



## The Lesbian & Gay Chorus of Washington

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

Our 26th Season

# The Rag

March 2, 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. 3/2, at CHAW (Full)
- 7:00-7:15 – Set-up by Tenors
  - 7:15-7:25 - Stretching, breathing exercises, vocal warm-ups
  - 7:25-8:15 – Rehearsal of: *Wicked* (m. 68-144), *Fare Well* (m. 27-52)
  - 8:15-9:15 - MFB
  - 9:15 – all assist with clean-up

### NEXT REHEARSAL...

- Tue. 3/9, 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
  - 7:25-7:45 – The First Kiss
  - 7:45-8:00 - The Best of Times
  - 8:00-8:30 - Frog Went a-Courtin'
  - 8:30-9:00 - review of *Wicked* (m. 68-205)
  - 9:00-9:15 - review of *Fare Well* (m. 1-52)
  - 9:15 – all assist with clean-up

### NEWS...

#### Tonight: Meeting on Resources vs. Goals

Tonight, we will rehearse music for the first hour (7:15-8:15 PM). Following that, an LGCW Meeting for Business will be held in our rehearsal space to discuss the following question: "In view of our current number and configuration of singers, do we have the human resources, commitment, and energy (both musically and organizationally) to continue operations?" This is an important discussion in light of projections that show our organization's membership to be very small this semester. All LGCW members are invited to attend and encouraged to participate in the discussion. Rick Mauery has agreed to facilitate the discussion.

#### Spring Semester Repertoire - Update?

Depending on the outcome of tonight's decisions regarding the S10 semester, Paul will (or will not) place an order for the new music programmed, assuming the repertoire proposal includes those new songs. If new repertoire is planned in light of decisions made, we will need help collecting non-programmed music (and re-filing it to the library) labeling / distributing new scores when they arrive. As part of our discussion tonight, we should also consider NWYT's offer to perform on the Jon & James concerts. (See last week's *Rag* for repertoire choices.)

#### Spring Opportunities

Tonight's decisions regarding the S10 semester may prompt us to decide about participating in these upcoming opportunities:

- George Mason University's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Ally Resource Carnival. The fair will take place from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM on Tue. March 30. To participate / reserve table space, we need to request a registration form from Alex Grant ([alexqant86@gmail.com](mailto:alexqant86@gmail.com)) and return it to him by Fri. March 5.
- Providing flyers and goodies for The Cherry Fund's fundraiser (see Rick Mauery for details).

#### Tomorrow is Arts Advocacy Day

This Wednesday (March 3), teams of arts leaders will visit policy-makers' offices as part of DC's Arts Advocacy Day. In addition to taking meetings, we want to flood the city council and mayor's offices with the message: if you support the arts, you have my vote. On March 3rd, please take a minute to e-mail and/or call your legislators for the arts, and before the day, please forward this to your personal networks, employees, etc. Here is what you might say in an email, or phone call:

Hello. I'm calling/e-mailing for (policymaker name). My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am calling/e-mailing to urge you to maintain arts funding in the FY 11 budget. Dedicated arts support was cut by 53% from FY 09 to FY 10. I know that tough choices have to be made, but those cuts resulted in lost jobs, lost tax revenue, and lost services for residents. The arts stimulate economic development and support community jobs. I work/volunteer/have kids at/know people at [insert your arts organization here] and have seen how arts education provides students with the confidence and focus they need to make it through school and go on to college. [THIS IS ALL JUST EXAMPLE -- FEEL FREE TO USE YOUR OWN LANGUAGE AND IDEAS. THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO LET THEM KNOW:] I want you to know that if you support the arts you have my vote.

Here is contact information for our local elected officials (see below). An asterisk (\*) denotes a member of the Economic Development Committee, the Council Committee that oversees the District's arts agency.

- Mayor Adrian Fenty  
[mayor@dc.gov](mailto:mayor@dc.gov), Tel: (202) 727-6300
- Vincent C. Gray, Council Chairman  
[vgray@dccouncil.us](mailto:vgray@dccouncil.us), Tel: (202) 724-8032
- David A. Catania, Councilmember (At-Large)  
[dcatania@dccouncil.us](mailto:dcatania@dccouncil.us), Tel: (202) 724-7772
- Phil Mendelson, Councilmember (At-Large)  
[pmendelson@dccouncil.us](mailto:pmendelson@dccouncil.us), Tel: (202) 724-8064
- Kwame R. Brown, Councilmember (At-Large)\*  
[kbrown@dccouncil.us](mailto:kbrown@dccouncil.us), Tel: (202) 724-8174
- Michael A. Brown, Councilmember (At-Large)  
[mbrown@dccouncil.us](mailto:mbrown@dccouncil.us), Tel: (202) 724-8105

- Jim Graham, Councilmember (Ward 1)  
[jgraham@dccouncil.us](mailto:jgraham@dccouncil.us), Tel: (202) 724-8181
- Jack Evans, Councilmember (Ward 2)\*  
[jackevans@dccouncil.us](mailto:jackevans@dccouncil.us), Tel: (202) 724-8058
- Mary M. Cheh, Councilmember (Ward 3)  
[mcheh@dccouncil.us](mailto:mcheh@dccouncil.us), Tel: (202) 724-8062
- Muriel Bowser, Councilmember (Ward 4)\*  
[mbowser@dccouncil.us](mailto:mbowser@dccouncil.us), Tel: (202) 724-8052
- Harry Thomas, Jr., Councilmember (Ward 5)  
[hthomas@dccouncil.us](mailto:hthomas@dccouncil.us), Tel: (202) 724-8028
- Tommy Wells, Councilmember (Ward 6)  
[twells@dccouncil.us](mailto:twells@dccouncil.us), Tel: (202) 724-8072
- Yvette M. Alexander, Councilmember (Ward 7)  
[yalexander@dccouncil.us](mailto:yalexander@dccouncil.us), Tel: (202) 724-8068
- Marion Barry, Councilmember (Ward 8)\*  
[mbarry@dccouncil.us](mailto:mbarry@dccouncil.us), Tel: (202) 724-8045

For more information on local arts advocacy, please visit [www.dcadvocatesforthearts.org](http://www.dcadvocatesforthearts.org).

