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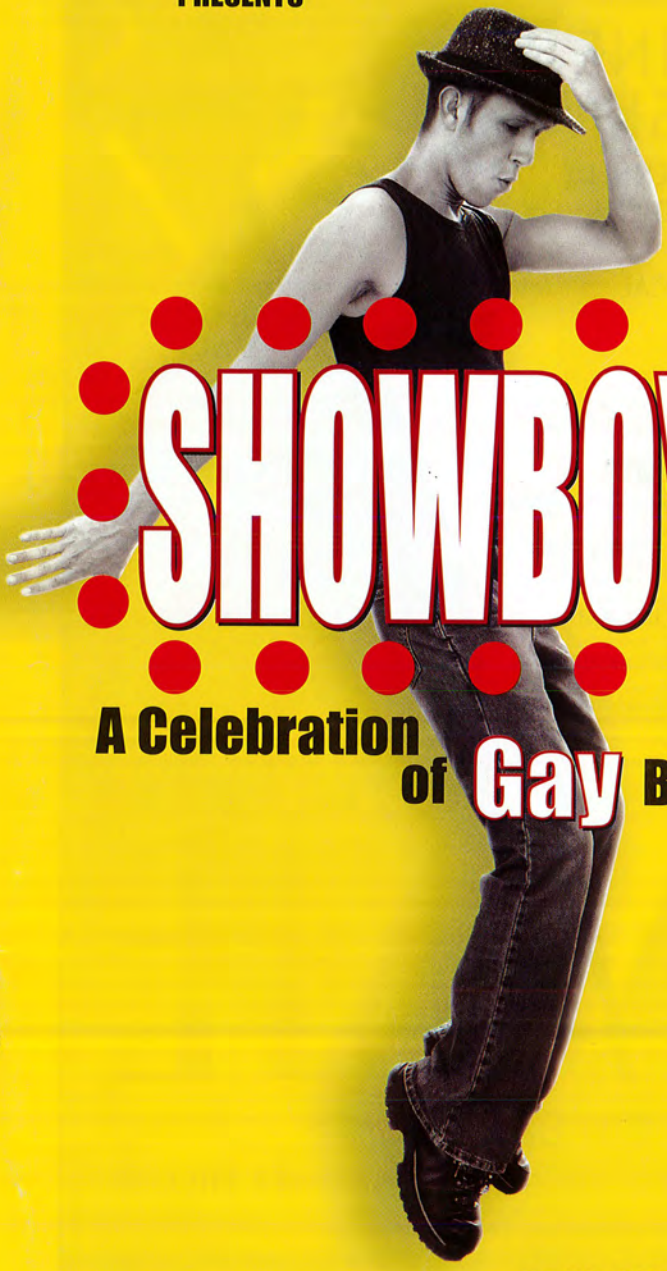

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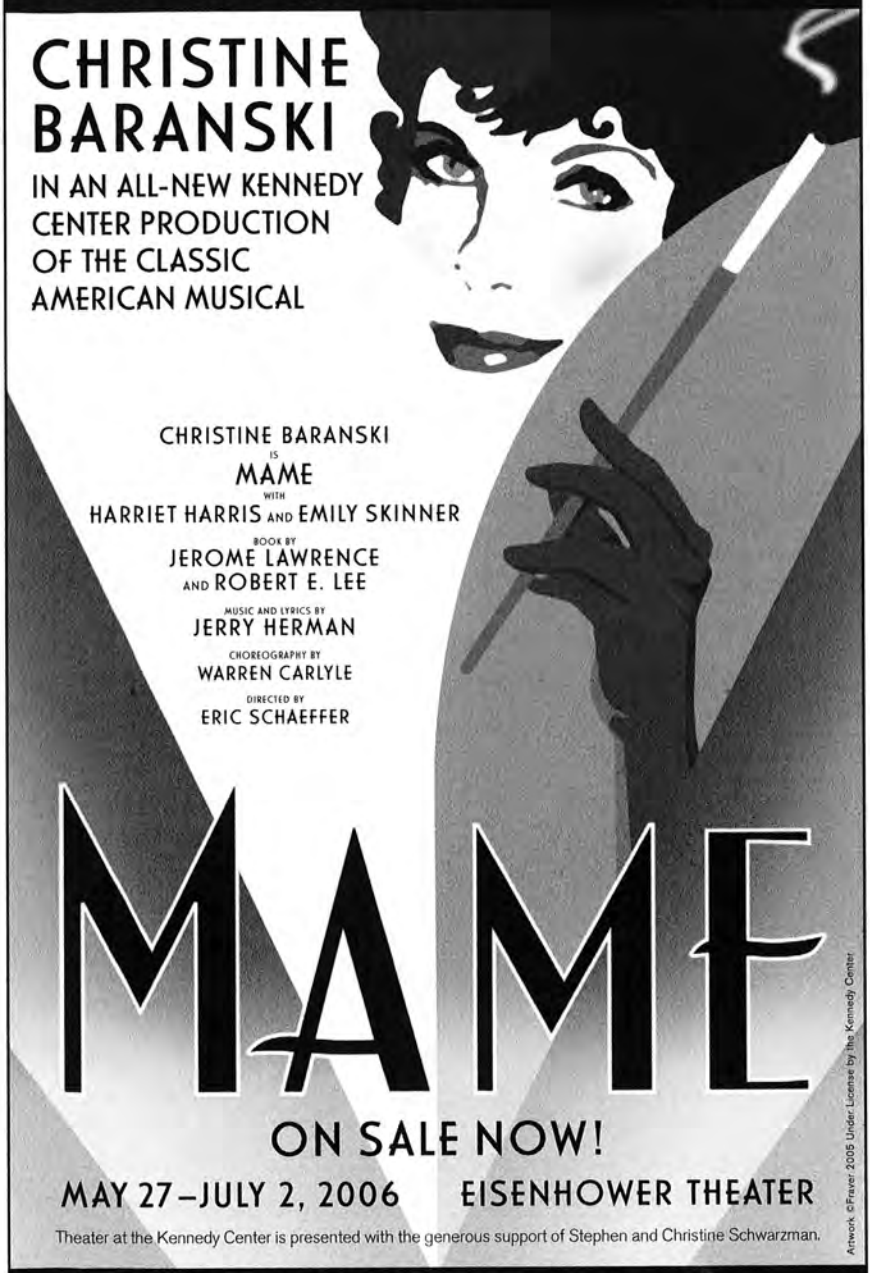

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Director, Potomac Fever ..... Jeff Buhrman
Director, Rock Creek Singers ..... Thea Kano
Accompanist, Rock Creek Singers ..... Don Horn

