AMERICAN CAROLS

GMCW'S 2007 HOLIDAY SPECTACULAR!

featuring the original mini-musical A GAY Christmas Carols — book, music and lyrics by Matt Conner

Friday, November 30 at 8 pm
Saturday, December 1 at 8 pm
Sunday, December 2 at 2 pm
Lisner Auditorium (GWU)
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GAY MEN'S CHORUS gmcw OF WASHINGTON DC

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GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON, DC

Jeff Buhrman, Artistic Director

Presents

AMERICAN CAROLS

featuring the original mini-musical *A GAY Christmas Carols* — book, music and lyrics by Matt Conner

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Assistant Music Director ..... Thea Kano
Stage Director ..... John Moran
Choreographer ..... Craig Cipollini
Principal Accompanist ..... Theodore Guerrant
Accompanist ..... Robert Johnson
Vocal Coach Emeritus ..... Phil Rogerson
Artistic Interpreters ..... Jaime Coronado, Jina Lynne

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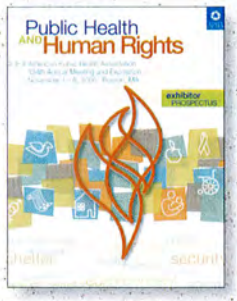

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Now in its 27th season, the **Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC** is at the forefront of the gay and lesbian choral movement, continuing its mission to "entertain through excellent musical performance, to affirm the place of Gay people in society and to educate about the Gay experience."

Founded in 1981, GMCW quickly became a staple of the Washington choral music scene. Over the years, GMCW has performed at the Kennedy Center, the National Theatre, the Warner Theatre, Constitution Hall, the Lincoln Theatre and Lisner Auditorium at The George Washington University, along with a number of other venues in and around the District. In addition, GMCW has toured many of the major cities in North America and, in 1998, three Scandinavian capitals. During its 20th anniversary season, GMCW performed at Symphony Hall in Boston and Carnegie Hall in New York City. In December 2002, GMCW was honored to perform as part of the 25th annual **Kennedy Center Honors** in tribute to Elizabeth Taylor. This performance was televised nationwide, bringing the Chorus into millions of homes across the nation.

The more than 200 members of GMCW perform three subscription concerts annually: a holiday concert, a spring concert and a summer concert. GMCW also appears at a number of community events, including programs for PFLAG, Whitman-Walker Clinic and Food & Friends. While in Scandinavia, GMCW was received by Sweden's Princess Christina to thank Chorus members for singing in support of Noah's Ark, a Swedish AIDS services organization.

GMCW has also been in the forefront of commissioning new works for men's chorus. Recent commissions include *Changing Hearts* for men's chorus and chamber orchestra, *Oseh Shalom* for men's chorus and brass quintet and *This House Shall Stand — Songs of My Family* for men's chorus and chamber orchestra. In addition, GMCW sponsors two small ensembles: **Potomac Fever**, a close-harmony group, and **Rock Creek Singers**, a 25-voice chamber music ensemble. These ensembles serve as representatives of GMCW at many community functions.

GMCW has won a number of awards, including the prestigious Mayor's Arts Award for artistic excellence in 1989, and four Washington Area Music Association's WAMMIE awards: in 2005 and 2003 for outstanding choral group, in 2002 for outstanding classical-choral recording (for *I Dream of a Time*) and in 1995 for outstanding gospel-inspirational performance (for *Live at the Lincoln*). In April 2003, GMCW received a Distinguished Service Award from the Gay & Lesbian Activists Alliance of Washington, DC for its commitment to protecting and promoting the civil rights of lesbians and gay men in the national capital area. *Pride and Joy*, GMCW's holiday music CD, was nominated for both a WAMMIE and a GLAMMA award, given by the national Gay and Lesbian Music Association. In addition, the full Chorus can be heard on the CDs *Singing Free, Let It Shine!, Pride and Joy, And In That Moment, I Dream of a Time, You've Got To Be Carefully Taught: The Songs of Sondheim and Hammerstein, Changing Hearts* and its latest release, *This House Shall Stand — Songs of My Family.*

GMCW is a proud member of Chorus America, the Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses (GALA Choruses), the Consortium of Gay Choruses, the Cultural Alliance of Washington, the Washington Council of Agencies, the GLBT Arts Consortium of Washington and the Center for Non-Profit Advancement.

GMCW's ensembles are activities of the Federal City Performing Arts Association, a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) organization. Information on upcoming GMCW events may be obtained by calling **202-293-1548** or by visiting the Chorus's web page at **www.gmcw.org**.

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Left: *Susan Seating at Petra, Jordan*, 1994, chromogenic print, photograph © Annie Leibovitz, from *Annie Leibovitz: A Photographer's Life, 1990–2005*. *Mikhail Baryshnikov and Rob Besserer, Cumberland Island, Georgia*, 1990, chromogenic print, photograph © Annie Leibovitz, from *Annie Leibovitz: A Photographer's Life, 1990–2005*

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FROM GMCW LEADERSHIP

As we bring you this message of concert welcome and holiday greetings, we're reminded that many good gifts come in threes. Not only will you experience the three distinct Christmas "Carols" in this performance, but you're celebrating the first of GMCW's three **America, the Fabulous!** subscription series concerts.

We hope you will also participate in one of the three ways GMCW tries to give back to the community, by contributing a gift (or money) to our Annual Holiday Toy Drive. In so doing, the holiday season will be a little brighter for underprivileged children through the great work of Community Family Life Services, with whom we've partnered on this project for years. Additionally, GMCW members will carol in our Dupont Circle and Logan Circle neighborhoods, and continue a tradition of singing carols on Christmas Eve at the National Institutes of Health to patients who can't be home with their loved ones.

Finally, as we look back on a successful year for GMCW and look with excitement to the year ahead, we're reminded of the three measures that have granted us success as an arts organization: Our members and volunteers who sing and support us; our donors who help sustain us and you, the audience that comes to see us.

Thanks for helping launch our 27th season and happy holidays to you all!

Greg D. Kubiak Board Chair	John O'Brien GMCW President	Robert Johnson Executive Director

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AMERICA, THE FABULOUS!

Music has had a profound impact on American culture reflecting our multi-ethnic population through a vast array of styles. Rock and roll, country-western, rhythm and blues, folk and jazz are among the genres that emerged in the 20th century. Further, the European classical tradition brought to this country has inspired many American composers to create a distinctly American style of classical music.

With this in mind, we decided to devote an entire season to music that has impacted American culture. We begin with our holiday concert, *American Carols.* We are happy to welcome our guests **Tach'shitim** and **Mosaic Harmony** as they help us celebrate the diversity of American music. We have also commissioned an exciting and fun mini-musical, *A (Gay) Christmas Carol(s)* with book, music and lyrics by local composer Matt Conner. Think of it as our salute to the American musical theater!

We continue our season of fabulous music with our February concert, *American Masterpieces* ... classical music by great American composers. Last February we sang a sold out concert featuring Gabriel Fauré's beautiful *Requiem.* This year's featured work will be Leonard Bernstein's exciting *Chichester Psalms.* We'll also be singing music by Randall Thompson, Steven Paulus, Aaron Copland and others. GMCW's small ensemble, Rock Creek Singers, will be featured singing repertoire that includes American cowboy songs. AND ... GMCW's principal accompanist, Theodore Guerrant, is celebrating his 25th season with the Chorus. Dr. Teddy, as we fondly call him, will share his mastery of the organ. He is not to be missed!

In March we bring you *That '80s Show.* Excess ruled in the 1980s, ET phoned home and the world cried over the death of John Lennon. We'll feature a great array of music from the '80s — Boy George, George Michael, Cyndi Lauper, Madonna, the Go Go's, the Bangles, Michael Jackson, Olivia Newton-John and so many more. What says "Let's dance!" more than the '80s? This will be a colorful show with costumes, videos and an '80s soundtrack that will knock your socks off.

Our June concert, *America the Fabulous! ... featuring the Miss Fabulous America Pageant,* is a celebration of popular music with roots in America. We go to Nashville for country music, to New Orleans for jazz, to Detroit for Motown, to Southern California for pop-rock and to New York City for Broadway. You will witness everything American, from baton twirling to country-western dancing. And we will crown a Miss Fabulous America with a new, original song, "America, The Fabulous." You will want to come vote as the audience gets to select the winner!

