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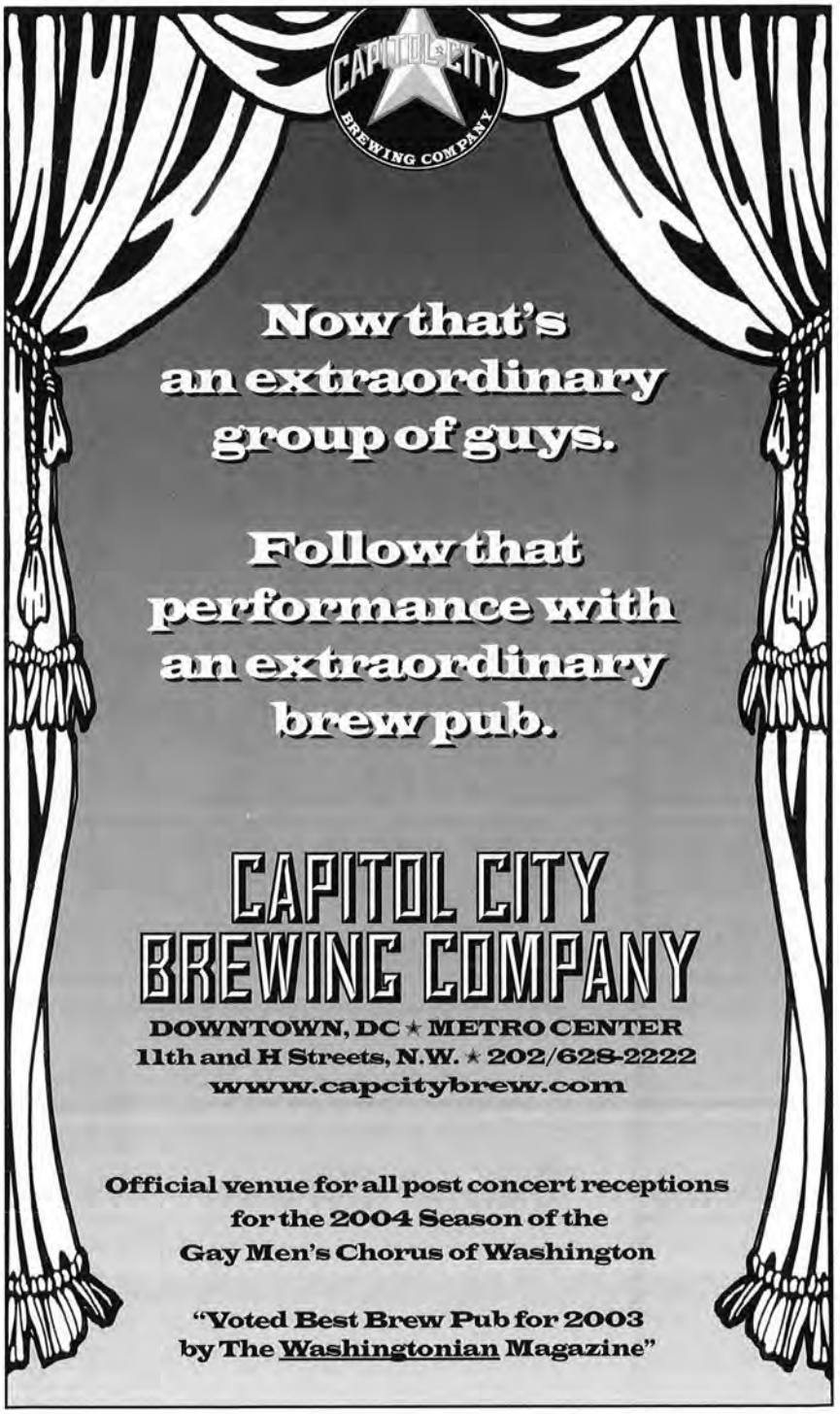
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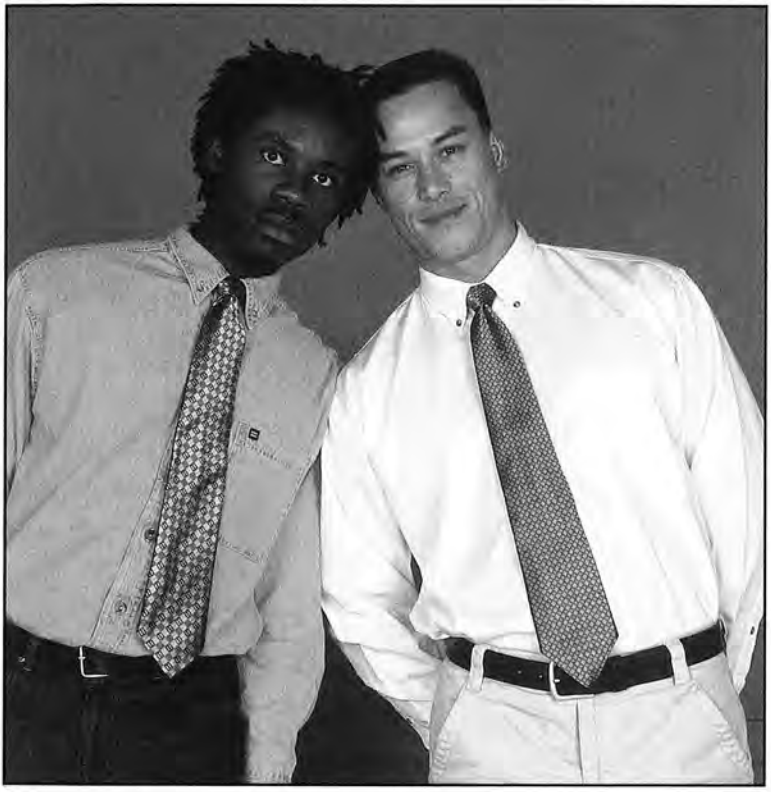

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GMCW

Now in its 23rd season, the **Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC (GMCW)** 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 the United States 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 the Human Rights Campaign. 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 been in the forefront of commissioning new works for men's chorus. Recent commissions include *Changing Hearts* for men's chorus and chamber orchestra; and *Oseh Shalom* for men's chorus and brass quintet. In addition, GMCW sponsors two small ensembles: **Potomac Fever**, a close-harmony group; and **Rock Creek Singers**, a 20-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 two Washington Area Music Association's WAMMIE awards: 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, GMCW can be heard on the CDs, *Singing Free, Let It Shine!, Pride and Joy, And In That Moment, I Dream of a Time*, and its latest release, *You've Got To Be Carefully Taught: The Songs of Sondheim and Hammerstein*.