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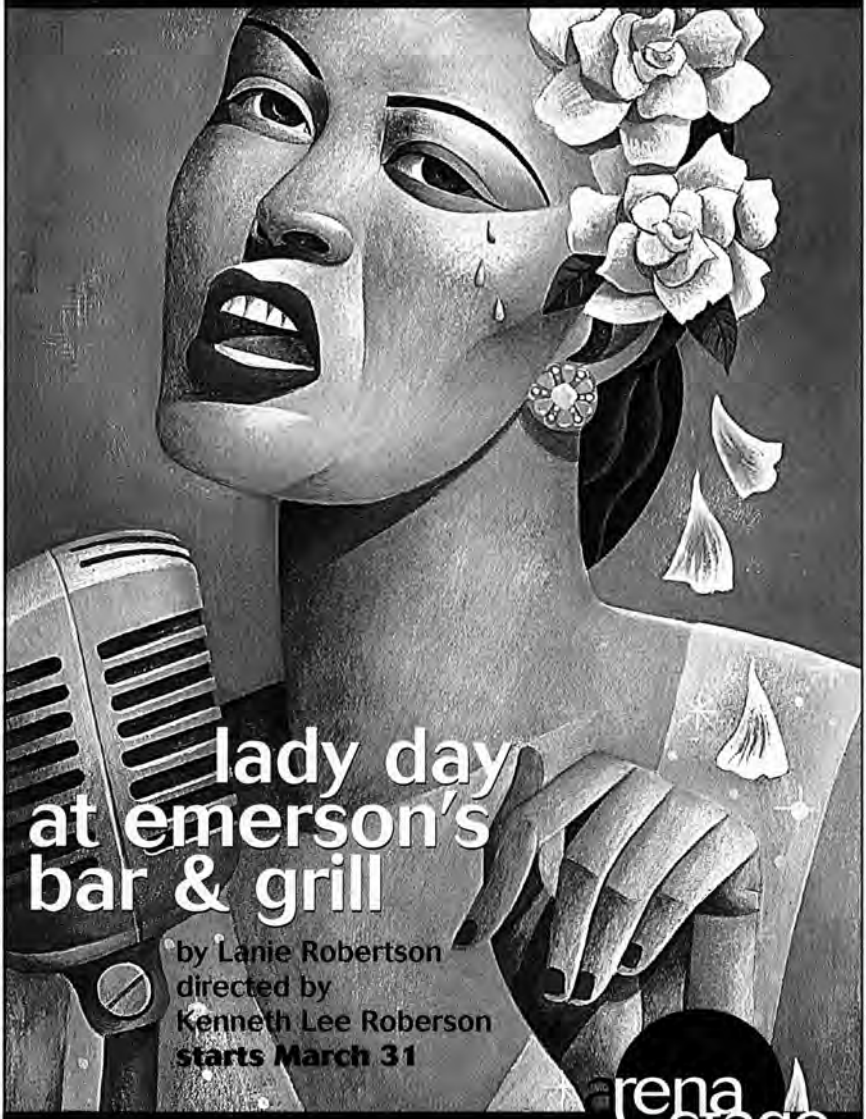

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GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON, DC

Now in its 25th 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 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; 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 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* and its latest release, *Changing Hearts*.

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 not-for-profit, 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 **202-293-1548** or by visiting the Chorus' web page at **www.gmcw.org**.

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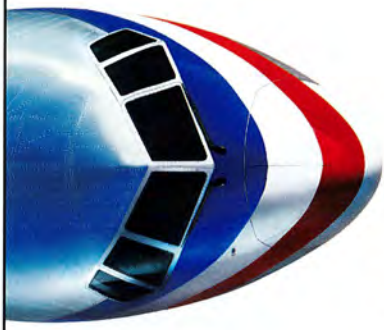

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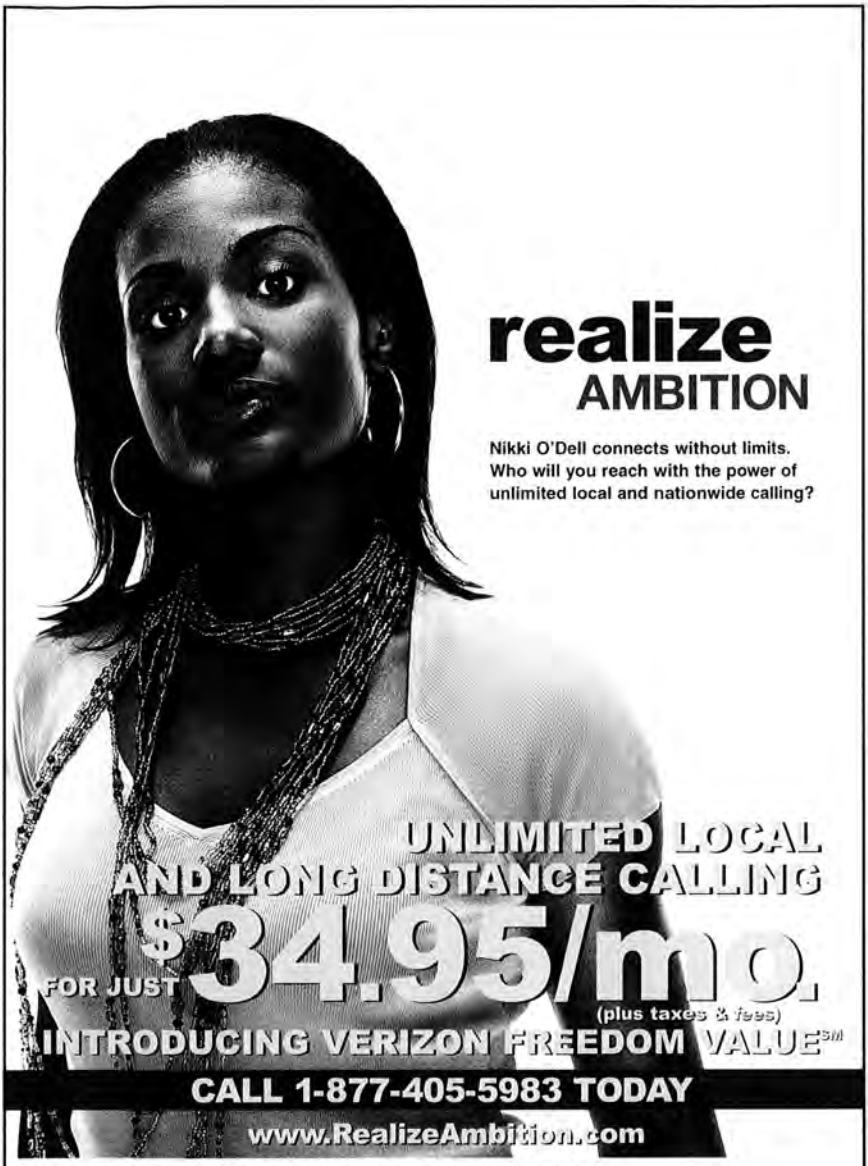

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Jack Reiffer

WELCOME

I have the exciting privilege of welcoming our newest staff member. In January the board of GMCW hired Andrew Hoffmann as Executive Director. He began his work with us on February 6. You can read Andy's bio elsewhere in this program book. We are pleased with the talents, skills and dedication Andy brings to us.

I find it significant that we welcome a new senior staff member in the middle of our 25th anniversary year. Every generation of singers and audience since our founding has built on and carried forward the accomplishments of the previous one, added to it and served our unchanging mission in important ways.