We think we have an incredibly diverse, overwhelmingly entertaining season for you. We hope to see you at all of our shows. Have a wonderful holiday season.

Jeff Buhrman

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PROGRAM

AMERICAN CAROLS

featuring the original mini-musical *A Christmas Carol* — book, music and lyrics by Matt Conner

GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON, DC

Jeff Buhrman, Artistic Director
Thea Kano, Assistant Director
Theodore Guerrant, Accompanist

Hodie! ..... John Leavitt
A Season for Lovers ..... John-Michael Albert
Nowell ..... Randall Thompson
See Amid the Winter's Snow ..... Eugene Butler
Adapted by Michael Howarth & Stan Hill
Lifted in Song ..... Daniel Gawthrop

TACH'SHITIM

The Choir of Congregation Bet Mishpachah
Michael Resnick, Director

Chanukah! ..... arr. Michael Resnick
Keter (Crown of Holiness) ..... Salamone Rossi, ed. Fritz Rikko
Even When G-d is Silent ..... Michael Horvit
Mi Zeh Hidlik from *Arise and Be Free* ..... Steven Barnett
Samachti B'omrim Li (Psalm 122) ..... Charles Osborne, arr. Michael Resnick

MOSAIC HARMONY

David North, Director

If I Tell God ..... Kurt Carr
Even Me ..... Hymn Tune
This Little Light of Mine ..... arr. by David K. North

COMBINED CHORUSES

Oseh Shalom ..... John Leavitt
Help Us Make Peace ..... David K. North

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PROGRAM

AMERICAN CAROLS

A Christmas Carol

Book, Music and Lyrics by Matt Conner
Orchestrations by Jenny Cartney

Cascade of the Bells ..... Chorus
Fum, Fum, Fum ..... 3 Charities & Chorus
It Wouldn't Be Christmas Without Garland ..... Carol & Chorus
Christmas Everywhere ..... Young Scrooge
Pat-a-pan ..... Tiny Tim
Ding Dong Merrily/Midnight Clear ..... Cratchits & Chorus
Bring a Torch, Old Ebenezer ..... Fred & Chorus
Pat-a-pan/Silent Night/Still ..... Cratchits & Chorus
Christmas Finale ..... Chorus

CAST

Scrooge ..... Jonny Simmonds
Three Charities ..... Marcus Brown, Michael Horton, Ryan Williams
Bob Cratchit ..... PJ Brennan
Mr. Dilber ..... Barrett Whitener
Fred ..... Bill Cutter
Jacob Marley ..... Nick Pietras
Carol of Christmas Past ..... Chip Crews
Younger Scrooge ..... Stuart Goldstone
Carol of Christmas Present ..... Rick East
Tiny Tim ..... Eric Belkengren
Steve Cratchit ..... Kip Jacobs
Garrett Cratchit ..... Eric James
Lyle Cratchit ..... Richard Hooks Wayman
Craig Cratchit ..... Jere Lorenzen
Carol of Christmas Future ..... John O'Brien
Dancers ..... Emerito Amaro, Chris Fredericks, Kit Grieder, Sean Hanrahan, Daniel Head, Mark Hennen, Matt Komonik, Ed Oseroff, Sean Robinson, JR Russ, Mark Uhen

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TACH'SHITIM PROGRAM NOTES

By Michael Resnick

Our program tonight focuses on light, because *Chanukah* is the Festival of Light. The joys of *Chanukah* include lighting the *chanukiah* (menorah) each night for eight nights, retelling the story of the rededication of the First Temple in Jerusalem over 2500 years ago, eating special foods and, of course, spinning the *dreidl*. "*Chanukah!*" is a medley of two well known holiday songs, "*Sevivon Sov Sov Sov*" and the ubiquitous "I Have a Little *Dreidl*." We just couldn't let this concert go by without a little "nudge-nudge-wink-wink" to that little top!

Salamone Rossi (ca. 1570 – 1630) was a transitional figure between the late Italian Renaissance period and early Baroque who earned a reputation as a talented violinist and composer. In 1623, Rossi published a collection of Jewish liturgical music, *Hashirim Asher L'shlomo* (The Songs of Solomon), written in the Baroque tradition. These compositions were unprecedented in synagogue music, as polyphonic music in the synagogue had been forbidden since the destruction of the Second Temple in 70 C.E. "*Keter*" (a crown emanating rays of holy light) is Rossi's setting of the *Kedushah* (Sanctification) section of the *Amidah* (Standing Prayer). In the past 30 years, Rossi's music has been revived through the fine work of the Zamir Choral Foundation and its director, Matthew Lazar. Tach'shitim has embraced this work as its signature composition.

It is hard to relate broken glass to light, but "Even When G-d Is Silent" speaks to the light of hope and faith in the midst of unparalleled horror. Congregation Emanue-El in Houston, TX, commissioned this work for the 50th anniversary of *Kristallnacht*, the Night of Shattered Glass, November 9, 1938, the day that is generally recognized as the beginning of the Holocaust. Allied troops found the poem scrawled on a basement wall in Cologne, Germany, where the author had been hiding from the Gestapo.

Steven Barnett has beautifully captured the spirit of lighting the *chanukiah's* candles in his joyously polyphonic "*Mi Zeh Hidlik.*"

We close our program with "*Samachti B'omrim Li,*" a beautiful hymn based on Psalm 122, where pilgrims return to the city of light and enlightenment, Jerusalem. Our prayer to you, "May those who love you prosper. May you live in peace and may all blessings be yours."

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TRANSLATIONS

***Chanukah*!**
Little *dreidl*, spin, spin, spin on this joyous *Chanukah* night!
Chanukah is a wondrous holiday, for a great miracle happened there in Jerusalem.

***Keter* (Crown of Holiness)**
Your crown of holiness is acclaimed by throngs of angels on high, and by Your people assembled below. G-d's glory pervades the universe; G-d's ministering angels inquire of one another: "Where is the place of glory?" From Your heavenly abode may You turn in mercy to Your people who twice daily proclaim in love the unity of Your name: "One is our G-d; our Parent, our Sovereign, and our Deliverer." In Your mercy You will again make known in the presence of all the living: "I am *Adonai*, your G-d." And *Adonai* shall reign forever; Your G-d, O Zion, shall be Sovereign to all generations. Hallelujah!

Mi Zeh Hidlik* from *Arise and Be Free
Who will light the narrow candles that twinkle like the stars in the heavens?
Even the many little children know that today is *Chanukah*!

***Samachti B'omrim Li* (Psalm 122)**
I rejoiced when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of G-d."
And now our feet are standing within your gates, Jerusalem.
Jerusalem, built as a city, walled round about.
Here the people have come to give thanks to the name of G-d.
For the peace of Jerusalem I pray: "May those who love you prosper!
"May peace be within your ramparts and prosperity within your towers."
For family and friends I pray: "May peace be yours."
For the house of G-d, I pray: "May blessings be yours."

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A (Gay) CHRISTMAS CAROL(s) PROGRAM NOTES

By John Moran

Charles Dickens published *A Christmas Carol* on December 17, 1843, and it became his most beloved work. This tender fable of spiritual renewal received a rapturous welcome from the public. Readers were moved to tears by the story of the delightfully despicable Scrooge, a heartless old miser who undergoes a miraculous rebirth precisely at Christmas, the only time "in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open up their hearts freely." Dickens's celebration of human kindness, charity, mercy and joy touched his contemporaries profoundly (writing in 1871, the novelist Margaret Oliphant recalled that it "moved us all in those days as if it had been a new gospel") and it continues to touch readers around the world, not least because of the countless dramatic adaptations it has inspired.

When Dickens visited New York City the papers wrote of him "[that of all the people] that have ever visited this land he appears to have been the most flimsy — the most childish — the most trashy — the most contemptible. He has neither common grammar, sense, arrangement or generalisation [sic] ... he seems to be the essence of balderdash, reduced to the last drop of silliness and inanity."

It was also noted that the young author possessed (not unlike his mother) "a strong sense of the ridiculous."

