrach@aol.com or by phone at 202-547-4102.

THE FULL CALENDAR was last posted in the 2/23 edition of *The Rag*. It is always available online at www.lgcw.org.

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 ***

P.O. Box 65285 / Washington, DC 20035

Chorus Hotline: (202) 546-1549 - call ANYTIME to leave a message

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