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 and the GLBT Arts Consortium of Washington.

GMCW's ensembles are activities of the Federal City Performing Arts Association, a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization, which also sponsors a chorus fundraising group called the Capital Club. Information on upcoming GMCW events may be obtained by calling 202-338-SING or by visiting the Chorus' web page at www.gmcw.org.

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN

DAVID STREIT

Three years can be a long time! That's how long I have had the honor of being Chairman of the Board in support of this phenomenal Chorus. The challenges have been many. I have been blessed to see them accomplished in a way that has done this organization proud.

In the past three years this Chorus has moved to the forefront in quality entertainment. The Chorus under the leadership of Jeff Buhrman has shown a degree of talent and creativity only associated with a professional troupe. To have gone from a bunch of guys gathered around a piano to a group of over two hundred singers performing on national TV still makes me shake my head in amazement. Jeff has worked tirelessly in outreach efforts for youth that make that daunting time for gays a little less fearful and a lot more welcoming. He has a simple mantra for the Chorus...entertain! Job well done.

My tenure as Chair has been in tandem with our Executive Director, David Bielenberg. David joined us almost 3 years ago. In that time, he has displayed a vision and drive that has allowed us to advance to the ranks of one of the biggest Choruses in the nation. The lists of donors, both individual and corporate, have grown substantially given his focused and friendly approach. I marvel at his organizational ability in a group this diverse and ever changing. He has worn so many different hats and handled so many challenges, I can only be grateful to have served with him. He is always pushing us to grow and dream. Job well done.

Lastly, let me thank all of you for making this adventure a treasured one. There have been many times that I have envisioned myself on a lonely tropical island in the midst of all the chaos that can be associated with leading a group like this Chorus. But I wouldn't have missed it for anything. Through this tenure I too have been changed. I am happy to say that through it all I have never failed to think of this Chorus and all of you as family. That, to me, is a testament to the beauty of this group. I will miss the spotlight but will always be in the wings. Three years can be such a short time!

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FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Take yourself back to your days in high school. (Or is it too scary?) Do you remember going into the auditorium (or the gymnasium) for the all-school assemblies? Think about this–what would it have been like if a gay men's chorus sang at one of those assemblies? Imagine yourself in the 9th grade sitting at an assembly listening to a group of men sing about a man falling in love with another man. How might that assembly have changed your life?

On Monday, April 19th GMCW made history when we sang at our first school assembly at the Edmund Burke School in Northwest Washington. As the date of the assembly approached, I anticipated that some of our singers would be nervous, wondering whether the kids would snicker at us–or maybe they would laugh at us–or perhaps they wouldn't listen at all. After all, how many of us were snickered at, made fun of, bullied and/or totally ignored when we were in middle and high school?

But none of that happened. We were greeted with smiling faces and rousing ovations–and we could not have felt more proud. Upon leaving, one of our singers said "I have finally been accepted in high school."

We received wonderful e-mails from the Edmund Burke faculty. Here are some excerpts:

"That was one of the best assemblies I can remember – on so many levels. I found it very moving, just looking at all those guys and imagining what must be going on in THEIR heads."

"Before the assembly one of my students asked about the name: 'Are they all gay?' I think he learned something."

"You put a smile on all our faces," one of my seniors said to me. "Bring them back every week–they just made me so happy."

It was an absolute joy to share our music with the 6th-12th grade students and the faculty of the Burke community. It was wonderful to see that these young people, regardless of sexual orientation, gender or ethnicity, are being taught to value and appreciate everyone. GMCW is looking forward to future projects with Edmund Burke School and sharing our music with other local schools as well.

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FROM THE CHORUS PRESIDENT

DAVID JANSING

The universe is made of stories, not atoms. – Muriel Rukeyser

Poet Muriel Rukeyser wrote, "The universe is made of stories, not atoms." As a scientist, I'm naturally skeptical of any claim that can't be verified by experimentation. Well, let me tell you: Muriel was right and *Changing Hearts* is the proof.

Over a year ago, the GMCW family envisioned a song-cycle to express how music, particularly GMCW's music, transforms those who create it and those who hear it. After savoring the many heart-felt accounts of our members, our friends, and our families, six stories were selected to be given a musical setting by Alan Shorter, composer of the musical adaptation of *Oliver Button Is A Sissy*. *Changing Hearts* is the remarkable result.

As we began to rehearse *Changing Hearts*, I found myself struggling to read the music through unexpected tears and fighting to sing through a knot where my vocal cords usually were. Quite uncharacteristic for a scientist, wouldn't you say? I had to ask myself, "Why was I moved so deeply?" I hadn't personally submitted any of these tales. They weren't the details of my life, and yet, they were my stories, too. What, I wondered, is the something special, the something universal about each of the movements that resonated at the core of my soul? A simple answer: music is a metaphor.

For example, on the surface, the fifth movement, "Honor And Obey," is a coming-out story – the kind of coming-out characterized by recrimination, not understanding, and by distance, not acceptance. Eventually, there is reconciliation. I don't want to spoil the surprises, so I'll just say that the son is emboldened and the father's eyes are opened. In this story, music is the medium for change; so, on the surface it's a very Gay-Men's-Chorus tale. The heart of this story is the pain of close relationships lost, the strength of new relationships found, and the joy of close relationships healed.

Such pain, strength, and joy are not at all unique to our experience as members of a Gay Men's Chorus, or for that matter, as gay men. In our lives, and in the lives of those with whom we share them, our music is a powerful force. There are other powerful influences, but those are stories for another time. Tonight, see music as more than vibrations and tones and rhymes. See music as a carrier of needs, hopes, dreams, tears, laughter, and love. Let music be a metaphor for the many ways lives are strengthened, eyes are opened, and souls are healed.

Music has changed us, and we will never be the same. It is my sincere hope that you find a part of your own story within *Changing Hearts* – six movements, thousands of notes across dozens of pages. But after all, music is made of stories, not notes.

Changing Hearts is about contemplation and conversion. GMCW certainly has changed my heart, giving me wonderful and rich experiences I will never forget.