We have on stage, in the production crew and in the audience at this show, folks who were here when the dream was first articulated to form a gay men's chorus in DC. Singing, dancing, running back stage errands and applauding the production at this performance are folks who joined this family in the 80s and the 90s and as recently as a few weeks ago. Andy joins our family – and this GALA Choruses movement – with roots in every decade of the modern gay rights movement, and branches in every moment of the gay performing arts. He will make his mark and add his own special touches to this ongoing story. We will all be the better for his being here.

Part of the family is not here today. We have buried enough of our brothers to form a large chorus. Many of them lost far too young and painfully from AIDS. We sing to honor them. We are the better for their time among us.

Part of this family is not yet here. They are your friends, your children, your parents, sisters and brothers, your neighbors and coworkers – a large family who would delight in the entertainment we present. We will be the better for adding them to the experience of these shows.

Andy will be taking the lead in marketing this fine organization and in developing strategies that honor our past and celebrate our future. We need your help. Plan to attend the Spring Affair on May 20. Bring others with you. Pass on to others your excitement about attending GMCW productions. Let us know who else we should be including in our advertising and outreach efforts.

Enjoy this performance, no matter what your place is in the GMCW family. Welcome those who are new. Dream big about who else might be here next time.

Jack Reiffer
Board Chair

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Contact Jim at (773) 486-0601
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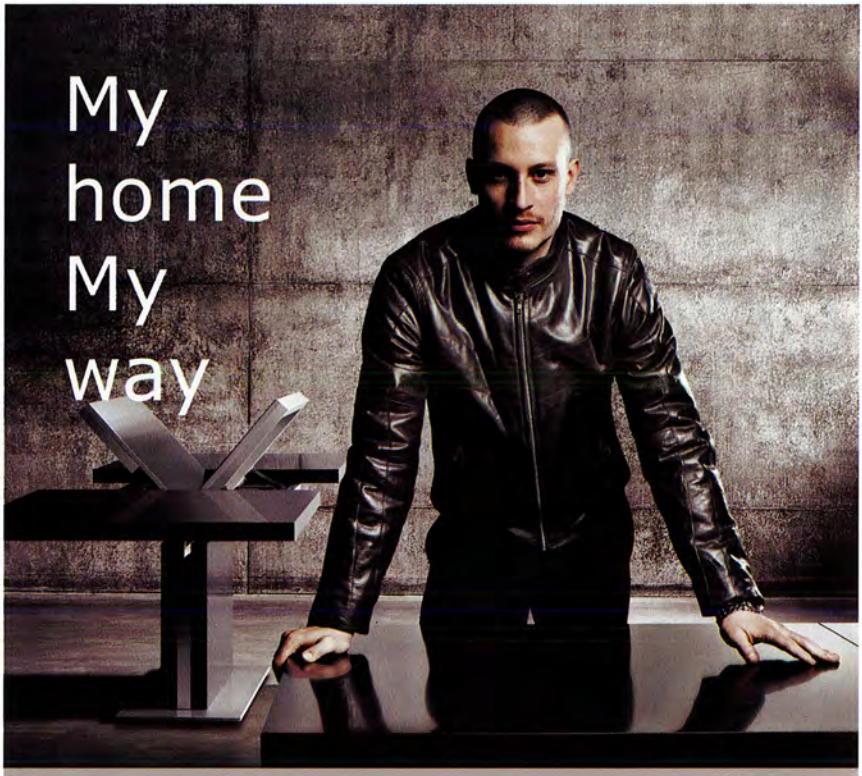
Mention GMCW when booking a reservation and 5% of the rental amount will be donated back to the Chorus!



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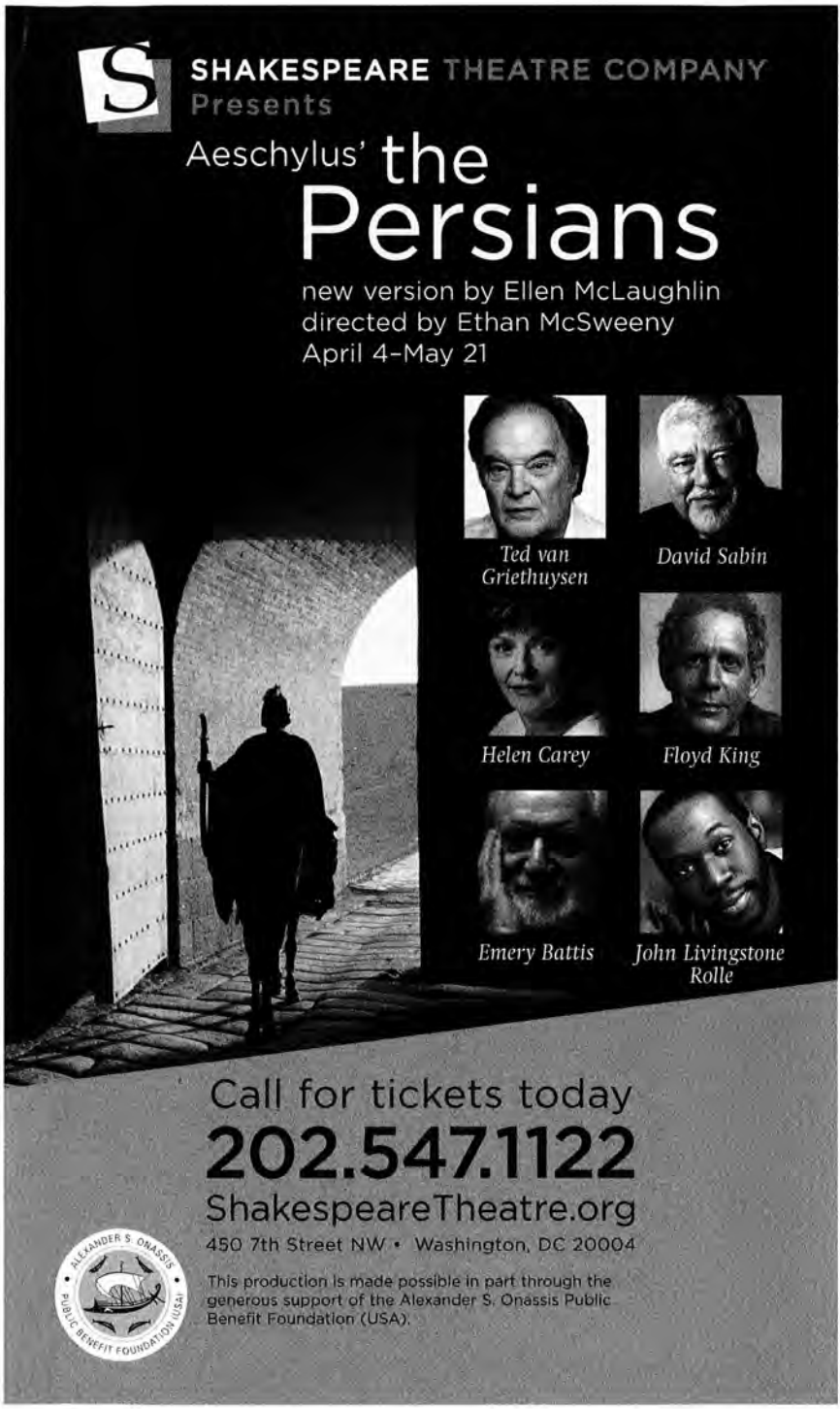
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Jeff Buhrman

GMCW WELCOMES BARBARA COOK

Did you ever take the time to think about some of your favorite musical memories? Is there a concert, a Broadway show or an opera that you attended that you won't ever forget?

