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Dear Friends,

Thank you for joining GMCW as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the spark that ignited the gay liberation movement for justice and equality: The Stonewall Uprising.

After decades of hiding in the shadows, fearing retribution, incarceration, harassment, and worse, members of the LGBTQ+ community had finally had enough. In the early hours of June 28, 1969, when police raided the Stonewall Inn, they fought back in a series of spontaneous and violent demonstrations. The Stonewall Uprising is widely considered to constitute the most important event leading to the modern fight for LGBTQ+ equal rights in the United States.

But Stonewall was not the first time the LGBTQ+ community sought out equal treatment. Riots, "sip-ins," and peaceful gatherings occurred as early as 1959 around the country in Los Angeles, Philadelphia, New York, San Francisco, and Washington, DC. LGBTQ+ Americans faced an outright anti-gay legal system and, with catalysts such as the civil rights movement and the counterculture movement of the 1960s to bolster their resolve, sought out a better future.

Today's LGBTQ+ community owes an unpayable debt to those throughout the gay liberation movement who have fought for freedom of expression and to simply be treated as equals. We stand proudly on the shoulders of those who came before us, especially those who sustained injuries, imprisonment, and even death during the fight that continues even to this day.

The most powerful way that we can start to repay this debt is to keep their memory alive by telling their stories and singing their songs. Though it was a monumental occurrence that forever changed the landscape of equal rights, The Stonewall Uprising, with too few exceptions, is not taught in history classes. It is therefore left to the LGBTQ+ community, our allies, and organizations like GMCW to ensure our history is known fully not only by our own community, but by everyone. Most importantly, we must share our history with the next generation of young people, like those in the GenOUT Youth Chorus, who will, in turn, keep the flame of the movement burning bright far into the future.

As usual, GMCW is not satisfied with simply recounting our history. Rather, we choose to celebrate it. We're glad and grateful you're here to do so with us.



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STONEWALL 50

STAGE DIRECTOR THEA KANO **PRODUCTION MANAGER** CHIPPER DEAN

CHOREOGRAPHER CRAIG CIPOLLINI

THFA KANO

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

STAGE MANAGER SOLOMON HAILESELASSIE

SEASONS OF LOVE DIRECTOR

GREG WATKINS

LIGHTING DESIGN

SOLOMON

ASSOCIATE PRODUCTION MANAGERS MARK KLEIN. BETSY LIBRETTA, & JOHN U. ROBINSON

17TH STREET DANCE DIRECTOR CRAIG CIPOLLINI

> COSTUME DESIGN GARY TURNER

PROP MASTER JOHN U. ROBINSON

SCENE SHOP MANAGER JARROD BENNETT

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ASL INTERPRETER

HOUSE MANAGER BOB KLEIN

PIANO THEODORE GUERRANT INSTRUMENTALISTS BASS

MARY SCOTT

PERCUSSION ERIC TAPPER

ARCHIVAL VIDEO

STEVE HERMAN

Special thanks to the Lincoln Theatre team: Rosanna Ruscetti, Sam Morehead, and the Lincoln Theatre stage crew.