So for this concert, we debut a version of Dickens's most beloved story in a style we suggest he would heartily endorse. We have retained a bit of the sentimentality, but expressed it in a new part of the story, while honoring his reverence for social commentary and silliness. (He also adored amateur theatricals and appeared in them most of his life.)

So Charlie, for Christmas 2007, we breathe new life into your story from Christmas Past, with a wink to you and multiple guffaws, with good cheer, for our Christmas Present.

As Tiny Tim called out, "God bless Us, Every One!"

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TACH'SHITIM

Tach'shitim (Jewels) is the choir of Congregation Bet Mishpachah (House of the Family), Washington, DC's egalitarian synagogue embracing a diversity of sexual and gender identities. Formed as a trio in the late 1980s, the choir has enhanced the beauty of the Sabbath, Festival and High Holy Day services with their music. Tach'shitim has performed throughout the Washington and Baltimore areas in concerts and interfaith services. In 2004, they performed in the 7th International GALA Choruses Festival in Montreal to great acclaim, and are a featured chorus in the 2006 documentary, *Why We Sing*. In 2000, Tach'shitim released its first compact disc recording, *Family and Friends*.

Bet Mishpachah (www.betmish.org) is a congregation for GLBT Jews and all who wish to participate in an inclusive, egalitarian and mutually supportive community. Members join together to affirm their religious and cultural heritage, integrating gay and lesbian and Jewish identities. Their membership is comprised of singles, couples and families, and is open to everyone, regardless of religious affiliation, sexual orientation or gender identity. Since its founding in 1975, the congregation has grown to hundreds of members. Bet Mishpachah is proud to have a celebratory community of women and men who share equally in the leadership of the congregation. Bet Mishpachah is a member of the Network of Independent Jewish Communities and Havurot, the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington, The World Congress of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Jews: Keshet Ga'avah, the Jewish Funeral Practices Committee of Greater Washington and the Celebration of the Spirit Coalition.

Michael Resnick has served as Tach'shitim's volunteer director since 1993 and a member of Bet Mishpachah since 1984. He is a life-long resident of the Washington metropolitan area. Michael graduated from the University of Maryland with a degree in music education and spent the early part of his career as a high school band director in Prince George's County, MD. Michael has also served as a music teacher at Congregation Beth El of Montgomery County, MD, music director of DC's Different Drummers, president of the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC and sung with the Metropolitan Chorus and numerous synagogue choirs in the area. His arrangement of "*Shabbat Hamalkah* (The Sabbath Bride)" is scheduled to be published by Transcontinental Music Publishing Company in early 2008.

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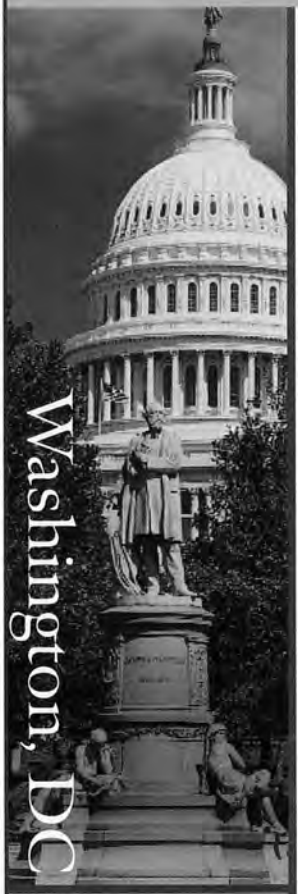

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Mosaic Harmony, an inter-faith, gospel-inspired choir, draws on the rich heritage of African-American spiritual music to demonstrate and encourage unity in the midst of diversity. Mosaic Harmony brings together people of diverse cultures, religions, ages and backgrounds to celebrate humanity. The choir represents 17 faith traditions and performs everything from traditional spirituals to new songs composed by its popular and dynamic director, David North.

Founded in 1993, the choir is generously supported by private donations from devoted fans, members' religious institutions, benefit performances and grants. The choir performs approximately 20 times during their choral season in a variety of locations throughout the Washington metropolitan area.

Recent concerts have included a celebration of the 150th anniversary of St. Elizabeth's Hospital, a fundraiser for the Brain Tumor Foundation, a performance for the descendants of slaves in Annandale, VA, an annual concert at Northern Virginia Mental Health Clinic, a fundraiser for a multi-cultural youth center sponsored by six churches, a Martin Luther King Day performance at Church of the Epiphany and a performance for residents at Goodwin House, a retirement community in Alexandria, VA.

Detailed information on Mosaic Harmony concerts can be found at www.mosaicharmony.com including information about a special concert, *Every Song A Celebration featuring David K. North and the House of Jam Band* on Sunday, January 13, 2008, and Mosaic Harmony's spring 2008 fundraising concert, which will mark MoHa's 15-year anniversary.

Over the years, Mosaic Harmony also has released 3 CDs: *Make Us One, You Oughta Been There* and *Be Encouraged.*

Rev. David K. North has been sharing his ministry in word and song for all of his life. David has been the director of many musical groups including the Southern Illinois University Gospel Choir, the Metropolitan Community Church of Washington Gospel Choir and David North and the Gospel Celebration. He has been the director of Mosaic Harmony Community Choir since 1996. David has produced, recorded and performed on multiple recordings, and has been a soloist with the Men and Women of the Gospel at the Kennedy Center. In addition, David has played the lead role of Oedipus in the *Gospel at Colonus* at the Capitol Hill Arts Workshop and at the H Street Playhouse of Washington, DC. Rev. David North is an ordained minister with the Baptist Church and with the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. He currently serves as pastor for Holy Redeemer Metropolitan Church in College Park, MD.

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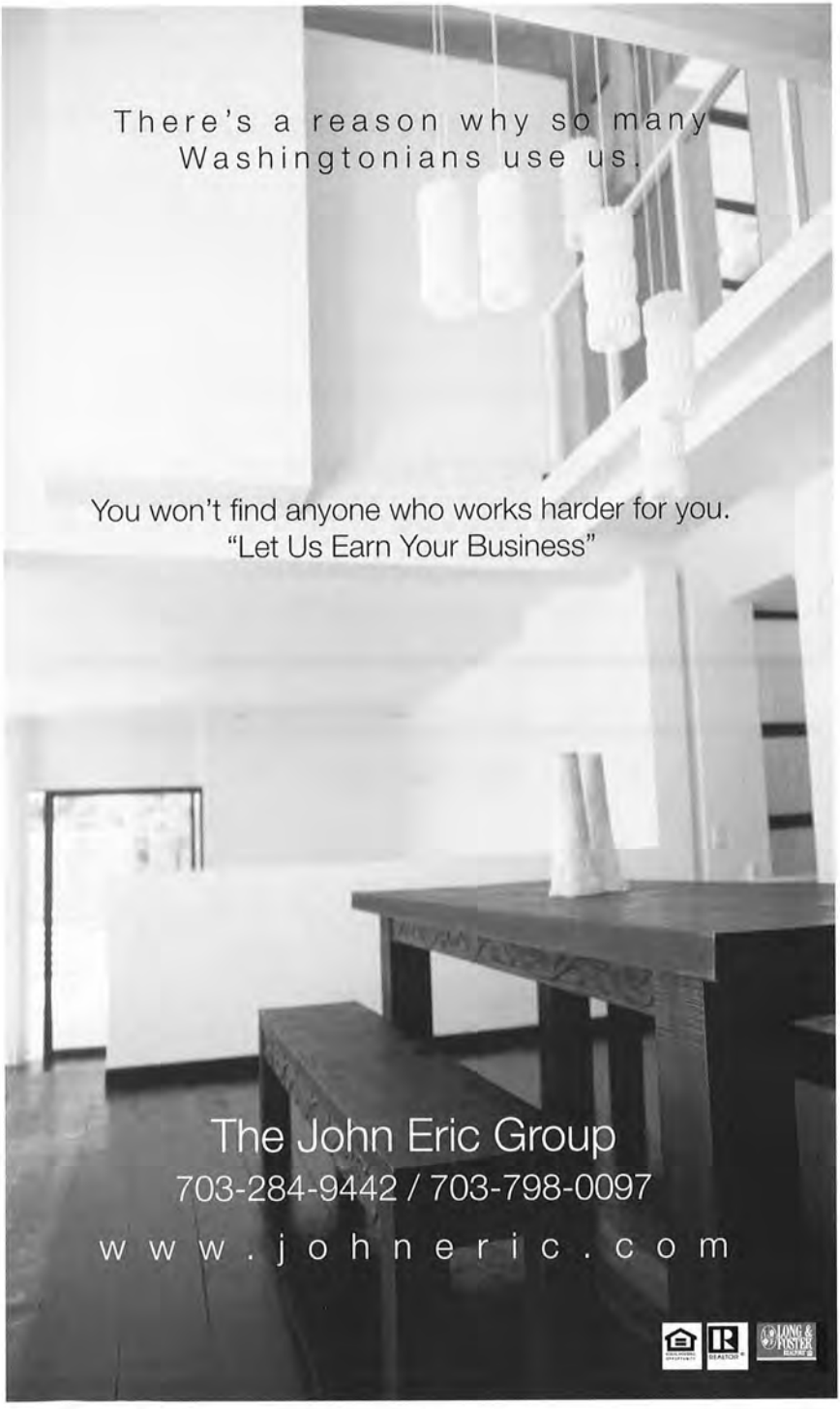
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WHO'S WHO