I was thinking about it recently and I came up with several memorable performances.

Leontyne Price singing a recital in Buffalo – the most commanding stage presence I have ever witnessed.

The original Broadway production of Sweeney Todd – I was so overwhelmed that I was rendered speechless for twenty minutes.

The Robert Shaw Chorale singing Gabriel Fauré's Requiem – sheer bliss.

There is, however, one memory that remains at the top of my list. I will never forget the first time I heard Barbara Cook in concert. It was in 1975 at Brothers and Sisters, a small, predominantly gay cabaret club in NYC. A couple of months earlier a friend introduced me to Barbara Cook's singing when he gave me a recording of the Broadway show *She Loves Me*. As I listened to the recording I instantly fell in love with her jewel-like voice.

When I heard she was going to appear at Brothers and Sisters I knew this would be a special event. I had no idea that this appearance would begin one of the greatest concert careers in musical history. I will always remember the opening notes of that evening at Brothers and Sisters. The lights dimmed to black and a lone, unaccompanied voice was heard from behind the audience.

"Sing a song with me to ease your worries. Sing a song with me to touch your heart. Sing a song with me to move the heavens...sing with me."

What an incredible sound...silvery and shimmering, but so warm. Ms. Cook has always combined a classical technique with unerring emotional insight....no one sings a lyric better than Barbara Cook. Later that year she sang her first major concert in Carnegie Hall. She walked onstage to a five minute standing ovation...and hadn't sung a note.

Barbara Cook was Broadway's ideal ingenue of the 50s and 60s. She made her Broadway debut in 1951 in the little known musical *Flahooley*. She went on to star as the ingenue lead in productions of *Oklahoma, Carousel, The Music Man, She Loves Me*, and *Candide*. In the early 1970s Ms. Cook began a new concert and recording career. For more than 30 years she has thrilled sold-out audiences around the world. From the intimate Cafe Carlyle in NYC to the grand Royal Albert Hall in London, she has demonstrated the uncanny ability to get to the heart of the lyric. At age 78 she is truly a legend.

We are especially honored that Barbara Cook will be joining GMCW for our 25th Anniversary Concert in June. This is not a performance you will want to miss. She will be singing some of her most memorable songs, and will join the chorus for a fitting finale.

The time: Sunday, June 25 at 3:00 pm
The place: The Kennedy Center Concert Hall
The event: GMCW's 25th Anniversary Concert with special guest Barbara Cook

For tickets: Complete the order form in your program and bring it to the merchandise table in the lobby. Or call 202-293-1548.

Jeff Buhrman
Artistic Director

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Tom DiGiovanni

CHANGING THE WORLD FOR 25 YEARS

This year's release of the widely acclaimed movie *Brokeback Mountain* brings a new awareness of homosexuality in the 1960s – and even today. The two main characters struggle to make sense of themselves, their feelings and their place within society. For Ennis and Jack, there are no role models, no laws to protect them, no one to validate their feelings. Both men are relegated to lives that seem tragically unfulfilled.

In 2006, American gay men and women still search for the basics: life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Yet there have been significant accomplishments – thanks to the many pioneers of the gay movement whose contributions have made a difference for us all.

GMCW's founding members (some of whom still sing with the Chorus) can recall the public and personal barriers that have been broken within our own community in the past 25 years. They recall the powerful impact of seeing openly gay singers from San Francisco take the stage at the Kennedy Center (1981) and feeling electrified by the audience's sustained applause (lasting 10 minutes or longer) before a note was uttered. This moment of shared joy, release and acknowledgement lead to the birth of our own chorus a week or so later.

Since that seminal moment in 1981, men from DC, MD, VA, WV, PA and DE seek our Chorus as a refuge for community, self-expression, outreach, artistry, companionship and love. Over the years, we've celebrated our coming out experiences, cared for and buried those with AIDS and rallied for basic equality in the workplace, in courts, in homes and in places of worship.

Who could have known 25 years ago that we would have members who are openly gay clergy, same-sex parents and legally married couples? (This would have been unimaginable to those characters in *Brokeback Mountain*.) And yet, ironically, there are members of this chorus who still cannot publicly disclose their sexual orientation for fear of losing their job, their military commission or their family's acceptance. The very states in which we live and work continue to press for constitutional bans on gay marriage and other discriminatory legislation.

During the concert, take special note of the words in Jerry Herman's "One Person": "There may be an army of them, and only a handful of us ... But it isn't the size of the fist, it's the size of the dream... One person can beat a drum, and one person can blow a horn, if one person can hold a torch, than one person can change the world."

Today, I salute all the singers and supporters of our chorus community, torch bearers all, who have helped change the world in some measure during these 25 years.

Tom DiGiovanni
Chorus President

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Fabiana Bravo

Virginia Opera
Norma

Fri., Apr. 7 at 8 pm
Sun., Apr. 9 at 2 pm

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Doug Varone and Dancers

Doug Varone and Dancers

Fri., Apr. 14 at 8 pm

With extraordinary physical daring and vivid musicality, Doug Varone has a genius for capturing the nuances of human interaction through movement. This "choreographer's choreographer" (*The Philadelphia Inquirer*) is widely acclaimed as one of today's master dance makers.

Ute Lemper

Ute Lemper

Sat., Apr. 15 at 8 pm

A sultry chanteuse as comfortable in the concert hall as in musical theater, Lemper is internationally acclaimed as "... a spectacular talent... not only vocally but in stage presence... that had the audience cheering its lungs out." (*The Washington Post*) At the Center, she presents a program of cabaret songs from the likes of Brecht and Weill.

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ANYTHING GOES — Music and Lyrics by Cole Porter

Anything Goes ..... Kip Jacobs and Chorus

I Get a Kick ..... Juan Rodriguez

You're the Top ..... Kevin Boswell, PJ Brennan, Giuseppe DeBartolo, Ron Kludo, Nick Pietras, Owen Taggart, Chuck Walker, Ryan Williams