VIDEO & PROJECTIONS MICHAEL B. SMITH

> SET CONSTRUCTION GMCW MEMBERS

PRODUCTION CREW CHIEFS JOHN SCHWANKE & **BERNARD VICARY**

JAMIE SYCAMORE

GENOUT CHORUS DIRECTOR

C. PAUL HEINS

DANCE CAPTAIN JAMES ELLZY

CHORUS WRANGLER

JOHN U. ROBINSON

SOUND DESIGN

MARK KLEIN

ASSOCIATE COSTUMERS

EMERITO

AMARO-CARAMBOT &

TONY PRESTRIDGE

HAILESELASSIE

5

MUSICAL NUMBERS

STONEWALL 50

ACT ONE

GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON, DC

QUIET NO MORE

Speakers: Scott	Concilla, André Cotten, Dillon	Lewis, Keygan Miller, Shawn Morris
I. It W	las the Day	Music and lyrics by Michael Schaib
		rmenante, Jordan Barbakoff, Jack Bentz,
	Lucas Boggie, Scott W. Bu	rns, Kymberli Colbourne, Gennaro Fredella,
	Heather Gautschi, Joshua	Gray, Kendra Hoffman, Kira Lauren, Jo Lee,
	Jerry Leventhal, Kathy Lev	in, Matt McCain, Lyn McManus, Whitney
	McMaster, Jeff Minnerly, B	arry O'Neal, Brett Radek, Kristina Yuen
ll. The	e Only Place You Can Dance	Music and lyrics by Michael Schaib
III. Gl	orious Beauties	Music and lyrics by Our Lady J
IV. Go	otta Get Downtown	Music and lyrics by Michael Schaib
V. An	d We Walked	Music and lyrics by Julian Hornik
	Soloists: Cory Claussen, N	lichael McGovern,
	Dana Nearing, James Trini	dad
VI. W	e Are A Celebration	Music by Michael McElroy
		Lyrics by Jason Cannon
VII. W	/hat If Truth Is All We Have?	Music and lyrics by Ann Hampton Callaway
	Soloist: Joe Wenninger	
VIII. S	peak Out!	Music and lyrics by Jane Ramseyer Miller
	Soloists: Michael McGove	rn, Dana Nearing

INTERMISSION

ACT TWO

GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON, DC

Let It Be Me.....Music and lyrics by Emily Saliers Arranged by Robert T. Boaz

17TH STREET DANCE

Hold On.....Music and lyrics by Sarah McLachlan

GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON, DC

Rise Up......Music and lyrics by Cassandra Monique Batie and Soloist: Jordan Peyer Jennifer Dicilveo Arranged by Margaret Grottenthaler

Adapted for TTBB chorus by Thea Kano

Speaker: Jack Reiffer

GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON, DC and 17TH STREET DANCE

Wings.....Music and lyrics by Mischke Butler, Michelle Lewis, Thomas Barnes, Peter Kelleher, Benjamin Kohn, lain James, Erika Nuri, Jessica Nelson, Jade Thirlwall, Leigh Pinnock, Heidi Rojas, and Perrie Edwards Arranged by Steve Milloy

GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON, DC

Speaker. 35 Vera	
We're Not Lost, We're Here	Music by Robert Seeley
From NakedMan	Lyrics by Philip Littell
Soloist: JJ Vera	

POTOMAC FEVER

Speaker: Jeb Stenhouse	
I Do	Music and lyrics by Colbie Caillat
Soloist: Matt Holland	Arranged by Robert T. Boaz
Vocal Percussion: Gibson Haynes	

GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON, DC

Speaker: Brent Almond	
Marry Us	Music by Robert Seeley
From NakedMan	Lyrics by Philip Littell

SEASONS OF LOVE

Rise	Music and lyrics by Katie Per	rry, Ali Payami, Max Martin, and
Soloists	Matt Horton, Cole Jaconski, Shawn Morris,	Savan Kotecha
Jordan F	Peyer, Thomas Reiker, Brad Rinaldo	Arranged by Greg Watkins

GenOUT CHORUS

Imagine	Music by Jennifer Higdon
0	Poem by Donna Red Wing
Up to the Mountain	Text adapted from Martin Luther King, Jr.
	Setting by Patty Griffin
	Arranged by Mac Huff

GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON, DC and GenOUT CHORUS

This House Shall Stand	Music by Robert Seeley
From Songs of My Family	Lyrics by Robert Espindola

QUIET NO MORE was devised and created by Dr. Charles Beale, Dr. Joe Nadeau, and Jason Cannon, with book and additional lyrics by Jason Cannon. Revoicings by Steve Milloy and Tim Sarsany. Research consultants: Justin Estoque and Timothy Stewart-Winter. Music editing and proof-reading by Glenn Nobel. It was commissioned by the following GALA Choruses members for the 50th Anniversary of the Stonewall Riots:

Anna Crusis Chicago Gay Men's Chorus Denver Gay Men's Chorus & Denver Women's Chorus (Rocky Mountain Arts) Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles Gav Men's Chorus of South Florida Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC Heartland Men's Chorus Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco New York City Gay Men's Chorus One Voice Mixed Chorus Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus Perfect Harmony Men's Chorus Philadelphia Gay Men's Chorus **River City Mixed Chorus** San Diego Women's Chorus San Francisco Gav Men's Chorus Seattle Men's Chorus Stonewall Chorale Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus

Many thanks to John L. Sullivan and The Gilman Foundation for their generous contributions, to Eric Marcus, and all at the Stonewall 50 Consortium, and to GALA Choruses for funding the educational materials associated with the project.