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CHANGING Hearts

HEARTLAND MEN'S CHORUS

Mouth Music .....Dolores Keane & John Faulkner, arr. Joseph Byrd

Let Me Fall .....Benoit Jutras, arr. Mark Hayes,
Commissioned by the Heartland Men's Chorus for GALA Festival VIIe
Solo: Kelly Marzett

Lux Aurunque .....Eric Whitacre

I Do .....Eric Lane Barnes
Commissioned by the Heartland Men's Chorus for GALA Festival VII

I Ain't Afraid.....Holly Near, arranged by Steven Milloy
Trio: William John Keesling, Rick Fisher, Mike Brown

I Still Have a Dream.....Danny Ray & Marsha Stevens
Solo: Don White

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All I Care About is Love .....Kander and Ebb, arr. Ollie Medlicott

Steal Away .....Traditional, arr. Tippett, adapted Ollie Medlicott

What I Did For Love.....Marvin Hamlisch, arr. Roland Anderson

Seven Years .....Lee Alexander

Seasons of Love .....Jonathan Larson

Stand By Your Man.....Tammy Wynette/Billy Sherrill, arr. Beale

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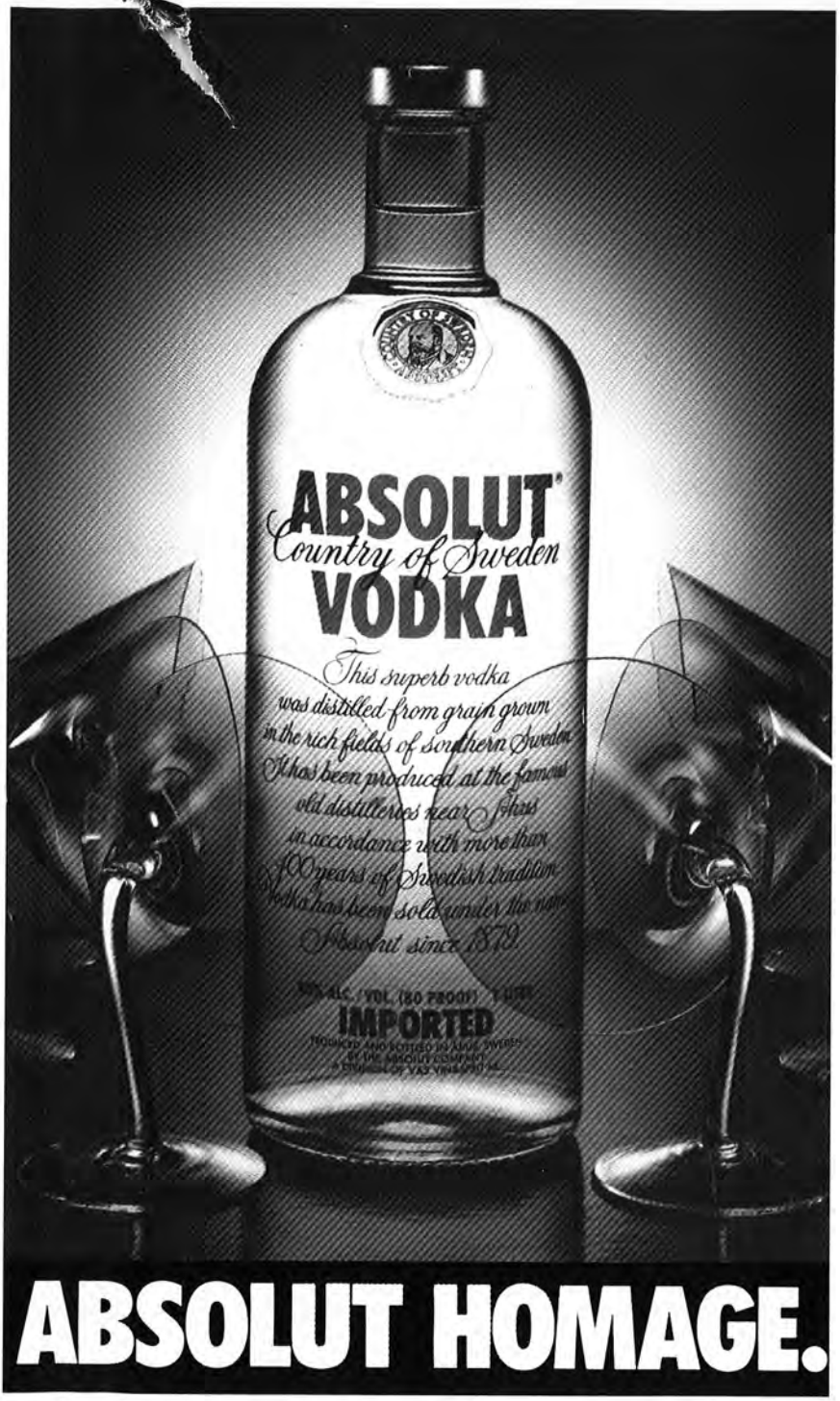

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Changing Hearts

GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON, DC

CHANGING HEARTS.....Music and lyrics by Alan Shorter
Additional lyrics by Chip Heath
Commissioned by the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC

1. *They Sang To Me*
   Solo: Justin Zimmerman
2. *After the Tears*
3. *The Older I Get*
   Solo: Van Neel
4. *Dating Games*
5. *Honor and Obey*
   Father: Martin Good
   Son: Jere Lorenzen
6. *Changing Hearts*

The GLBT choral movement has been a tremendous catalyst for change. It has fostered healing, courage, compassion, awareness, and acceptance.

Through the years, as GMCW joined together to perform our music, we noticed how much louder our voices became when united as one. We noticed how the message of our songs touched lives and changed hearts, including our own. The experience was powerful and transformational. The Gay Men's Chorus of Washington DC decided to share those experiences by telling their stories—Changing Hearts.

Woven together in six movements, Changing Hearts shares the journey to ourselves, of our coming out, of our self-acceptance, of our transformation, and of our healing. It chronicles the struggle of coming out; reveals the healing that evolves between a gay man and the woman who shared her love with him; tells the touching story of an older man who has sung in a gay chorus for many years; provides a delightfully amusing view of the challenges of gay dating; and confronts the daunting challenges of the relationship between a military father and his gay son.