It's De-lovely ..... Jere Lorenzen, Owen Taggart and Chorus

Friendship ..... PJ Brennan, Michael Horton, Chuck Walker

Blow Gabriel Blow ..... Juan Rodriguez and Chorus

Finale ..... Chorus

DEAR WORLD — Music and Lyrics

Overture

The Spring of Next Year ..... Rob Hall and Chorus

Dear World ..... Stuart Goldstone

I've Never Said I Love You ..... Kevin Boswell

Tea Party Scene ..... Alex Bodenham, Chip Crews, Jimmy Galdieri

I Don't Want to Know ..... Martin Good

One Person ..... Chorus

Dear World ..... Chorus

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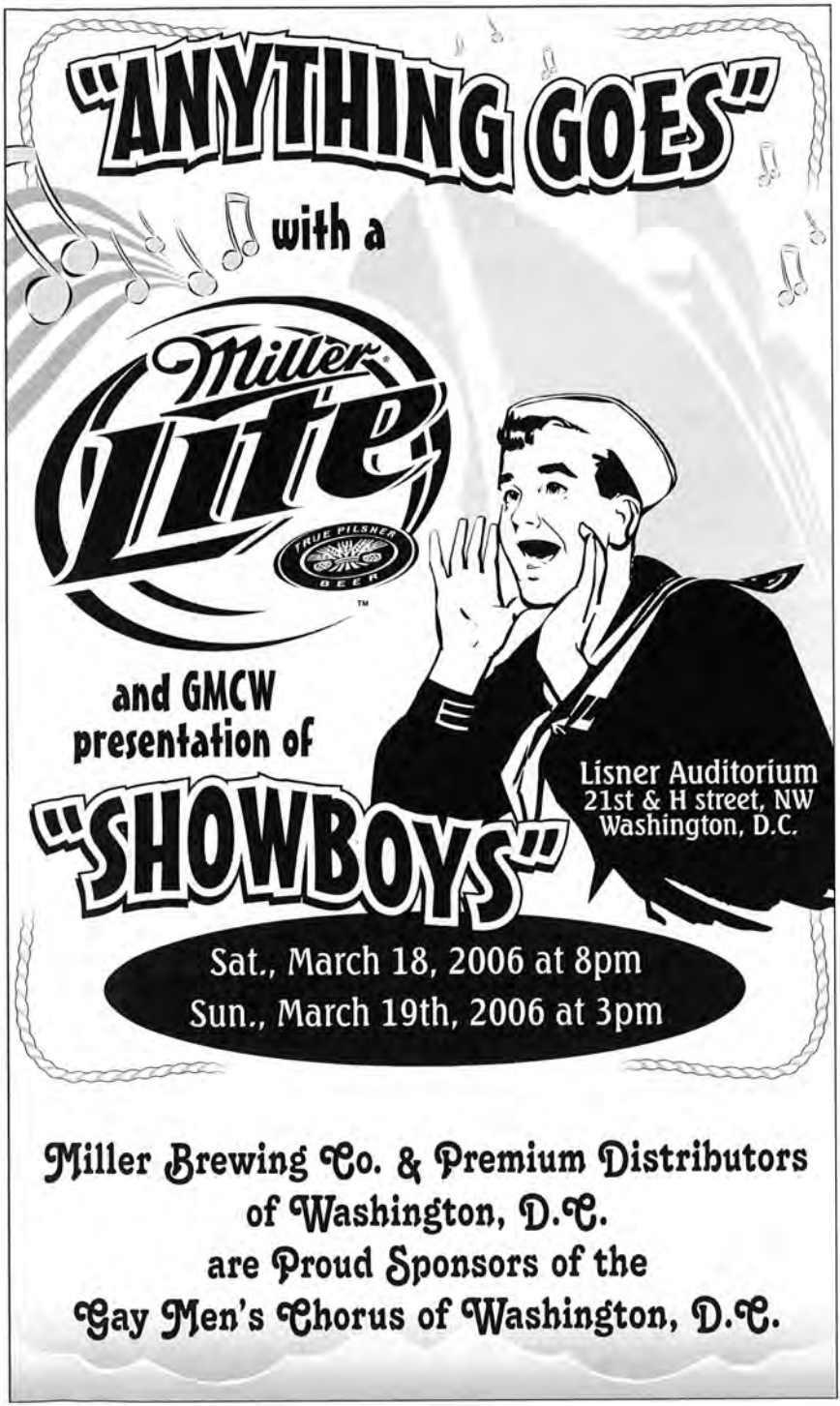
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PROGRAM LISTING

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COMPANY — Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Overture ..... Chorus

Company ..... Tim Tourbin, Couples and Chorus

You Could Drive a Person Crazy ..... PJ Brennan, Mark Clodfelter, Nick Pietras

Get Married Today ..... Charles Butler, Rick East, Peter Fox and Chorus

Side by Side by Side ..... Tim Tourbin, Couples and Chorus

The Ladies Who Lunch ..... Chip Crews

Being Alive ..... Tim Tourbin and Chorus

Bows ..... Chorus

HAIRSPRAY — Music by Marc Shaiman, Lyrics by Scott Wittman

Good Morning Baltimore ..... Andrew Harmon and Chorus

I Know Where I've Been ..... Marcus Brown and Chorus

You Can't Stop the Beat .... Andrew Harmon, Ryan Williams, Marcus Brown and Chorus

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*Tap Choreographer

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Robert Boaz
PJ Brennan
Daniel Clavel
Mark Hennan
Stuart Kopperman
John O'Brien
Ed Oseroff

ONE PERSON ENSEMBLE

Bobby Boaz
Brandon Harwick*+
Caleb Holifield+
Scott Roewer
Laura Yankowski+

*Assistant Flag Choreographer

SIDE BY SIDE ENSEMBLE

Robert Boaz
PJ Brennan
Joe Cannon
Chip Crews
Rick East
Peter Fox
Paul George
Christopher Grieder
Charlie Mountain
Todd Paul
Nick Pietras
Scott Reiber
Jeff Shields
Greg Tepe
Chuck Walker
Paul Wilson

GOOD MORNING BALTIMORE ENSEMBLE

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PJ Brennen
Daniel Clavel
Giuseppe DeBartolo
Mike Hayes
Mark Hennen
Stuart Kopperman
Todd Paul
Nick Pietras
Ed Oseroff
Scott Roewer
Owen Taggart

YOU CAN'T STOP THE BEAT ENSEMBLE

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Giuseppe DeBartolo
Christopher Grieder
Mike Hayes
Mark Hennen
Matt Komornik
Stuart Kopperman
John O'Brien
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PROGRAM NOTES

BY CHIP CREWS

SHOWBOYS! is not about tracing the trajectory of the Broadway musical; you can't do that in a single evening. But you can pick four particularly delightful points along the way and make a brief stop at each of them.

Anything Goes (1934) is widely regarded as the quintessential '30s musical comedy. In that era writers didn't think about "integrating" story and music; librettists wrote books with song breaks and composers turned out songs to fill those breaks. But for this goofy story set on an ocean liner, Cole Porter was inspired to craft perhaps his greatest score.

Reno Sweeney, first played by Ethel Merman, is one of the era's most celebrated musical characters. In fact Reno is the show's second female lead – Merman was about comedy, not romance – but in the original she did have nearly all of the best songs. (To add to the embarrassment of riches, "It's De-Lovely" and "Friendship," written for other shows, have been included in *Anything Goes* productions since the 1940s.)

The production was the second-longest-running book musical of the decade, and unlike the overwhelming majority of musicals from that era, it's never really gone away.

Flash forward to *Dear World* (1969). Jerry Herman had already secured the title of the '60s' most successful Broadway composer through the megahits *Hello, Dolly!* and *Mame*. He now decided to musicalize *The Madwoman of Chaillot*.