JEFF BUHRMAN, Artistic Director

Jeff Buhrman is in his eighth season as Artistic Director of the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC. During his tenure the Chorus has performed in Carnegie Hall in New York, Symphony Hall in Boston and at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC. In December 2002 GMCW was featured at the Kennedy Center Honors, appearing in the CBS television special in which the Chorus sang a tribute to Elizabeth Taylor.

Under Jeff's leadership the Chorus has grown to over 200 singers and has recorded five compact discs. GMCW's 20th anniversary CD, *I Dream of a Time*, won the 2002 Washington Area Music Association's WAMMIE award for outstanding choral recording. GMCW was also awarded the 2005 WAMMIE for best choral group. Consistently praised by local critics, GMCW was hailed as "one of the finest male choruses in the world" by *The Washington Post.* Another critic noted that "huge choruses often sound thick and ponderous, but conductor Jeff Buhrman educed a light, limber, beautifully balanced sonority that ebbed and shimmered, framing lyrics with coronas of color."

Jeff began his association with GMCW directing the small ensemble Potomac Fever in 1988, a job he held for the next ten seasons. In 2004 Jeff returned to directing the group. In 1989 he began an eight year run as Assistant Director of GMCW, working with Music Director Jim Holloway. Jeff had the honor of directing GMCW at an inauguration concert for President Clinton in 1997.

Under Jeff's direction, Potomac Fever has attained a wide following with its distinctive style, characterized by fluid phrasing and warmth of tone. One of two GMCW outreach ensembles, Potomac Fever has performed hundreds of concerts and fundraisers within the gay community and the community at large. Jeff led the group on a European tour highlighted by a performance at the opening ceremony of the European Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses festival in Munich.

A lifelong musician, Jeff holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in music education and voice from Montclair State University and a Master's degree from The George Washington University. In addition, he studied voice with Marden Bate, conducting with David Randolph and received additional training in voice with Walter Blazer of the Manhattan School of Music. He has performed with such preeminent choral conductors as Robert Shaw, Roger Wagner, David Randolph and Dennis Keene.

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WHO'S WHO

THEA KANO, Assistant Music Director

A native of northern California, Thea Kano began studying the piano at age four. In 2004, she completed her doctorate in choral conducting under Donald Neuen at the University of California, Los Angeles. She also earned her Master of Music degree in choral conducting from UCLA, and earned her undergraduate degree in choral music education from Arizona State University. Dr. Kano taught high school vocal music and musical theater in southern California for several years. Her ensembles received several awards, including Most Outstanding Performance at the Reno International Jazz Festival.

Dr. Kano pursued additional private conducting studies with Paul Salamunovich. While attending graduate school, Thea served as the Assistant Director of the Angeles Chorale and was Artistic Director of the San Fernando Valley Youth Chorus in Los Angeles. She was a teaching associate and administrative assistant for the Department of Choral Music at UCLA where she directed the University Chorus. Additional responsibilities included serving as Assistant Conductor of the UCLA Chorale and the UCLA Chamber Singers.

Thea came to Washington, DC in 2004 upon her multiple appointments as Assistant Director of the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC, Assistant Conductor of The Washington Chorus, and Artistic Director of the Capitol Hill Youth Chorus. In addition, Dr. Kano is the founding Artistic Director of the New York City Master Chorale.

THEODORE GUERRANT, Principal Accompanist

Now in his 25th season as GMCW's Principal Accompanist, "Dr. Teddy" first came on board in 1983 as Jim Holloway's other two hands, as it were, under the baton of the late Dr. Jim Richardson. Subsequently, after serving under conductors Bruce Trinkley, Jim Holloway and Greg Ruffer, he now gaily accompanies Jeff Buhrman. He has traveled with the Chorus from Vancouver to Scandinavia and from Boston to San Francisco, and passed his own half-century mark at the end of the 1999 – 2000 season as he and the Chorus headed for San Jose and their sixth GALA experience together.

A nephew and student of the late Georgian pianist Eliza Holmes Feldman, he holds five degrees in keyboard performance: the Bachelor of Music cum laude in piano and the Master of Fine Arts in harpsichord from the University of Georgia, the Master of Music in piano from the University of Wisconsin, the Doctor of Musical Arts in piano performance literature from the University of Maryland and the Graduate Performance Diploma in organ from the Peabody Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. He was the recipient of several academic scholarships and studied piano additionally in England with Denise Lassimonne.

Dr. Guerrant is Organist-Choirmaster at Saint Margaret's Episcopal Church on Connecticut Avenue in Washington, DC (where Dignity worships), Associate Organist at Saint Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church in Hyattsville, Assisting Organist at the University of Maryland Chapel and accompanies, additionally, the Laurel Oratorio Society and the Montgomery County Masterworks Chorus. He is Coordinator of Accompanying Activities for the University of Maryland School of Music and currently belongs to seven professional music organizations. In his spare time he is fascinated by fans, clocks, organs, telephones, cats, metaphysics and musclemen.

Photo by Carol Pratt

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WHO'S WHO

MATT CONNER, Writer, Composer and Lyricist

Matt Conner has been performing, composing, teaching and music directing in the Washington, DC metropolitan area for the last ten years. His affiliations include Signature Theatre, Synetic Theatre, Olney Theatre Center, Actors Theatre of Washington, Young Playwrights and Creative Cauldron, Inc. Mr. Conner received his Bachelor of Fine Arts in music theater from Shenandoah Conservatory of Music and has music directed numerous shows including *Brigadoon, Grease, Crazy for You, Shenandoah* and his original score of *A Christmas Carol* for the West End Dinner Theatre. Matt's world premiere musical, *Nevermore*, was produced at Signature Theatre in 2006. He is currently working on a new commission for Signature entitled *Crossing*. Mr. Conner is also writing a commissioned children's show called *The King of Pizza*, about diversity and working together, with two new shows for future audiences in the making. Matt is also a proud voice on the Grammy Award winning recording of Benjamin Britten's *War Requiem*.

JOHN MORAN, Stage Director

John Moran's past year was highlighted by the National Arts Awards in New York with Jake Gyllenhaal and Robert Downey, Jr., the opening of the Atlas Performing Arts Center — Washington and designing the first Time of Remembrance on the National Mall honoring the Families of the Fallen in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Mr. Moran has directed *Bye, Bye Birdie* and other projects for GMCW, including *fabYULEus!, SHOWBOYS!, Singing Free!* (the Chorus's 25th anniversary concert with special guest, Barbara Cook) and the concept and direction for the 2005 cabaret, *Everything's Coming Up Sondheim!*

Other recent credits include The Lone Sailor Awards, UCP Gala with Josh Blue, HRC National Dinner (with Tim Gunn, Matthew Broderick, Sheryl Swoopes and members of the cast of *Ugly Betty*) and the Hispanic Heritage Awards (with Rita Moreno). In recent years, John has been coast-to-coast directing shows in California featuring the Russian National Orchestra (with Carlo Ponti, Jr. conducting), the National Arts Awards for Americans for the Arts in New York (with Mikhail Baryshnikov, Tommy Tune, Kitty Carlisle Hart and Kerry Washington) and Vital Voices from the Kennedy Center (with Sally Field, Julia Ormond, Andrea Mitchell, Hillary Rodham Clinton, Kay Bailey Hutchison, Madeline Albright and Thomas Kean) in Washington, DC, among many other projects.