It is powerful, moving, and transformational. It changes hearts!!

COMBINED CHORUSES

The Best of Times .....Jerry Herman arr. Eddy Clement

The Prayer .....Carole Bayer Sager arr. Stan Hill

Come What May .....David Baerwald

ORCHESTRA

Flute .....Lauren Panfili
Oboe/English Horn Rebecca Questad
Clarinet .....Rita Eggert
Harp .....Caroline Gregg
Cello .....Daniel Shomper
Double Bass .....Mary Scott
Percussion .....Paul Edgar

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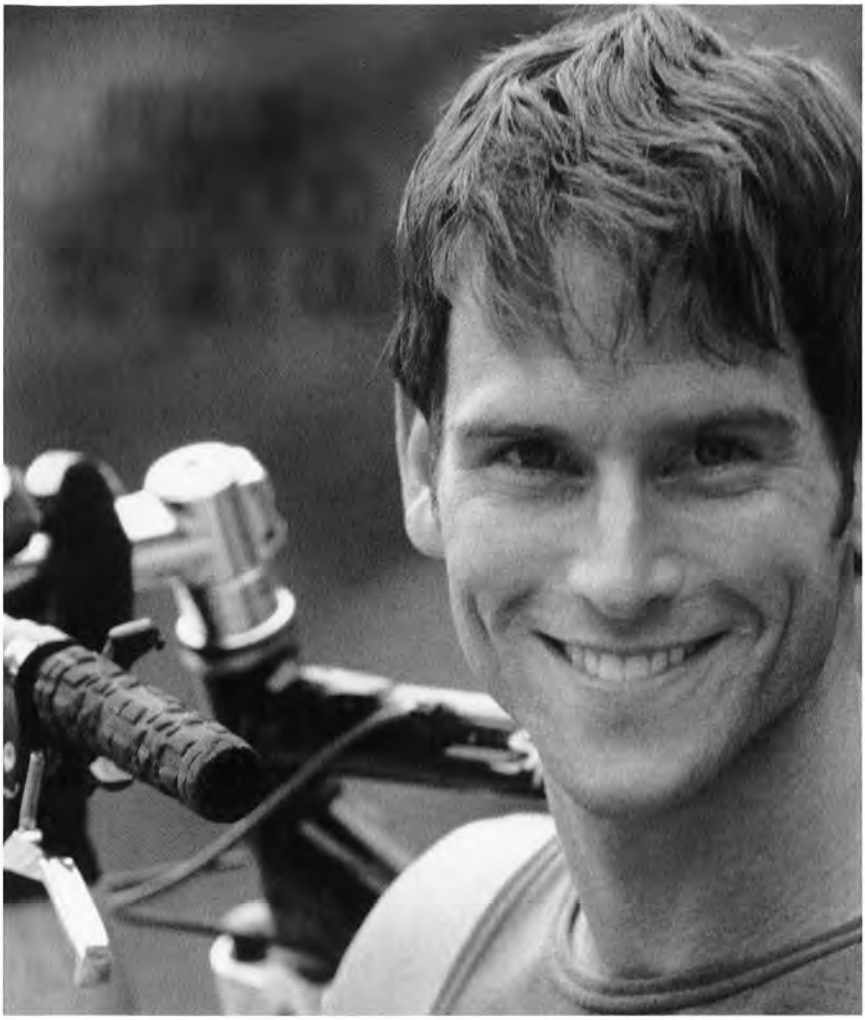

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CHANGING HEARTS: A New Commission

By Chip Heath

One of the best things about singing in the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC is reading the letters and e-mails that we receive after our performances. One such letter came from the Cantor who presided over a GMCW singer's bar mitzvah when he was 13 years old. In the letter the Cantor wrote, "Music is a major factor in my life, but I never could have imagined a day when I would be listening to a group of gay men singing. I wonder now what I have missed in my life by placing a barrier between myself and a group of people I just didn't understand. You and your fellow singers have opened my eyes and I can only regret that it took so many years for me to recognize that everyone should be proud of who and what they are, regardless of what makes them unique. This time, you are the teacher and I am the student."

This letter sparked a flurry of e-mails from chorus members who began to share similar stories. It became clear that our music had been changing the hearts of our audience members, friends, families, partners and co-workers for years. It has especially changed the hearts of our chorus members. Sharing these stories seemed important. A new musical work, *Changing Hearts* was developed from these stories.

Divided into six movements, *Changing Hearts* explores some of the ways in which GMCW and the gay and lesbian choral movement has brought healing, understanding, compassion, acceptance and affinity to many different hearts – including our own.

The commission, with music and lyrics by Alan Shorter, attempts to share some of our stories: coming out; the relationship between a military father and his gay son; the healing of a broken relationship between a gay man and the woman who loved him; a fun look at the challenges of gay dating; and the touching story of an older gay man.

Chorus member David Garofalo explains it this way, "Change does not happen overnight. It is truly affected one person at a time. In telling our stories - in sharing them in and through a community of song and music - we reveal our strength of perseverance, of character, and of truth in the face of countless adversaries and battles. In these stories, words, and music, we express our hopes, our dreams, our wishes to make the world a more tolerant, accepting, and most importantly, loving one than it is now - changing one heart at a time."

Since its beginning 23 years ago, the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington has been touching lives and changing hearts with their music. In addition to this evening's premiere performance, GMCW will present *Changing Hearts* on Sunday, July 18th at the International Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses Festival in Montreal, Canada.

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by Oscar Wilde / directed by Everett Quinton / December 10, 2004 / in the Fichandler

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book by Arthur Laurents / music by Jule Styne / lyrics by Betty Comden and Adolph Green / directed by Arthur Laurents / a co-production with George Street Playhouse / January 21, 2005 / in the Kreeger

intimations for saxophone

by Sophie Treadwell / adapted by Michael Kinghorn / directed by Anne Bogart / February 18, 2005 / in the Fichandler

the goat or who is sylvia?

by Edward Albee / directed by Wendy C. Goldberg / April 8, 2005 / in the Kreeger

the piano lesson

by August Wilson / directed by Seret Scott / April 29, 2005 / in the Fichandler

anna christie

by Eugene O'Neill / directed by Molly Smith / June 10, 2005 / in the Kreeger

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The London Gay Men's Chorus

Founded by six singers in 1991, The London Gay Men's Chorus is now the largest and best known gay choir in Europe, with over 130 singing members and an international reputation.