In retrospect, it seems clear that Jean Giraudoux's tale of foggy eccentrics saving Paris from the clutches of capitalist pigs was an odd choice for the ebullient Herman. He wrote the *Dear World* score for his first Mame, Angela Lansbury – the earlier show made her a star after two decades of second-tier respectability – and she triumphed anew, but the production flopped. Ironically, the show's problems aren't apparent on the cast album, which is a minor treasure.

The very next year brought *Company* to Broadway. Where *Dear World* was at heart a deeply conventional musical, *Company* – the first of six historic collaborations between composer Stephen Sondheim and director Hal Prince – was anything but.

Company is one of the crucial musicals. It seeks not to tell a particular story but rather to examine the institution of marriage. Its central character is Bobby, a 35-year-old bachelor with a host of married friends. The show established Sondheim as a composer of prodigious gifts and towering ambitions. But contemporary audiences weren't entirely ready for him, and the show's seven Tony Awards are widely credited with sparking the box office just enough to put it in the black.

Hairspray (2002) took eight Tony Awards, but by the time they were handed out, it had been playing to packed houses for months. The show rode the wave of a trend back to musical comedy with a bright, infectious score, a funny book and lively dancing.

An adaptation of the John Waters movie, *Hairspray* in fact deals with the serious issue of race, but its villains are laughable fools who from the start are doomed to fail. And composer Marc Shaiman's affectionate homage to 1960s rock has proved irresistible to audiences. Next week the Broadway production will play its 1,500th performance, with no end in sight.

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WHO'S WHO

JEFF BUHRMAN, Artistic Director

Jeff Buhrman is in his sixth 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 four 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 recently 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 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 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 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. Jeff will be directing the festival chorus at the first annual Outgames 2006 in Montreal this July.

Who's Who continued on page 35.

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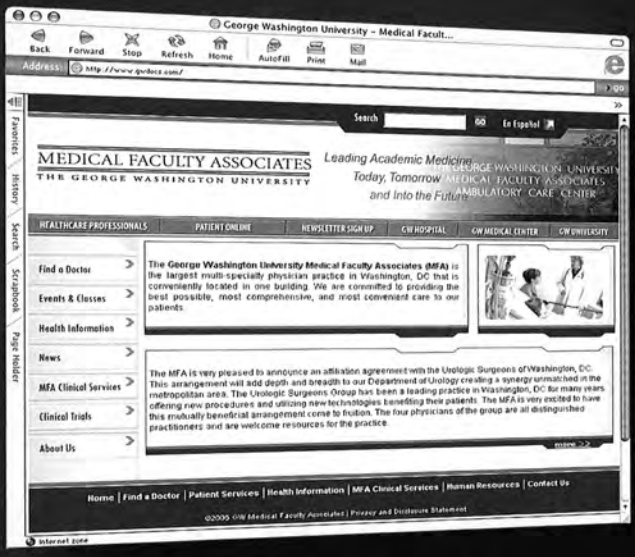

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WHO'S WHO

Who's Who continued from page 31.

THEA KANO, Assistant Music Director

A native of northern California, Thea Kano began studying the piano at the age of 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 she 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 prestigious 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, Dr. Kano served as the Assistant Director of the Angeles Chorale and was the 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 the Assistant Conductor of the UCLA Chorale and the UCLA Chamber Singers.

Dr. Kano came to Washington, DC in 2004 upon her multiple appointments as Assistant Conductor 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. The Chorale will present its inaugural performance Saturday, March 25, at Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center. Information and tickets are available at www.nycmasterchorale.org.

JOHN MORAN, Stage Director

After directing *Bye, Bye Birdie* and other projects for GMCW, John continued this season with the concept and direction for *Everything's Coming Up Sondheim!*, then directed *fabYULEus!* and now *SHOWBOYS!* In the past year, he has been coast-to-coast directing shows in California featuring the Russian National Orchestra (Carlo Ponti, Jr. conducting); the National Arts Awards for Americans for the Arts in New York (Mikhail Baryshnikov, Tommy Tune, Kitty Carlisle Hart, Kerry Washington); and Vital Voices from the Kennedy Center (Sally Field, Julia Ormond, Andrea Mitchell, Hillary Rodham Clinton, Kay Bailey Hutchison, Madeline Albright, Thomas Kean) in Washington, DC among many other projects.

SCOTT ROEWER, Choreographer

Scott began his dance training while performing with various drum and bugle corps. He took his first dance class while in college at the University of Nebraska — Lincoln, where he also earned a bachelor's degree in Music Education. Additionally, Scott has a Masters of Music Education from the Conservatory of Music, University of Missouri — Kansas City. Scott has worked as a cho-

Who's Who continued on page 39.

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Who's Who continued from page 35.

reographer and adjudicator for numerous high school drill teams and winter guard units in Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. Previously a music and theater teacher, Scott has directed and choreographed musical productions and founded a successful summer theater program for youth in the Kansas City area. Since moving to Washington, DC, Scott has assisted with the choreography of the PBS special, *A Capital Fourth 2004* and has returned to GMCW for his third season. Scott's one big claim to fame is that he can be seen as a featured dancer in the Universal motion picture, *To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything! Julie Newmar.* Scott is a Professional Organizer and Event Planner. Visit www.Solutions-by-Scott.com. Scott would like to thank all the dancers for their hard work.

NICK PIETRAS, Tap Choreographer

Nick received his Bachelor of Music in Musical Theatre from Catholic University's Benjamin T. Rome School of Music. Favorite college and regional credits include: Will Parker in *Oklahoma!*, Yonkers/Dance Captain in *Gypsy*, Don in *A Chorus Line*, and the Union Soldier in the Washington, DC premiere of *The Civil War.* Nick has been tapping since he was seven years old, and has studied locally with Toni Lombre and Kelly Isaac. When not time-stepping, Nick works in marketing for DC's Arena Stage. Nick would like to thank Jeff, Scott and John for the opportunity to contribute to this great production.

THEODORE GUERRANT, Principal Accompanist

Now in his 23rd 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 fifth 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

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Who's Who continued from page 39.

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.

PHIL ROGERSON, Vocal Coach

A native of West Virginia and a private teacher of voice and piano in the Washington area, Phil has been an active member of the Chorus since it was founded in 1981. He is a graduate of West Virginia University with bachelor's and master's degrees in music education.

Phil teaches a class in vocal technique each Sunday for an hour before regular rehearsal for members who have never had formal vocal instruction. Phil also assists individual singers with vocal problems. He is active in many local music organizations, and has served as president of the Southern Maryland Choral Society, the Choristers' Guild and the Prince George's Music Teachers Association.

ANDREW HOFFMANN, Executive Director

Andrew is delighted to join the GMCW family, assuming the position of Executive Director in February 2006. He comes to Washington DC after 8 years in South Bend, Indiana. Most recently, Hoffmann was the Executive Director of the Broadway Theatre League of South Bend, a presenting organization that managed the subscription series of nationally-touring Broadway shows in the South Bend area. Andrew began his professional career as a staff member of the University of Notre Dame Alumni Association.