CRAIG CIPOLLINI, Choreographer

Craig comes to GMCW from the world of musical theater. A native of Baltimore, MD, now residing in DC, Craig has been dancing since the age of fourteen. He has an extensive background in theater, having performed all over the east coast. He has toured with productions of *A Chorus Line* and *42nd Street*, in addition to many regional, summer stock and dinner theatre credits. Craig has also worked as a director and choreographer. Some shows he has directed and/or choreographed include *Cabaret, Will Rogers Follies, Annie, Hair, Rocky Horror Picture Show, Carousel* and *West Side Story* to name a few. Last season, Craig choreographed *Mistletoe & Memories* and *The Wizard of Oz* for GMCW. He is also a choreographer for the DC Cowboys, a local gay dance troupe that has performed all over the United States. He recently had the opportunity to perform along with the Cowboys at the Gay Games VII in Chicago at Wrigley Field. By day, he works as a Contract Administrator for the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists and the Screen Actors Guild (AFTRA-SAG), two unions that represent professional performers.

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WHO'S WHO

ROBERT JOHNSON, Executive Director

Robert Johnson earned a Master of Music degree in piano performance from Northern Arizona University and a Bachelor of Arts degree in music from the State University of New York at Geneseo. Robert's professional experience includes Associate Director of the Heifetz International Music Institute, a competitive summer music program for advanced string players and pianists, based in Ellicott City, MD, where he enjoyed great success in fundraising, marketing, community outreach and administration. Before joining the Heifetz Institute, he was Assistant Dean at the David Hochstein School for Music and Dance in Rochester, NY, where his duties included faculty and student relations, evaluations, program development and staff management.

A singing member and assistant accompanist for GMCW since spring 2005, Robert is familiar to Chorus audiences and supporters, and is delighted to have been appointed Executive Director. He is an avid lover of musical theatre and has music directed and conducted numerous shows. Most recently he was assistant conductor for the Washington Savoyards' production of *Kiss Me Kate*, as well as rehearsal and performance pianist for GMCW's March 2007 production of *The Wizard of Oz*.

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Bob Wonneberger left this world in October of 2002, but his spirit and his love remain. GMCW has sought to carry on his love by continuing his annual toy collection. We share it again this year with our audience family. We hope this joy of giving will become as much a tradition for you as it is for us...thanks to "Wanda Mae."

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GMCW 2007/2008 ORDER FORM • PAGE 2

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TACH'SHITIM

Michael Resnick, Musical Director

SOPRANO
Whitney Babash, (on leave)
Hollis Fleischer
Eileen Greenberg

ALTO
Deb Hyman
Debra Montanino

TENOR
Michael Resnick
David Steinhorn

BARITONE
Stan Drake
Carl Spatz

MOSAIC HARMONY

David North, Music Director
Laura Schanes Romstedt, Assistant Music Director
Asa Lee, Keyboard
Ron Skinner, Bass Guitarist
Allen Caesar, Percussion

SOPRANO
Mary Ackerman
Teri Battles
Linda Carter
Theresa Cipriano
Su Davis
Stacey Guenther Doten
Sherri Irving
Moniek Janczewski
Melissa Katz
Chris Makris
Virginia Segal Manczuk
Rose Marshall
Kelli Miller
Misti Mukherjee
Clare Parmalee
Helena Podjed-Tomlin
Phyllis Rhode
Linda Robinson
Victoria Robinson
Gail Ryan
Laura Schanes Romstedt
Jadzia Sawa
Marilyn Tebor Shaw
Renie Spriggs
Nancy Yinger

ALTO
Menda Ahart
Rosemarie Annunziata
Dorey Butter
Donna Courtney
Beth Dewey
Clarice Douoguih
Karen Flann
Barbara Z. Harding
Beth Heiman
June Hess
Keiko Hisadome
Roxane Hughes
Susan Jelinek
Chris Jernigan
Peggy Kramer
Eileen Mankin
Cyndi McCrea
Yvonne McIntire
Diana Menefee
Kim Moss
Susan B. Nelson
Dee Oldham
Maureen O'Malley
Janet Ott
Kala Payne
Janet Pressler
Sue Price
Sally Richard
Shana Spiegel
Katrina Thralls
Lenore Walsh
Jan Yates

TENOR
Joe Annunziata
Sean Boyd
Donnie Cruse
Judy Gruner
Daniel Hays
Julia Keane
Barbara Madgwick
Mariah Burton Nelson
Nancy Piness
Melinda Reed
Suzanne Reynolds
Sylvester Tomlin
Sharon Van Duizend
Evan Young

BASS
Eddie Adkins
Joe Cipriano
Jim Davis
Carl Hess
Bill MacReynolds
Jeff Mendell
Will Oldham
James Pajela
Pete Richard
Ron Staley
Ron Stanley
David Treadwell

GMCW MEMBERS

First Tenor

Timothy Allmond, Jr. 1999
Justin Ayers 2007
Jason Belk 2006
Tom Boeke 2006
Andrew Blair 2006
Joe Bloomer 1999
Alex Bodenham 2006
Brad Boekeloo 1992
Fred Boykin 1981
Laurence Boylan 2002
Charles R. Butler, Neto 1981 (RCS)
Joe Cannon 1981
Phillip Carson 2006
Randle D. Clark 2007
Marc Clodfelter 2004
Tony Conto 2003
Steve Crutchfield 1988
Bill Cutter 1998
Brian Day 1999 (RCS)
Richard Dew 2004 (SL)
Rob Driggers 2002
Greg Finch 2003
Alex Ford 1996 (SL)
Peter Fox 2002 (PF)
Paul George 2000
Jay Gilliam 2007 (RCS)
Stephen Graham 2007
Bob Halbert 2001
Michael Hayes 2004
Michael Horton 2000
Scott Hubli 2003
Kip Jacobs 2006
Eric James 2002 (PF, Board)
Kelly Johnson 2005
Ron Kludo 2005 (PF)
Frank Leonard 2007
Jere Lorenzen 2003
Jason Lusk 2007
John J. Masters, Jr. 2005
Bill McClure 2006
Gordon McGraw 1998
Greg Alan Moffett 2007
Kerry Neal 2002
Jamin Olney 2006
Dennis Palaganas 2002
Soo Park 2007
Dan Patton 1995 (Board)
Michael Phelps 2004
Paul E. Pompeo 2004 (Board)
Wayne Purdy 2006
Gary Regan 1990
Jack Reiffer 1998
Phil Rogerson 1981
Leorey Saligan 2006
Jonny Simmonds 2007 (RCS)
Benjamin Smith 2007
Jim Stanko 1990
David Streit 1988
Brad Thompson 2006
Will Trokey 2004 (RCS)
Tim Tourbin 2005
Jeff Van Luyn 1983
Jason Varvas 2004
Richard Hooks Wayman 2007
Kevin Webster 1993
James W. Williams 1991