GMCW ENSEMBLES

Potomac Fever

Mike Allen Robert T. Boaz Peter Cheney Jay Gilliam Jim Gruschus Gibson Haynes

Rock Creek Singers

Michael Aylward Billy Barry Eric Belkengren Jarrod Bennett Richard Bennett Javon Byam Jonathan Chaffin Ethan Chiang Robert Dean Bob Dragoset Rob Finn Rob Hall

Seasons of Love

Tommie Adams, Jr. Ben Aparicio-Coto Marcus Brown Xavier Griffin Matthew Horton Thomas Hudson Cole Jaconski Joseph Jozlin

GenOUT Chorus

Brennan Connell Quincy DuBois Alex Gagliardi Amélie Gerber Maggie Hacker Dylan Kleiman India Matthews

17th Street Dance

Sean Cator Craig Cipollini Iván Dávila James Ellzy Jaremy Hill Matt Holland Abel Jimenez Jonathan Jones Paul Negron Paul Nicholsen

Andrew Harmon Mark Hegedus George Huffman Michael Hughes John Jowers Paul Kelsch James Madigan Joval Martin Kevin Morris James Murphy Patrick Nelson

Nick Lawton Joseph Levin-Manning Keygan Miller Shawn Morris Kerry Neal Dana Nearing Tyler Niggel Jordan Peyer Michael B. Smith Jeb Stenhouse Kevin Sweitzer Kevin Thomason Cooper Westbrook

Joshua Peterson Larry Poole Jack Reiffer Raymond Bradley Rinaldo Sean Robinson Craig Ruskin Lonny Smith Lyn VanNoy Aaron Ware Brian Watts Joseph Wenninger

Thomas Reiker Raymond Bradley Rinaldo Calvin Robinson Lamar Smith Matthew Teubert Cooper Westbrook Micah Yarbrough

Lee Matthews Gabriel Morrison Matthew Neri Jack Newman Elliot Oppenheim Molly Parker Chris Pisinski Kat Rowe Emma Schmiedigen Gidget Shirley Destiny Smith Ryan Swayze

Jeffrey Hollands Aaron Jackson Michael McGovern Brian Moran Clint Novotny Randy Snight Brandon Steele Matthew Williamson



Potomac Fever *a cappella* pop harmony ensemble



Rock Creek Singers Chamber music ensemble



Seasons of Love Gospel and inspirational ensemble



GenOUT Chorus LGBTQ+ youth choral ensemble



17th Street Dance Dance ensemble



1969 had Stonewall. What will 2019 be remembered for?

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WHO'S WHO



Thea Kano, Artistic Director

Dr. Thea Kano, a Northern California native, became active in the arts at an early age. She started playing piano at age four and began taking ballet soon after, a background that has a strong influence on her conducting. Dr. Kano's graceful yet commanding presence on stage and the robust performances she obtains from her musicians have basis in her formal training as a dancer.

Dr. Kano has conducted an extensive range of repertoire with several ensembles, including the Angeles Chorale, The Washington Chorus, and in 2014 assumed the position of artistic director of the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC, for which she also directs its acclaimed ensembles Rock Creek Singers and Potomac Fever. In addition, she

oversees GMCW's outreach efforts, including its GenOUT program. A champion of music education, Dr. Kano has devoted countless hours to students of all ages and backgrounds. She believes in the power of music to nurture and believes that classical music should be accessible to all. Dr. Kano's substantial experience in this arena includes: building partnerships with organizations serving disenfranchised adults, hosting workshops with at-risk youth, leading youth arts programs of many sizes, as well as directing award-winning high school and collegiate choruses.