The choir's first performance was singing Christmas carols in the ticket hall at Angel Underground station, where so many people stopped to listen that the station had to be closed! Since then, The London Gay Men's Chorus has performed in venues including London's Royal Albert Hall and Royal Festival Hall, several West End theatres, in the parade and on the main stage at London Mardi Gras and at the Opening Ceremony of The Millennium Dome (in front of Her Majesty The Queen and a TV audience of 2.5 billion).

When touring overseas, venues have included Grace Cathedral, San Francisco, Sydney Opera House and The National Concert Hall of Ireland in Dublin, where our standing ovation was said to be the first seen in the venue in over five years!

The London Gay Men's Chorus sings an eclectic repertoire, taking in everything from classical and folk music to jazz, world music, pop and disco. The Chorus commissioned 'Citizen Vain' from avant-garde composer Morgan Hayes in 2000, and in 2004 performed the UK premiere of Jan Sandstrom's minimalist 'The Singing Apes of Khao Yai'.

As an important part of London's lesbian and gay community, The London Gay Men's Chorus has raised thousands of pounds for charities, and has performed for events such as World AIDS Day, The Walk for Life and The Stonewall Equality Show. In May 1999 the Chorus staged a memorial vigil 48 hours after the terrorist bombing of a Soho gay pub, which was attended by over 3000 people and shown on TV around the world.

Having been named 'Choir of the Day' at heats for The Choir of the Year competition on two occasions, The London Gay Men's Chorus reached the televised semi-finals in 2000, and received the first ever standing ovation from the audience. The Chorus has recorded four CDs, including the 2004 release 'Showtime', a record of the 'Tying the Knot' UK & Ireland tour. On TV and radio we have appeared on So Graham Norton, TFI Friday, Comic Relief, The Ruby Wax Show and Top of the Pops, and as the backing choir on the Euro 2000 Football anthem 'Jerusalem'.

The London Gay Men's Chorus is proud to have sung with many of the world's most famous musicians including Elton John, George Michael, Dame Cleo Laine, Boy George, Willard White, Jools Holland, KD Lang and The Pet Shop Boys.

The London Gay Men's Chorus is a unique and inspiring choir, with a vision to live in a better world by fostering respect for all.

More information can be found at www.lgmc.org.uk

The Heartland Men's Chorus

The Heartland Men's Chorus is Kansas City's gay men's chorus, singing out in Kansas City since 1986. Thirty men formed the group in the fall of that year and performed a debut holiday concert in Pierson Hall on the campus of the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Through the years, HMC has grown and presented concerts in area churches and other venues. In 1994, it made Kansas City's historic Folly Theater its performing home. Now, the group regularly performs with more than 120 singers.

The Chorus has released seven CD recordings: the newest Heartland Pride (released last month) that features favorite "gay anthems" and comedic repertoire, two holiday albums, three compilations of male chorus repertoire, and one of the HMC's first commissioned major work Two Flutes Playing.

The Chorus regularly presents outreach concerts in metropolitan Kansas City and the wider Midwest region. In 2002, they completed their first European tour, with performances in London, Paris and Hamburg. With this performance we are proud to make our debut in the nation's capitol.

 Who's Who continued on page 41.

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Lauderdale Ranks 2nd In Gay Households

Census lists percentages for U.S. Cities

By Jonathon King
STAFF WRITER

Fort Lauderdale counts a larger percentage of gay households than any other large city in the nation except for San Francisco, according to census figures released today.

Although the numbers are small - 1,400 of the 68,000 households in the city - the ranking gives yet another measure of a metropolis growing more diverse, cosmopolitan and socially accepting over the past several years, say political and business leaders in the city's gay community.

" I guess my reaction is that it's amazing we're ranked that high, but the actual number of households sounds low. Only 1,400? I would have thought we had that many in one neighborhood alone."

Jim Naugle
FORT LAUDERDALE MAYOR

Sun-Sentinel (Local-Section B)
Thursday, March 13, 2003

10 Hottest Housing Markets
Thirty-nine markets had double-digit gains.

Market	Increase	Median Price
Sacramento, Calif.	26.7%	$224,200
San Diego, Calif.	26.6%	$379,300
Providence, R.I	24.6%	$206,100
Nassau-Suffolk, N.Y.	23.6%	$333,600
Monmouth-Ocean, N.J.	22.1%	$261,700
Melbourne-Titusville-Palm Bay, Fla.	20.9%	$115,600
Ft. Lauderdale-Hollywood-Pompano Bch, Fla.	20.8%	$204,800
Anaheim-Santa Ana, Calif.	20.4%	$434,600
New York-North N.J.-Long Island, N.Y.	20.2%	$320,300
Bradenton, Fla.	20.1%	$156,800
National Average	**8.8%**	**$161,600**

Based on year-over-year change
Source: National Association of Realtors
http://money.cnn.com/2003/02/11

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Pour me a Man,
My Superman,
If You Really Loved Me,
It's Tough to be a Fairy,
and others

Pick up copies of GMCW's CDs in the lobby – before, during, and after this evening's performance.
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COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The mission of the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC is to entertain through excellent musical performance, to affirm the place of Gay people in society, and to educate about the Gay experience.

Following are some examples of the Chorus'
COMMUNITY OUTREACH & INVOLVEMENT

Annual Toy Drive
Each December, GMCW hosts a Toy Drive collecting more than 500 new toys for underprivileged children in the Washington, DC area. The tradition, begun by founding member Bob Wonneberger, has become an annual chorus event. Toys are distributed through Community Family Life Services.

Northern Virginia AIDS Ministries / World AIDS Day Service
GMCW has performed at Northern Virginia AIDS Ministries' annual World AIDS Day (December 1) service, and sells annual holiday ornaments to benefit NOVAM.

AIDS Walk Washington
GMCW has performed at the kick-off ceremonies for AIDS Walk Washington and sponsored a team of walkers raising funds to support Whitman-Walker Clinic.

Annual Christmas Eve Caroling
Each Christmas Eve, members of GMCW are invited to the National Institutes of Health to sing carols for the patients being cared for there.

Annual MLK, Jr. Birthday Celebration
GMCW participates in an annual community 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.