Second Tenor

Eric Adams 2005
Tsar Agus 2003
James Appel 2007
Carl Baldwin 1992
Jay Ball 2001
Ben Balmaceda 2006
Jeremy Bauer 2005
Yoni Bock 2007
Sherman Blow 2004 (SL)
Kevin Boswell 2005 (PF)
Wynn Bressler 2003
Edgar Casas 2005
Paul E. Cline 1996
Chris Cochran 1995
Harvey Cohen 1985
Tony Cunningham 2002
Thomas Mitchell Deal 2007
Howard Ducat 2007
Alvin Figer 2002
Paul Foley 2004
Mark Fox 2007
Bill Fuchs 2007
Martin Haley 2004
Jeff Hamlin 2000
Sean Hanrahan 2002
Andrew Harmon 2002 (RCS)
Mark Hennen 2004
Rick Jacobs 2000
Colin James 2006
David L. Jonas 2001 (RCS)
Matt Komornik 1993
Keith Krivitzky 2006
Mark Leger 2005
Justin Lerner 2007
Kevin Loeffler 2007
Lee Lowder 2004
Leo Luberecki 2002
Stefan Lura 2007
James Madigan, III 1991 (RCS)
Joval Martin 2006
Ryan L. Masser 2005
Donald McArthur 2006
Gordon Mehlman 2004
Phillip Moore 2006
John O'Brien 2004 (Board)
Darren O'Neill 2002 (RCS)
Derek Orr 2006
James Padgett 2006
Guy Parker 2006
Stan Piotroski 1991
Rodman J. Ransome 2007
Scott Reiber 2004 (PF)
David Robinson 1988 (SL)
Sean Robinson 2000 (RCS)
Gary Roebuck 2006
Steven Sanders 2003
Charles Sarner 1993
Rob Serpa, Jr. 2006
Salman Shamsi 2007
Paul Singletary 2000
Jeff Sliauzis 2003
Robert Smith 2003
Yaniv Snir 2007
Scott Starin 2000
Kurt D. Sternberg 2007
Shawn Strout 2003
Mead Summer 2001
Michael Taylor 2001
Michael Toth 2004 (RCS)
Justin Turpin 2007
Marc Villafana 2002
Anthony Vitelli 2002
Gary Voudrie 2005
Chuck Walker 1995
Bryce Weems 2002
Ryan Williams 2004
Alexander Wright 2004
Jerry Yoder 2003
Mark Young 2006
Justin Zimmerman 2004 (PF)

Baritone

Robert M. Agnello 2002
Eric Akridge 1995
Mitch Alvarado 2005
Emerito Amaro-Carambot 2006
Ted Arceneaux 2005
Justin Bank 2006
A. Brian Bartlett 2005
Eric Belkengren 2001
Corey Bent 1994
Brad Benton 2003
Joseph Berlin 2006
Mark R. Blaylock 2002 (PF)
Robert T. Boaz 1997
Bennett B. Borden 2007
PJ Brennan 2004 (SL)
David Bruce 2005
Jeremy Brumbelow 2003
Doug Campbell 2004
Joe Canter 1994
Don Chandler 1997
Franklin Chappell 2005
Daniel Eduardo Clavel 2006
Larry Cohen 1986
Paul Colloton 2006
Victor Cornejo 2007

GMCW MEMBERS

Avi Craimer 2007
Chip Crews 1991
Giuseppe DeBartolo 2002 (RCS)
Richard East 2005
Justin Estoque 1998
Maurice Fox 2002
Chris Fredericks 2005
Brett H. Freeman 2004
Scott A. Frutchey 2006
Kent Gay 2006
Thom Gibb 1990
Stuart Goldstone 2001
Martin Good 2000
Matthew Graf 2007
Christopher Grieder 1990
Rob Hall 2002 (Board)
Daniel R. Hann 2002
Michael H. Hart 2001
Howland Hartley 2001 (Board)
Daniel Head 2007
Tomás Hernández 2006
Michael Hill 2003 (PF, Board)
George Huffman 2000 RCS
Paul Kelsch 2002 (RCS)
Benjamin Kong 2005
Stuart Kopperman 1996
Michael Joseph Kulik 2007
Paul Lee 2003
William Lee 2001
Bill Lipsett 1991
Christopher Locklear 2003
Mark Mann 2004 (RCS)
David McCullough 2007
Reggie Meneses 2005
Ralph Moore 2003
Dale Mott 2006
Charlie Mountain 2002 (PF)
Mike Nguyen 2004
Edward P. Oseroff 2000 (RCS)
Nick Pietras 2004
Larry Poole 2005
Matt Rader 2007
Steve Rappaport 1994 (SL)
Will Rumble 2002
Brian Schulli 2003 (RCS)
Bob Sheavly 1999
Jeff Shields 2005
Travis Shiverdecker 2007
Michael B. Smith 1990 (PF)
Tim Smith 2006
Rodney Stephens 2005
Will Stevenson 2005
Carl Stewart, II 2002
L. Owen Taggart 2002
Gregory Tepe 1994
Brad Ward 2006
Stan Watters 2007
Mike Weber 2006
John Weibel 1985
Francis Yasharian 2006

Bass

Jack Bailey 2005
Michael Baker 1981
W. Eric Balthrop 1993
Adrian Blue 2006 (RCS)
Felix Boccadoro 2001
Darrin Bodner 2007
Michael Brinkman 2000 (SL)
Marcus Brown 2004
Russ Capps 1999 (PF, Board)
Cory Clifton 2003
Jerry Cutcher 2006
Lenny Davis 2002
Tom DiGiovanni 1999
Dean Donovan 1997
Bob Dragoset 1984 (RCS)
Robert Featherstone 1998
Craig Ferrier 2003
Brett Fox 2006
Jimmy Galdieri 2001
Matt Gillette 2007 (RCS)
Gregg Grisa 1999
Jim Gruschus 1995
Jared Harrison 2007
John-Paul Hayworth 2005
Brian Henes 2007
Bob Hilby 1999
Harry Hagel 2007
Andy Hoffmann 2006
Michael Hughes 2002
Dennis Jaffe 1998
Dan Kaufman 1990
John Laster 2006
Rick Latterell 2007
Paul Leavitt 2001
Jerry Lee 1993 (Board)
Mark Lefler 2004
Harold Lewis 1995 (Board)
Michael Lohmann 2000
Stephen McGregor 2005
Jim Murphy 1988 (RCS)
Rob Neighbour 1992
Yoshi Nishio 1999 (RCS)
Ronald Norberg 2002
Todd Paul 1994 (Board)
Jim Perrine 1997 (RCS)
Steve Pflasterer 1987
Scott Pritchett 2006
John Quiñones 1990
Bob Reeg 1995
Dennis Rivard 2006
Marcus Anthony Rock 2007
Craig Ruskin 2001 (PF)
J.R. Russ 2007
Jae Ryu 2007
William R. Sachau, Jr. 2006
Robert Seastrom 2007
Morgan Slusher 2000
Steve Spar 1996
Terry Stone 2006
Robert Tarasovich 2007
Albert Taylor 2007
Warren Turner 1993
Mark D. Uhen 2007
Tom VandenBosch 2005
Andy Van Etten 2006
Lyn Van Noy 2002 (RCS)
Austin Vines 2004
Brian Walther 2003 (SL) (RCS)
Jim Weinstein 2006
Terry Welling 2005
Barrett Whitener 1998
Dennis Williams 2004
Paul Wilson 2006 (RCS)
Paul Winters 2000

Support

Christopher Asaro 2006
Tim Atkin 2006
Barry Bugg 1996
Scott Button 2000
Michael Cunningham 1987
Dave Edmiston 1996
Teddy Guerrant 1983
Steven Haber 1989
Randy Hebert 2005
Steve Herman 1981 (Board)
Marsha Holloman 2000
Rick Johnson 1995
Steve Katsurinis 2004 (Board)
Bob Klein 1999 (SL)
Jason Kuznicki 2000
Phil Lawrence 2005
Jina Lynne 2006
Kathy McGee 2000 (Board)
Patrick O'Donnell 2004
Shirley Paul 2000
David Ponder 2005
Laurence A. Rosen 1993 (SL)
Jun Sabilona 2006
Mary Scott 1992
Gary Turner 1993
Ray Unger 2005
Joe Vignali 1995
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Suzette Derreverre (Board)
Jack Gerard (Board)
Greg Kubiak (Board)
Rob Mahaffey (Board)
Bonnie Northrop Nesbitt (Board)
Shannon Rozner (Board)
Robert Winter (Board)