In addition to her work with GMCW, Dr. Kano serves as the artistic director of the New York City Master Chorale, which she founded in 2005. The 80-member group is recognized as one of the finest vocal ensembles in New York City and has performed to sold-out audiences on two continents. Dr. Kano is known for her expressiveness and dynamic conducting, and the Chorale has been praised for its balance and richness in tone in performing a variety of musical styles. Under her direction, the Chorale made its debuts at Lincoln Center (2006) and Carnegie Hall (2009), as well as its international debut in Paris, France (2011).

Dr. Kano has prepared choruses for Zubin Mehta, Esa-Pekka Solonen, Emil de Cou, David Hayes, Craig Fleischer, Victor Vener, and Paul Salamunovich. Dr. Kano's various ensembles have performed at the Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Disney Hall, Église Saint-Sulpice (Paris), and on the National Mall for the 2009 inaugural ceremonies.

Dr. Kano received her doctorate in choral conducting from the University of California, Los Angeles in 2004. At UCLA, Dr. Kano studied under Donald Neuen, her professional mentor. For her dissertation on Duruflé's *Requiem*, Dr. Kano completed research with L'Association Duruflé in Paris and studied privately with Paul Salamunovich. Dr. Kano holds a Master of Music degree from UCLA and a bachelor's degree in choral music education and piano performance from Arizona State University. Dr. Kano speaks French and actively conducts ensembles in New York City, Paris, and Washington, DC.





C. Paul Heins, Associate Conductor

C. Paul Heins joined the GMCW artistic team as associate conductor in the 2014 – 15 season. Dr. Heins was previously the director of the Concert Choir at Georgetown University, where he also taught music theory, piano, and introduction to voice, and served as music director for the university's opera and musical theater productions. He served as director of the Lesbian & Gay Chorus of Washington for nine seasons and was music director for three GMCW musicals (*Ruthless, When Pigs Fly*, and *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*). Past appointments also include the Washington Master Chorale (assistant conductor), Washington Men's Camerata (accompanist/ associate conductor), and an interim position as choir director at the College of William & Mary.

Dr. Heins's principal role with the GMCW is directing the GenOUT Chorus, an outreach ensemble for LGBTQ+ and allied youth founded in 2015. Under Dr. Heins's leadership, GenOUT has grown from its inaugural class of nine singers to a current enrollment of 19 singers representing 14 schools in DC, Maryland, and Virginia. Over the past five years, more than 70 students from over three dozen schools have participated in GenOUT Chorus and Camps, and notable performance venues have included the John F. Kennedy Center, the White House, Washington National Cathedral, and the Library of Congress.

Dr. Heins is a frequent guest pianist, flutist, and conductor in the DC area. He was trained in piano and flute at Bowling Green State University (B.Mus.), flute at the University of Maryland (M.Mus.), and choral conducting at the University of Maryland (D.M.A.). His principal teachers have been Edward Maclary, Patrick Walders, and Mark S. Kelly (conducting); William Montgomery and Judith Bentley (flute); and Virginia Marks and Victoria Harris (piano). His doctoral work centered around Lukas Foss's cantata, *The Prairie*.



Theodore Guerrant, Principal Accompanist

Now in his 36th season as GMCW's principal accompanist, "Dr. Teddy" is arguably the longest-tenured collaborative pianist for a single chorus within the entire GALA Choruses network. He has been honored in various ways throughout his more than three decades of service including a Circle of Excellence Award in 2001, with a plaque honoring his 25-year milestone in 2008, and, finally, with a Distinguished Service Award from the Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance in 2011 for his long tenure with GMCW. He began with GMCW in 1983 as co-accompanist with Jim Holloway, and has served under every GMCW conductor from founding director Jim Richardson to Thea Kano, traveled with the Chorus to various cities across the United States, two Canadian provinces, three Scandinavian countries, and can be heard on GMCW recordings.