Andrew earned his Bachelor of Arts in Musicology from the University of Notre Dame, where he was a singer and soloist with ND's all-male Glee Club, mixed group Concert Chorale and early-music ensemble Collegium Musicorum. Upon graduation, he joined the South Bend Chamber Singers and the Basilica Schola, where he could occasionally be seen on the Hallmark Channel's Sunday Mass televised from Notre Dame. Hoffmann expects to complete the Master of Nonprofit Administration degree through the Mendoza College of Business at Notre Dame this fall. He is a native of Manawa, Wisconsin, which is a small town in the north central part of the state. Growing up, he studied piano, participated in a variety of choral activities and performed in several community musical theater productions.

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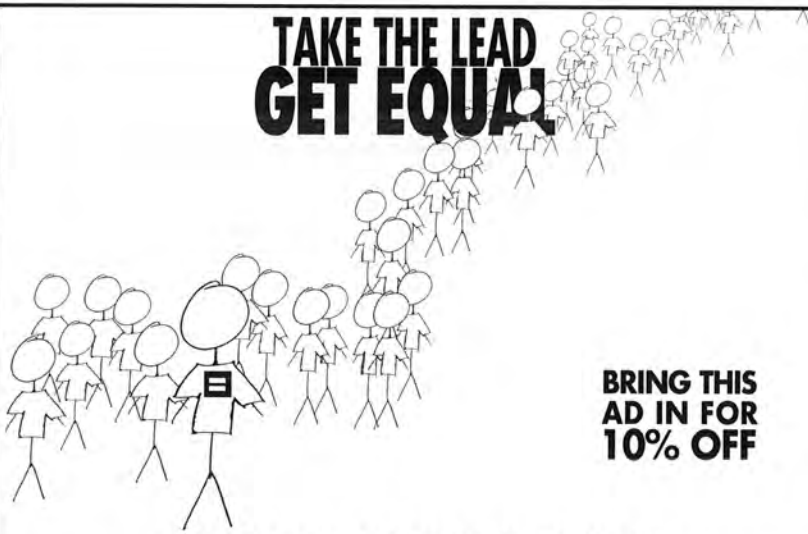

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Paul E. Pompeo 2004
Gary Regan 1990
Jack Reiffer 1998
Scott Roewer 2003
Cammon Ross 2005
Phil Rogerson 1981
Mick Smythwood 2004
Jim Stanko 1990
David Streit 1988
Will Trokey 2004
Tim Tourbin 2005
Jeff Van Luyn 1983
Jason Varvas 2004
Kevin Webster 1993
Jim Williams 1991
Michael K. Wynne 2001

SECOND TENORS

Sarwono Agus 2003
Edward Allen 2005
Ryan Athearn 2001
Carl Baldwin 1992
Ben Balmaceda 2006
Eddie Bates 2005
Jeremy Bauer 2005
Eric Belkengren 2001
Roger Bergstrom 1985
Kevin Boswell 2005
Wynn Bressler 2003
Dave Carmody 1999
Edgar Casas 2005
Forrest Clift 2004
Paul E. Cline 1996
Chris Cochran 1995
Harvey Cohen 1985
Tony Cunningham 2002
Rob Driggers 2002 (RCS)
Mark Evans 2004
Alvin Figer 2002
Paul Foley 2004
Robert Gunnell 2004
Martin Haley 2004
Jeff Hamlin 2000
Sean Hanrahan 2002
Andrew Harmon 2002 (RCS)
Michael Hayes 2004
Abrahem Helal 2004
Mark Hennen 2004
Rob Hensley 1999 (RCS)
Rick Jacobs 2000
Micah Jensen 2005
Robert Johnson 2005
David L. Jonas 2001
Christian Jones 2005
Matt Kingsley 2004
Gary Knight 2003
Matt Komornik 1993
Stuart Kopperman 1996
Dennis Kovanda 2004
Mark Leger 2005
CJ Liotta 2002
Lee Lowder 2004
Leo Luberecki 2002 (SL)
Jim Madigan 1991 (RCS)
Ryan Masser 2005
Donald McArthur 2006
Gordon Mehlman 2004
John-Philip Mullinax 2005
Tom Nichols 1997
John O'Brien 2004
Darren O'Neill 2002 (RCS)
Stan Piotroski 1991
Reg Richards 2003 (RCS)
Scott Reiber 2004 (PF)
David Robinson 1988 (SL)
Sean Robinson 2000 (RCS)
Steven Sanders 2003
Charles Sarner 1993
Paul Singletary 2000
Jeff Sliauzis 2003
David Smith 1993
Robert Smith 2003
Scott Starin 2000 (RCS)
Shawn Strout 2003
Mead Summer 2001

(SL) Section Leader

(PF) Potomac Fever

GMCW CHORUS MEMBERS

Michael Taylor 2001
Michael Toth 2004
Luis Vasquez 2005
Marc Villafana 2002
Anthony Vitelli 2002
Gary Voudrie 2005
Chuck Walker 1995
Bryce Weems 2002
John White 1999
Ryan Williams 2004
Ken Williamson 2005
Alexander Wright 2004
Jerry Yoder 2003
Justin Zimmerman 2004

BARITONES

Robert M. Agnello 2002 (SL)
Eric Akridge 1995
Tim Allen 2003
Mitch Alvarado 2005
Ted Arceneaux 2005
Brian Bartlett 2005
John Barton 2003
Brad Benton 2003
Brian Blubaugh 2004
Aidan Blue 2006
Robert Boaz 1997
PJ Brennan 2004
David Bruce 2005
Jeremy Brumbelow 2003
Doug Campbell 2004
Joe Canter 1994
Ron Castro 2001
Don Chandler 1997
Franklin Chappell 2005
Daniel Eduardo Clavel 2006
Larry Cohen 1986
Paul Colloton 2006
Joe Coray 2003
Chip Crews 1991
Lenny Davis 2002
Giuseppe DeBartolo 2002 (RCS)
Paul Dewey 2003
Stan Drake 1990
Brandon Dubroc 2001
Richard East 2005
Eric Easterling 2004
Dave Edmiston 1996
Maurice Fox 2002 (RCS)
Chris Fredericks 2005
Brett H. Freeman 2004
Thom Gibb 1990
Stuart Goldstone 2001
Martin Good 2000
Christopher Grieder 1990
Rob Hall 2002
Dan Hann 2002
Howland Hartley 2001
Michael Hill 2003 (PF)
George Huffman 2000 (RCS)
Josh Kaplan 2006
Paul Kelsch 2002
Ned Kieloch 1996
Christian King 2003
David Kincaid 2001
Benjamin Kong 2005
Joel Kopperud 2005
Paul Lee 2003
William Lee 2001
Bill Lipsett 1991
Mark Mann 2004
Reggie Meneses 2005
Jonathan Mikhalevsky 2004
Ralph Moore 2003
Dale Mott 2006
Charlie Mountain 2002 (PF)
Mike Nguyen 2004
Ron Norberg 2002
Edward P. Oseroff 2000
Emanuel Payton 2003
Nick Pietras 2004
Larry Poole 2005
Steve Rappaport 1994 (SL)
Joe Riddle 2004
Juan Rodriguez 2005
Will Rumble 2002
Burl Salmon 2004
Brian Schulli 2003 (RCS)
Corey Sell 2004
Bob Sheavly 1999
Jeff Shields 2005
Michael Smith 1990 (PF)
Steve Spar 1996
Rodney Stephens 2005
Will Stevenson 2005
Carl Stewart 2002
L. Owen Taggart 2002
Kim L. Tan 2003
Ed Taponan 2001
Gregory Tepe 1994
John Weibel 1985