Capital Pride Parade and Performance
Each June, GMCW participates in the Capital Pride Parade and performs on the Main Stage and Arts Stage during the Capital Pride Festival.

Hillwood Museum and King's Dominion "Gay Day" Performances
GMCW participates in annual Gay Days hosted by the Hillwood Museum & Gardens and by Brother Help Thyself at Paramount King's Dominion.

Annual Benefit for Sussex County AIDS Commission
For a number of years, GMCW has traveled to Rehoboth Beach, Delaware to perform a benefit concert for the Sussex County AIDS Commission.

Annual Educators Workshop
As part of our mission to affirm the place of Gay people in society and to educate about the Gay experience, the Chorus initiated in 2003 an annual free workshop for educators titled "Creating a Safe Space for our Gay Families" which examines ways in which schools can achieve a welcoming and trusting environment for: gay/lesbian students and their parents; gay/lesbian parents and their children; and gay/lesbian teachers, counselors and administrators.

Student Ticket Fund
GMCW encourages high school and college students to attend Chorus performances by making free and discounted tickets available to them. The chorus also maintains close ties and connections to Gay/Straight Student alliances and other student and youth groups.

PWA Ticket Fund
Complimentary tickets are made available to people living with HIV/AIDS through our health-service partners in the community – Whitman-Walker Clinic and Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry.

Sign Interpreted Performances
GMCW regularly provides professional sign interpreters at its concerts for the hearing impaired.

Benefit Support & Performances
The Chorus regularly supports and performs at benefits for other area non-profit organizations, such as the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), Whitman-Walker Clinic, Cultural Alliance of Greater Washington, the Mautner Project for Lesbians with Cancer, Community Family Life Services, HERO, Sussex County AIDS Commission, the Metro DC Chapter of Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), Food & Friends, Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry (NOVAM), and Servicemembers Legal Defense Network.

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SEASON OF MEN: 2004-2005

SUBSCRIPTION CONCERTS

MEN IN TIGHTS...A Pink Nutcracker!

Saturday, December 4 at 8 pm, Lincoln Theater
Sunday, December 5 at 3 pm, Lincoln Theater

Our annual holiday concert will be 2 shows in one. During the first half we'll have the traditional concert with beautiful settings of sacred and secular holiday music. In the second half it's show time with a GMCW mini-musical. This year it's a spoof of THE NUTCRACKER with lyrics. We'll re-create that wonderful story in our own special way ... sugar plum fairies and all.

MEN! MEN? MEN...

with special guest Sam Harris

Saturday, March 19 at 8, Lisner Auditorium
Sunday, March 20 at 3 pm, Lisner Auditorium

Gay choruses have been known for their over-the-top salutes to divas ... Bette and Barbra and Cher and Madonna and all the rest. We're headed in a different direction as we salute MEN ... all kinds of men. From Broadway to movies to television to opera ... with lots of surprises. We will also welcome Broadway and recording star Sam Harris to join us in our celebration of MEN.

NAKED MEN

with the Gay Men's Chorus of Ft. Lauderdale

Saturday, June 4 at 8 pm, Lisner Auditorium
Saturday, June 18 at 8 pm, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

This concert will feature a combined chorus performance of NAKED MAN, a song-cycle commissioned by the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus in 1996. It is a dramatic and impassioned musical work based on stories of the men of the chorus. Its emotional range and genuine heartfelt drama merge into songs of remarkable poignancy and empowerment.

NON-SUBSCRIPTION EVENTS

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Saturday, November 6 at 8 pm, • Saturday, November 13 at 8 pm

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WHO'S WHO

Who's Who continued from page 33.

Alan Shorter, Composer

Alan Shorter's work as composer, music director, stage director, conductor and pianist has been seen at numerous regional theatres and in national tours, including *The 1940's Radio Hour, The Desert Song, A Christmas Carol* and *The Student Prince*. He is perhaps most well known for his concert adaptation of Tomie dePaola's *Oliver Button Is a Sissy*, which has been performed in over thirty cities across the country, including a performance by the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington DC at the Kennedy Center and the New York City Gay Men's Chorus at Carnegie Hall. The concert work was also the centerpiece for the documentary *Oliver Button is a Star!* produced by Emmy Award winning producers Dan Hunt and John Scagliatti. The documentary aired nationally on PBS and has been given the National Association of Multicultural Education's Media Award, Action for Media's Pixi Award, the National Gay & Lesbian Journalist Association's Excellence in Journalism Award, and Excellence in Media's Silver Angel Award.

This past December, the Heartland Chorus premiered his *Country Angel Christmas*, another concert piece based on the work of Tomie dePaola. His choral work *The Great Ends of the Church* received its premiere performance in Dallas last June. His composition *Shepherd Songs* was originally premiered by the Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus. In addition to his long-standing association with GALA choruses, Alan has written over a dozen original scores for the theatre, including *Hamlet, Dracula, The Hobbit, The Voice of the Prairie, The Troubles: Children of Belfast, Strega Nona, The Velveteen Rabbit*, and *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* (produced in Russian at the Central Children's Theatre of Moscow). He has been music director for several national tours and has worked on over one hundred productions, ranging from *Phantom* and *A Little Night Music* to *Dames at Sea* and *Once Upon a Mattress*. He is also the former composer-in-residence and artistic associate for the Tony Award-winning Children's Theatre Company in Minneapolis. He has served as stage director for productions of *Cabaret, Children of Eden, The Good Doctor, Tartuffe, . . . And Dance Real Slow in Jackson, Nancy Drew: Girl Detective, The 500 Hats of Bartholomew Cubbins, Sherlock Holmes and the Baker Street Irregulars, Sylvia Plath: A Memoir, Antigone, The Diviners, Lonely Planet*, and *A Night in November*.

Alan attended Moorhead State University, received his B.A. in Acting & Directing from Indiana University, Bloomington, and holds an M.F.A. in Directing from Minnesota State University. He currently resides in Stevens Point, Wisconsin, where he is the coordinator of the Musical Theatre BFA Program at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. He is currently writing original incidental music for a production of *Spinning into Butter*.