SL= Section Leader
PF=Potomac Fever
RCS=Rock Creek Singers

IN MEMORIAM

Kenny Aaron
Jan Albright
Tom Avenmarg
Chuck Bailey
Nelson Bain
Bill Barry
Bob Bester
Michael G. Bohn
Craig R. Bowen
C. David Bury
Ted Butler
Jim Campillo
Bill Carwithen
Randy Cooke
Daniel Coombs
Tom Dudley
Bob Edwards
Richard Fromm
Oscar Garcia-Vera
Ciro J. Graziano
Peter Griffith
George Guarino
Barry Hahn
Roger Harlow
John B. Henderson
Scott Herring
Jim Hix
Michael Hodge
R. Andy Horsley
Joe Houle
Gary L. Janus
Jim Jochen
Gary Johnson
Dan Jones
Willis R. King
William Kranick
Steven LeBlanc
Wayne Longest
Steve Maddox
Christopher Marquis
Leonard Matlovich
W. Myron Maye
James McCann
Tim McDonough
Jim Meany
Mark Mennel
Phil Moss
Jim Moore
David Nieto
Norman Nusinov
Ron O'Leary
Len Padgett
Ron Paglia
Rex Paul
Todd Payich
Terence Powers
Scott Pierce
Don Poe
Harlan Powell
Harry B. Powers
H. Glenn Privette
Dennis Quinn
R.J. Quinn
Robb Rexroth
Ric T. Rice
Jim Richardson, Founding Director
Tom Roeder
Larry Ross
Tom Sena
Charles L. Sens
Ray Siefer
Brian Smith
B.J. Sobus
Jason Stelling
Dennis Swick
James D. Vranekovic
Phil Walsh
Benedikt Wassmuth
Dennis Watson
Marvin Weeks
Donald Wolfe
R. Terry Woll
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Rachel M. Williams ..... Director of Operations

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Marcus Brown ..... Vice President for Membership
Joe Canter ..... Vice President for Events

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Ed Oseroff ..... Auditions Coordinator
Bob Klein ..... Support
Larry Rosen ..... Support
Richard Dew ..... Tenor 1
Alex Ford ..... Tenor 1
Sherman Blow ..... Tenor 2
David Robinson ..... Tenor 2
PJ Brennan ..... Baritone
Steve Rappaport ..... Baritone
Michael Brinkman ..... Bass
Brian Walther ..... Bass

GMCW Coordinators

Mark Hennen ..... Chorus Care Corps
John Quiñones ..... Community Outreach
Dan Patton, Steve Ranger ..... Members' Website
Corey Bent, David Edmiston ..... Listserv
Ron Kludo ..... Music Library
Kathy McGee, Marsha Holloman ..... Merchandising

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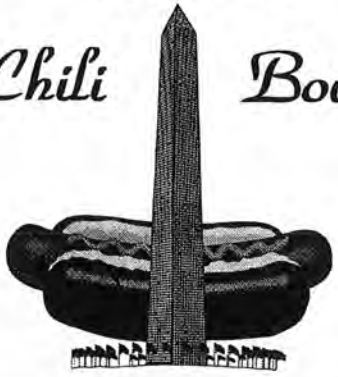

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CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE

Circle of Excellence Awards are chosen annually by members of GMCW to recognize the outstanding contributions made by members of the Chorus, including paid music and administrative staff, the support section and the Capital Circle. These awards honor those individuals who have exemplified the spirit of camaraderie, brother- and sisterhood and community in the Chorus and whose work has had lasting impact over many years.

1991
Fred Boykin
Jeffrey Buhrman
Tom Dudley *
Steve Herman
Jim Holloway
Steve Maddox *
Dr. Jim Richardson
Ron Sabacek
B. J. Sobus
Bruce Trinkley
Everett Waldo
Bob Wonneberger
Michael Ziskind

1992
Michael Bohn
Eric Korpon
Darrell Netherton
Harry Powers
Michael Rivard
Rick Rosendall
David Sisson
Duward Sumner

1993
Craig Bowen *
Peter Brayton
Phil Rogerson

1994
Rod Fiorito
Scott Pierce *
David Streit
Robert Wheeler

1995
Darrell Lewis
Len Padgett
Jim Peterson

1996
Michael Baker
Roger Bergstrom
Dick Dorr
Dennis Swick *

1997
Jack Gerard
Charlie Merk
Michael Milano
Gary Regan

1998
Kevin Doss
Robb Rexroth
Larry Rosen

1999
Jerry Carpenter
Bob Dragoset
Thom Gibb

2000
Christopher Grieder
Gary Turner
Joe Vignali
Marvin Weeks

2001
Joe Cannon
Teddy Guerrant
Steven Haber
John Perkins
Michael B. Smith

2002
Carl Baldwin
Barry W. Bugg
Michael Cunningham
Dan Patton
Todd Paul

2003
Tom DiGiovanni
Rick Johnson
Kathy McGee
Chuck Walker

2004
Scott Button
Robert Klein
Jerry Lee
Harold Lewis
Jack Reiffer

2005
Jeff Van Luyn
Stuart Kopperman
Edward P. Oseroff

2006
David Bielenberg
Joe Canter
Bill Cutter
Matt Komornik
Barrett Whitener

2007
Russ Capps
Rob Hall
Marcia Holloman
Paul Leavitt
Jim Murphy

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COMMUNITY OUTREACH

GMCW actively supports the gay community and the community at large by sharing our gifts, experiences and talents. Through our community outreach activities we seek to enlighten, educate and enrich the lives of others. Our Community Outreach Committee continues to coordinate our efforts. Here are some examples of GMCW's community outreach:

FOOD & FRIENDS

The kick-off project for the Chorus's Community Outreach Committee involved committing ourselves to Food & Friends by providing a steady stream of volunteers to this worthy organization. GMCW provides 6 – 8 volunteers two evenings per month.

TOY DRIVE

Each December GMCW hosts a toy drive, collecting more than 500 new toys for under-privileged children in the Washington, DC, area. The tradition, begun by late founding member Bob Wonneberger, has become an annual Chorus event. Toys are distributed through Community Family Life Services.

AIDS WALK

This fall GMCW continued its expanded participation in the annual AIDS Walk. Chorus members raised more than $20,000 for Whitman-Walker Clinic and formed the most successful not-for-profit fundraising team of this event. The Chorus again sang the national anthem as part of the morning's festivities.

OUTREACH PERFORMANCES

Over the past several years, the Chorus has reached beyond the borders of the city and performed for new audiences and rural gay communities. Audiences at Montgomery College, Carroll County Community College and Frostburg State University have all welcomed us to their campuses in recent years. The Chorus performed on May 20, 2007, at Johns Hopkins University as part of the 25th anniversary celebration of the Steven Kaufman AIDS Outreach Project. Most recently, the Chorus traveled to Harrisonburg, VA to perform at James Madison University in a benefit for Valley AIDS Network on September 15, 2007.

NIGHT OUT AT THE NATIONALS

GMCW sang the national anthem at RFK on August 8, 2006, as part of Team DC's Night Out at the Nationals II and again for Night Out III on July 16, 2007. Team DC is an organization established to encourage and support involvement in team and individual sports within the GLBT and broader community in the Washington metropolitan area.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Each Christmas Eve, members of GMCW visit the National Institutes of Health to sing carols for patients and staff to make their holiday brighter.

ANNUAL MLK, JR. CELEBRATION

GMCW participates in an annual celebration of the life of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This event is co-sponsored by the GLBT Arts Consortium of Washington, DC, and Capital Pride.

CLOTHING DONATIONS

Members of the Chorus make extra room in their closets by donating their gently used clothing to Martha's Outfitters and The Store at New York Avenue Presbyterian Church (GMCW's rehearsal home). Clothing is distributed free to those in need.

CAPITAL PRIDE

Each June, GMCW participates in the Capital Pride Parade and performs as part of the Capital Pride Festival.

STUDENT TICKET FUND

GMCW encourages high school and college students to attend Chorus performances by making free and discounted tickets available in coordination with Gay/Straight Student Alliances and other student groups.

BENEFIT SUPPORT & PERFORMANCES

The Chorus regularly supports and performs at events for other area not-for-profit organizations, such as the Human Rights Campaign, Whitman-Walker Clinic, Cultural Alliance of Greater Washington, the Mautner Project for Lesbians with Cancer, Community Family Life Services, HERO, Sussex County AIDS Commission, PFLAG-DC, Food & Friends, NOVAM and Servicemembers Legal Defense Network.

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The Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC's Ovation Society

GMCW's **Ovation Society** is an initiative that recognizes and honors those individuals who have made planned gifts to the Chorus.

A number of GMCW family members have already made plans to contribute a portion of their estate to the Chorus. The **Ovation Society** is a way we can recognize those individuals for their generosity.

If you have already included GMCW in your estate plans, please let us know so we can include you as a member of the **Ovation Society**.