BASSES

Jeremy Aldridge 2004
Michael Armentrout 2002
Terry M. Ayers 1999
Jack Bailey 2005
Michael Baker 1981
W. Eric Balthrop 1993
Mark Blaylock 2002 (PF)
Felix Boccadoro 2001
Michael Brinkman 2000 (SL)
Marcus Brown 2004 (SL)
Russ Capps 1999 (PF)
Aaron J. Clarke 2004
Cory Clifton 2003
Ted Collins 1995
Blake Cornish 2003
Tom DiGiovanni 1999
Dean Donovan 1997
Bob Dragoset 1984 (RCS)
Robert Featherstone 1998
Craig Ferrier 2003
Ken Fox 2005
Jimmy Galdieri 2001
Jim Gruschus 1995 (RCS)
Michael Hart 2001
John-Paul Hayworth 2005
Bob Hilby 1999
Michael Hughes 2002
Joe Henderson 2002
Dennis Jaffe 1998
Dave Jansing 1999
Dan Kaufman 1990
Paul Leavitt 2001 (RCS)
Jerry Lee 1993
Mark Lefler 2004
Harold Lewis 1995
Michael Lohmann 2000 (RCS)
Stephen McGregor 2005
Jim Murphy 1988 (RCS)
Joe Murray 2003
Rob Neighbour 1992
Yoshi Nishio 1999 (RCS)
Todd Paul 1994
Steven Pflasterer 1987
David Ponder 2005
John Quiñones 1990
Bob Reeg 1995
Travis Reid 2004
Paree Roper 1993
Craig Ruskin 2001 (PF)
Morgan Slusher 2000
Tony Taouk 2005
Warren Turner 1993
Tom VandenBosch 2005
Lyn Van Noy 2002
Austin Vines 2004
Joachim Voss 2003
Brian Walther 2003 (RCS)
Terry Welling 2005
Barrett Whitener 1998
Dennis Williams 2004
Paul Wilson 2006
Paul Winters 2000

(RCS) Rock Creek Singers

OVATION SOCIETY

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

GMCW's **Ovation Society** is a new initiative that will recognize and honor 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 that 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 does not change the amount that would go to your family and friends.

Your own attorney or accountant can provide you with more information on the many ways you can set up an estate gift to the Chorus. There are also a number of professionals who know the Chorus well and can advise you on the options that might best suit your situation. 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**, if you are interested in learning more about the many ways that you can include GMCW in your plans or if you would like the names of some professionals who can assist you in doing so, please contact Andrew Hoffmann at 202-293-1548.

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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
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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
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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 late 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's King's Dominion.

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

In School Performances
In April 2004, GMCW performed its first in-school assembly at the Edmund Burke School in Northwest Washington. As a result of the overwhelmingly positive response received from that performance, additional in-school performances are being scheduled at area independent and public schools this season.

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 language interpreters at its concerts for the deaf and hearing impaired.

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, the Metro DC Chapter of PFLAG, Food & Friends, NOVAM and Servicemembers Legal Defense Network.

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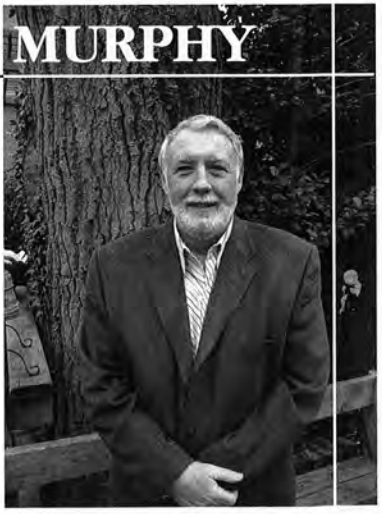

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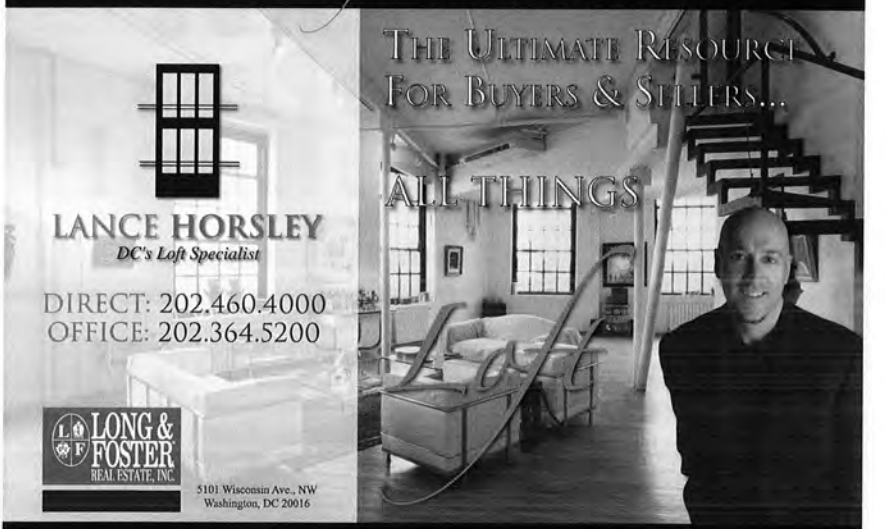

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CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE

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 Club. These awards honor those individuals who have exemplified the spirit of camaraderie, brotherhood, 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 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
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Stuart Kopperman
Edward P. Oseroff

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David Robinson ..... Tenor 2 Section Leader
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Steve Rappaport ..... Baritone Section Leader
Michael Brinkman ..... Bass Section Leader
Marcus Brown ..... Bass Section Leader

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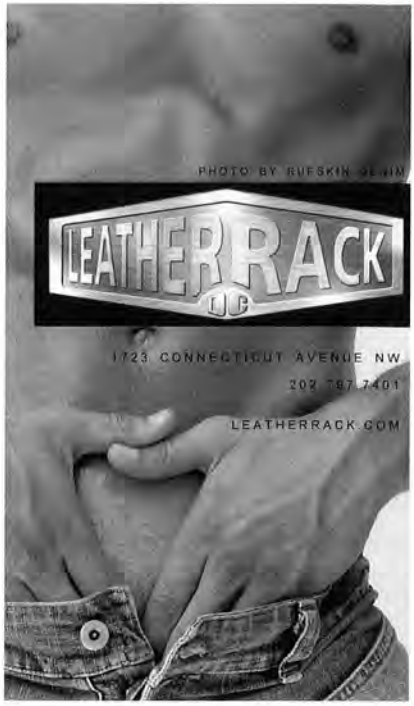

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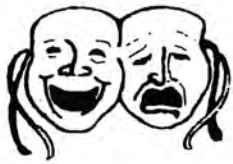

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