Jeff Buhrman, Artistic Director, GMCW

Jeff Buhrman is in his fourth season as Artistic Director of GMCW. During his tenure the chorus has performed in Carnegie Hall in New York, Symphony Hall in Boston, and at the Kennedy Center. In December 2002 GMCW was featured at the Kennedy Center Honors, appearing in the CBS television special in which they sang a tribute to Elizabeth Taylor. Under Jeff's leadership the chorus has grown to over 200 singers and has recorded three 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. Consistently praised by local critics, GMCW was hailed as "one of the finest male choruses in the world" in 2001 by a ***Washington Post*** critic. Another 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 10 seasons. In 1989 he began an eight-year run as Assistant Director of the chorus, working with Music Director Jim Holloway. Jeff had the honor of

Who's Who continued on page 45.

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Continued from page 41.

directing GMCW at an inauguration concert for President Clinton in 1997.

Under Jeff's direction, Potomac Fever attained a wide following with its distinctive style, which was characterized by fluid phrasing and warmth of tone. Through his tenure the group performed many concerts and fundraisers within the gay community. The highlight of his decade with the group came in 1997 with the release of the CD *In Our Lifetime*, followed by a European tour, at which Potomac Fever sang at the opening ceremony of the European Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses festival in Munich. Potomac Fever had the distinction of being the only American group to perform at the festival. Jeff is once again directing Potomac Fever this year. The group sang a concert in Ft. Lauderdale in February and will sing at the GALA festival in Montreal in July.

A lifelong musician, Jeff holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in music education and voice from Montclair State University. In addition, he studied voice with Marden Bate and 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.

Jeff has more than 20 years of experience as a choral director, working with high school choruses, community choruses, and church choirs. A devotee of musical theater, Jeff has also directed a number of musicals including *Bye Bye Birdie, Once Upon a Mattress*, and *Bells are Ringing*, and musical directed many others including GMCW's productions of *Little Shop of Horrors* and *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. Jeff brought his love of cabaret singing to GMCW when he initiated the first cabaret in 2002, *Love Songs and Other Fairy Tales*.

Jeff has a Master of Arts degree in counseling from The George Washington University. He ended a 26 year tenure in education in 2000 when he became GMCW's first full-time Artistic Director.

Charlie Beale, Musical Director, London Gay Men's Chorus

Originally trained as an organist, Charlie Beale studied music at Cambridge, England, and later jazz at Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London where he won the Rose Morris Prize as a composer and jazz pianist. Charlie has a stylistically diverse and active freelance performing career. As well as being Musical Director of the London Gay Men's Chorus for the past two years, he recently directed members of the London Philharmonic Orchestra in an improvised performance at one of London's major concert halls. His playing has also included national radio broadcasts as a classical pianist, a jazz organ concerto with the UK's National Youth Jazz Orchestra, West End theatre work, playing and arranging credits on albums and singles by artists including Whitney Houston and Adeva, and regular jazz in and around London, with the likes of Bobby Wellins and the Frank Williams African Jazz Quintet.

Since completing his Ph.D. in 2001, he has written a critically acclaimed book *Jazz Piano from Scratch*, and a number of important academic articles, including the chapter on Jazz Education in the recent *Oxford Companion to Jazz*. A committed educator, he currently teaches jazz at the Royal College of Music in London, and in the past 3 years has toured internationally, examining and doing jazz workshops for teachers in the US, New Zealand, Australia, Malaysia and Singapore.

Joseph P. Nadeau, Artistic Director, Heartland Men's Chorus

Joseph Nadeau is beginning his seventh year as Artistic Director of the Heartland Men's Chorus. This is also his 10th year as an active member of GALA Choruses Inc., an international association of more than 190 gay and lesbian choral groups.

Joe received a bachelor of music degree in music education from the University of

Who's Who continued on page 47.

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Continued from page 45.

Maine, where he studied choral conducting with Dr. Dennis Cox. During his undergraduate years, he served as assistant conductor for the University of Maine Singers and Concert Band, as well as guest conductor for the Symphonic Band. Joe also conducted the U-Maine Singers on a tour through France, Germany, Switzerland, and Luxembourg. After receiving his undergraduate degree, Joe began teaching in public schools in Colorado.

In 1993, Joe began singing with the Denver Gay Men's Chorus and served as assistant director and interim artistic director of the group before being hired as conductor of the Heartland Men's Chorus. Joe completed a master's degree in choral conducting from the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music, where he studied with Dr. Eph Ehly. Joe has also had the privilege of working with many notable conductors, including Dale Warland, Jing Ling Tam, Andre Thomas and Robert Shaw.

Since Joe's arrival in 1998, HMC membership has grown to 120 singers and more than 150 active members. HMC's audience has also grown, enabling the Chorus to increase its number of concert performances. Under Joe's direction, the Chorus has performed in various cities across the United States and in 2002 completed a European tour, performing in London, Paris, and Hamburg. The Chorus performs regularly at festivals, conferences and events, including the national Chorus America conference, held in Kansas City in June 2003.

Joe is a member of the American Choral Directors Association, the Music Educators National Conference, the Choristers Guild, Chorus America and the National Association of Pastoral Musicians.

In addition to working with the chorus, Joe is a music director for a local church and has served as conductor and clinician at festivals and performances on the regional and state levels. Joe lives in Kansas City with his partner, Shayne, along with two spoiled-rotten dogs and an overfed cat.

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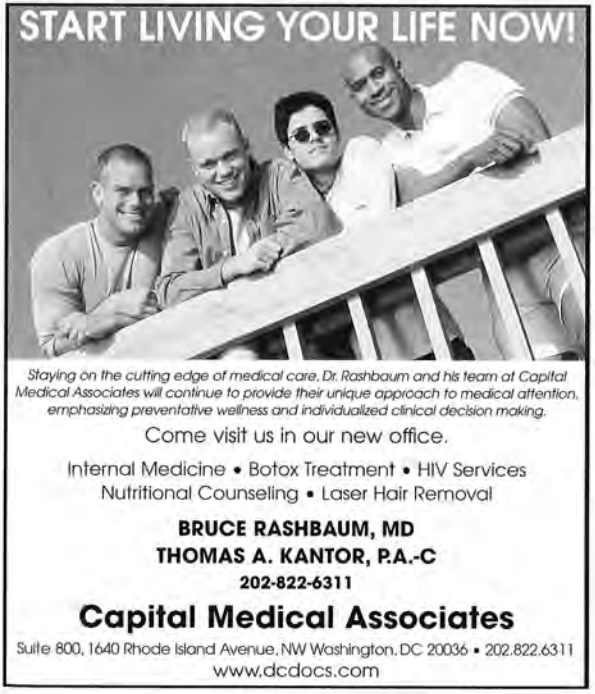
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Jason Kuznicki 2000
Kathy McGee 2000
Shirley Paul 2000
Billy Richardson 2000
Larry Rosen 1993
Mary Scott 1992
Gary Turner 1993
Joe Vignali 1995
Kimber White 2002