If not, we hope you will consider joining this special group of individuals by including GMCW in your will, as a beneficiary of a retirement account or by setting up a charitable trust. In some cases, planned gifts allow you to control where much of your estate will go, rather than to the federal government. Charitable gifts can greatly reduce the amount of tax paid by your estate at the time of your death and often do not change the amount that would go to your family and friends.

While your attorney or accountant can provide you with more information, GMCW's Corporate Sponsor **J.T. Hatfield Smith** of **SPC Financial** would also be happy to advise you on a planned gift to the Chorus. And remember, you don't need to be a millionaire to do this — many charitable gifts are made through estates valued at only a few hundred thousand dollars.

As a member of the **Ovation Society** your name will be included in a special listing in each concert program. You will also be invited from time to time to attend special events and receptions especially for **Ovation Society** members. And **Ovation Society** members will receive a special pin, recognizing their planned gift to the Chorus.

For further information about GMCW's **Ovation Society** or if you are interested in learning more about the many ways you can include GMCW in your plans, please contact the Chorus at 202.293.1548.

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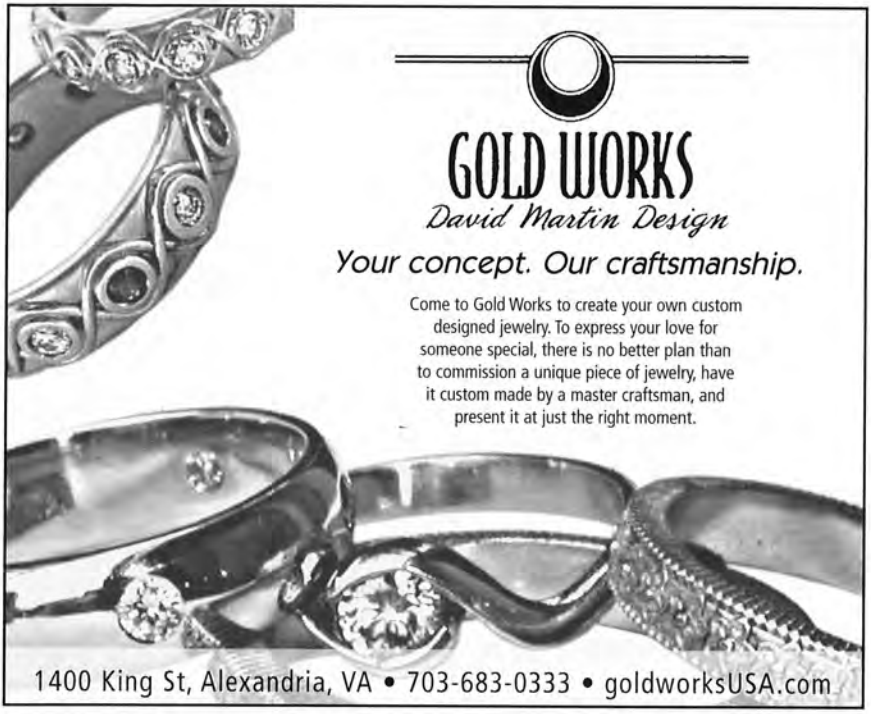
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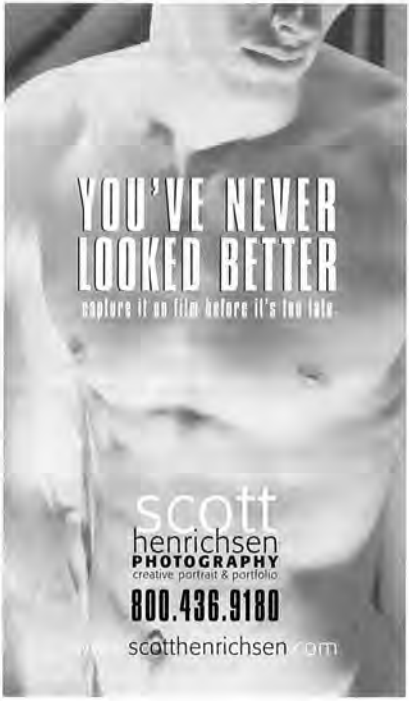

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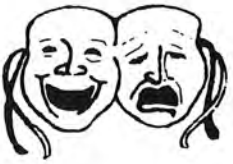

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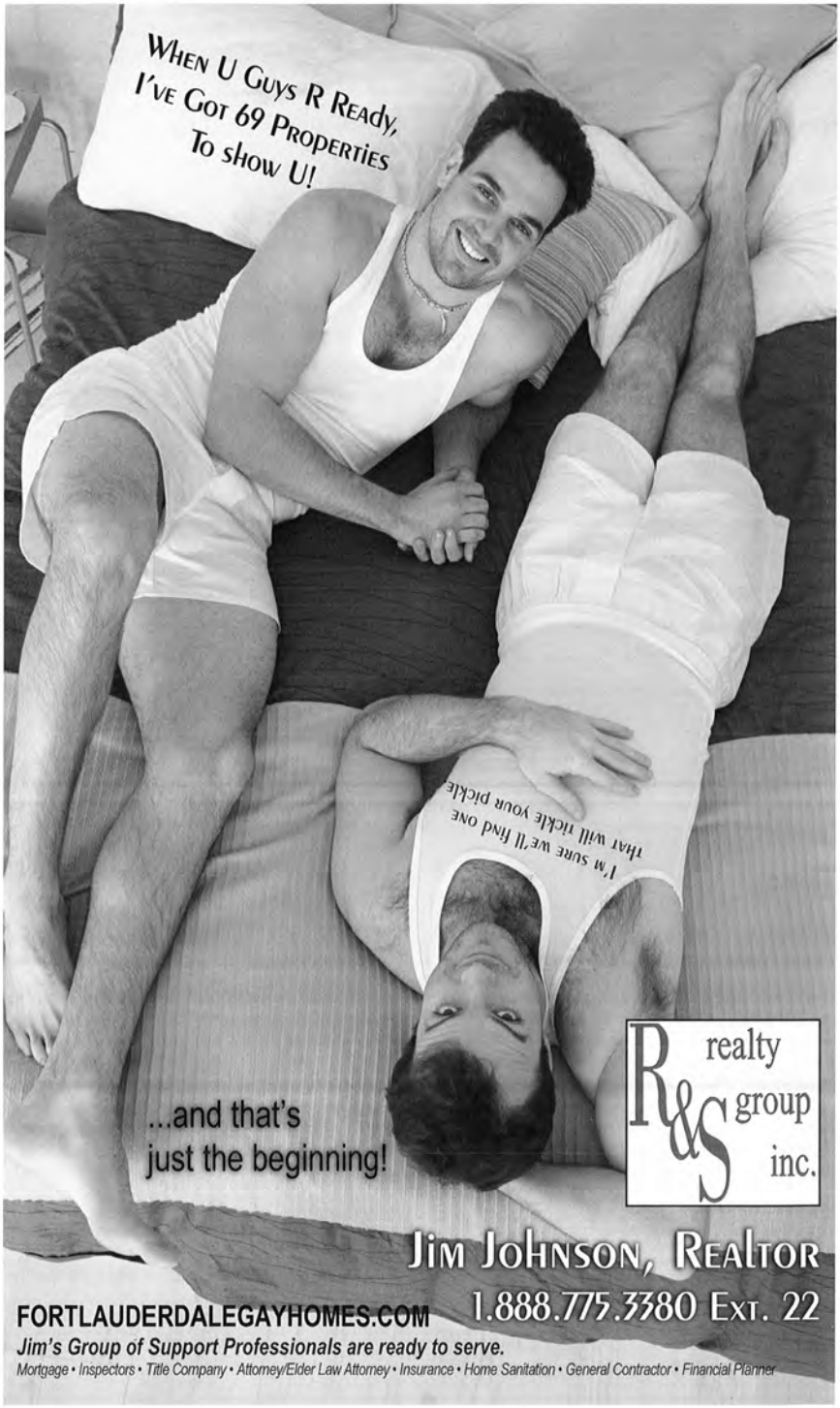
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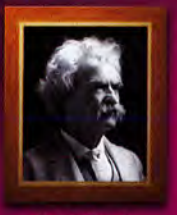

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