## REMINDERS...

- We need a **librarian**. See the 3/23 *Rag* for more details. We also need to locate and distribute "Everything Possible."

## TRANSITIONS...

- Alto **Kris Aulenbach** is not able to sing with the LGCW this semester. She writes that she "looks forward to being in the audience" for our upcoming performances.

## UPCOMING EVENTS...

- Fri. March 5 & Sat. March 6 (8:00 PM) - "Unmoored," by Pearsonwidrig Dancetheater, at CHAW. (See 3/2 *Rag*)
- Through March 7 - *Once on This Island*, featuring Barbara Schelstrate (music director), at UUCA. (See 2/23 *Rag*)
- Sat. March 20 (4:00-6:00 PM) - "Let Us Rise in Love," by NWYT, at CHAW. (See 3/2 *Rag*)
- Fri. March 26 & Sat. March 27 (8:00 PM) - "CHAWbaret 7," featuring Barbara Schelstrate & Rick Mauery, at CHAW. (See 3/2 *Rag*)

### CHAW Presents Katrina-Inspired Multidisciplinary Arts Program on March 5

The Capitol Hill Arts Workshop (CHAW) presents Pearsonwidrig Dancetheater's *Unmoored (Love Letters to New Orleans)* on Friday, March 5 and Saturday, March 6 (8:00 PM both nights). *Unmoored (Love Letters to New Orleans)* is Pearsonwidrig Dancetheater's (PWDT) 80-minute live documentary of dance, spoken word, video and fabulous New Orleans music, performed by PWDT and 12 University of Maryland College Park (UMCP) dance students. Created in New Orleans shortly after Katrina, *Unmoored* premiered at the Kennedy Center and has toured the country since then, inviting relocated and displaced Gulf Coast residents to participate in workshops, video portrait sessions and the performing cast. Under the direction of co-artistic directors and UMCP professors Sara Pearson and Patrik Widrig, and with support from the National Endowment for the Arts and UMCP, the cast will take this "heart-wrenching and wryly humorous" (*The Washington Post*) work on tour throughout the spring semester, with a dozen performances in New York City, Ithaca, NY and in the Washington, DC area.

Tickets for the concert are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door; purchase by calling (202) 547-6839 or by e-mailing [victor@chaw.org](mailto:victor@chaw.org).

### Not What You Think Presents "Let Us Rise in Love" on March 20

Not What You Think (NWYT), an *a cappella* ensemble affiliated with the LGCW, will offer "Let Us Rise In Love," a concert of music and dance on Saturday, March 20 (4:00-6:00 PM), at CHAW. In addition to selections from NWYT's repertoire of songs of social justice and humor, the concert features 3 dance selections: "Braiding 2009," "Rain 2010," and "Arabesque 2010" by award-winning choreographer and NWYT member Alvin Mayes. Dancers performing in the program include: Miriam Levitan Cramer, Ella Nathalie Lane, Jill Cramer Lane, Aaron Jackson, Julia Smith, and Tommy Parlon. Admission is \$10 at the door and includes light *hors d'oeuvres*. The concert is part of Winter City Weekends sponsored by Barracks Row Main Street. For a complete listing of events for the weekend of March 19-21, visit [www.barracksrow.org](http://www.barracksrow.org).

### CHAW Presents CHAWbaret 7 on March 27

The Capitol Hill Arts Workshop (CHAW) will present "CHAWbaret 7: Love, Loss, and Latte," an evening of pop songs, standards, and show tunes about the thrills and spills of love, stalking, and coffee, on Friday, March 26, and Saturday, March 27 (8:00 PM both nights) at CHAW. Whether you enjoy the occasional espresso or not, "Love, Loss, and Latte" will have something for you, featuring D.C. Cabaret Network members Davey Brown, Stephanie Dailey, Lonny Smith and Dean Reichard, together with Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, D.C. (GMCW) members Andy Woo and Ramon Atienza, as well as Ilene Photos, Rick Mauery, KJ Jacks, and Jean McMahon. Musical direction is by Barbara Schelstrate, who also directs the summer Gilbert and Sullivan productions at CHAW and who is currently serving as music director for *Once On This Island* with the Chalice Theatre Company in Arlington, VA. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door, available by e-mailing [victor@chaw.org](mailto:victor@chaw.org) or by calling 202-547-6839. (Advance purchase is strongly encouraged for this popular program). Doors open at 7:30 PM, and coffee and other refreshments will be served. Proceeds from the performances benefit CHAW's mission of building community through the arts.

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

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#### 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](http://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](mailto:music.director@lgcw.org). *The Rag* is also available online at [www.lgcw.org](http://www.lgcw.org)