First Tenors
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James Atwell 2003
Jay Ball 2001
Joe Bloomer 1999
Brad Boekeloo 1992 (RCS)
Fred Boykin 1981
Larry Boylan 2002
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Charles Butler 1981 (RCS)
Tony Conto 2003
Steve Crutchfield 1987
Bill Cutter 1998
John Favazzo 2003
Greg Finch 2003
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Peter Fox 2002
Joel Furtick 2002
Don Garapolo 2002 (PF)
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Jim Stanko 1990
David Streit 1988
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Jeff Van Luyn 1983
Kevin Webster 1993
Jim Williams 1991
Mike Wynne 2001 (PF)

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Eric Balthrop 1993 (RCS)
Eric Belkengren 2001
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Rob Hensley 1999 (RCS)
Drew Hertler 2002 (RCS)
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Yasunari Ishii 2000
Ricky Jacobs 2000
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Matt Kingsley 2004
Gary Knight 2003
Matt Komornik 1993
Stuart Kopperman 1996
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Chris Locklear 2003
Leo Luberecki 2002
Jim Madigan 1999
Kerry Neal 2002
Tom Nichols 1997 (PF)
Darren O'Neill 2002
CJ Pacelli 2004
Stan Piotrosky 1991
Reg Richards 2003 (RCS)
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Sean Robinson 2000 (SL)
Steven Sanders 2003
Charles Sarner 1993
Paul Singletary 2000
Jeff Sliauzus 2001
David Smith 1993
Robert Smith 2003
Scott Starin 2000
Shawn Strout 2003
Mead Summer 2001 (SL)
Michael Taylor 2001
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Bryce Weems 2002
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Brian Blubaugh 2004
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Ron Castro 2001
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Blake Cornish 2003
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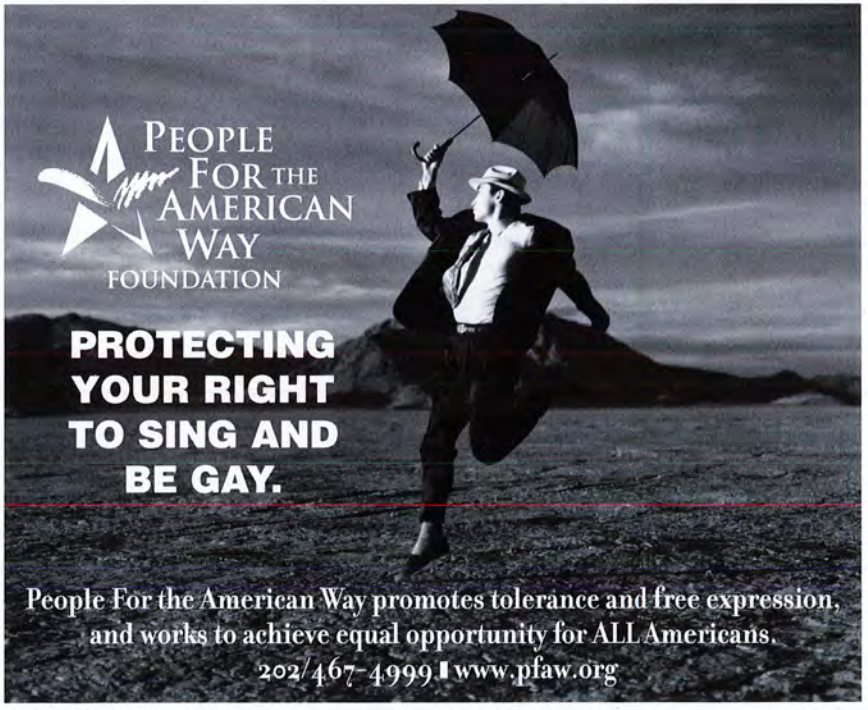

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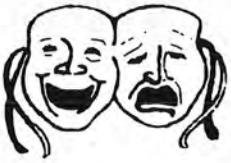

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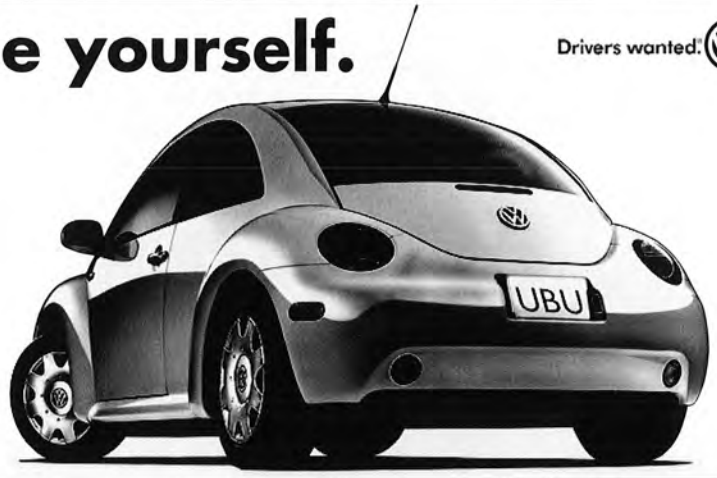

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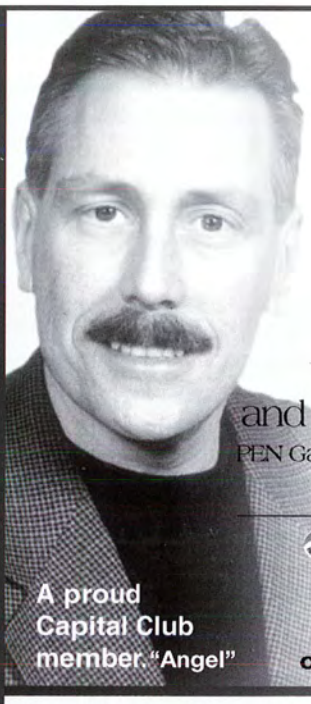

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