Dr. Teddy, who grew up in College Park, Georgia during the 1950s, studied with his aunt, Eliza Holmes Feldmann, who was then artist-in-residence at Brenau College in Gainesville, Georgia. As a high school senior, he accompanied five choral ensembles and played five Sunday church services weekly. He received degrees in keyboard performance from the University of Georgia (B.M. piano cum laude; M.F.A. harpsichord), the University of Wisconsin (M.M. piano), the University of Maryland (D.M.A. piano), and the Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University (G.P.D. organ), and studied piano additionally in Buriton, England, with Denise Lassimonne.

Dr. Teddy is also organist-choirmaster at Christ Church Parish Kensington (Episcopal), accompanist for the National Philharmonic Chorale (the resident chorus of the Strathmore Music Center in Rockville), where he was recently given an award for his 30 years of service to that organization, and associate director-accompanist for the Central Maryland Chorale. He teaches on the staff of the University of Maryland School of Music (where he has also served for more than 30 years) as a coach-accompanist.

WHO'S WHO



Greg Watkins, Seasons of Love Director

Greg is a born and bred Washingtonian and well-respected singer, pianist, musical director, composer and arranger, actor, voice talent, and entertainer. He is a graduate of the Duke Ellington School of the Arts, Howard University (B.M. Music Education), and a former graduate student of Catholic University. For 11 years, Greg has served as musical director and primary musical theater instructor of The Performing Arts Training Studio's Children's Theatre Workshop. He taught musical theater as well as choral and general music at Friendship Collegiate Academy, Duke Ellington School of the Arts, Takoma Academy, and Alice Deal Middle School. Greg currently serves as artistic director of The MusicianShip Washington Youth Choir and minister of music at the Dayspring Community Church.

Greg is the recipient of the 2008 ASCAP Foundation/Cherry Lane Foundation/Music Alive Award in honor of Dr. Quincy Jones. He is also the recipient of the 2015 Coalition for African-Americans in the Performing Arts' Emerging Artist Award.

Greg has appeared in several operas including *The Lyrics of Sunshine and Shadows*. He has appeared as an actor in the WSC Avant Bard's productions of *The Gospel at Colonus* and *King Lear*. Other credits include Theater Alliance (*Black Nativity*); Stanford in Washington (*Blues for a Royal Flush*); Arts Centric (*Sister Act*); Toby's Dinner Theatre (*Dreamgirls*); Workhouse Arts Center (*Rock of Ages*); Delaware Theatre Company (*Crowns*); Harrison & Berg (*Soul Harmony*); Anacostia Playhouse (*Happy Ending*); and Constellation Theatre Company (*Aida*.) His talents as a singer and pianist have taken him from the White House and the Kennedy Center to international soil: Germany, Russia, Italy, China, Antigua and Barbuda, and Colombia.



Craig Cipollini, Choreographer

Originally from Baltimore, Craig began dancing at the age of 14. He has an extensive background in theater, primarily musical theater, having performed all over the East Coast and abroad. He toured with productions of *A Chorus Line* and *42nd Street*, in addition to many regional, summer stock, and dinner theater credits. He was also a member of the DC Cowboys Dance Company, performing with the group all over the United States, in Toronto, and in Budapest, Hungary. He also performed with the group when they appeared on NBC-TV's *America's Got Talent* where the group made the Top 40.

Craig has worked extensively as a director and choreographer. Some shows he has directed and/or choreographed include *Cabaret, Thoroughly Modern Millie, The Will Rogers Follies, Annie, Hair, Carousel, Sugar Babies, Anything Goes, 42nd Street,* and *West Side Story,* to name a few. He directed and choreographed *One Night in New York!* at the 2013 Capital Fringe Festival where the show won Best Overall Production and Best Choreography. He directed and choreographed GMCW's productions of *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas, The Rocky Horror Show,* and *Xanadu,* as well as *Men In Tights: A Pink Nutcracker* (2010), *Seven, Divas, A Gay Man's Guide to Broadway,* and *That '80s Show.* He holds bachelor's degrees in theater and art, with a concentration in visual communications, and a masters degree in arts management. By day, Craig is the director of marketing for GMCW.



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At AARP, we know that the history of the LGBT movement is still being written. We join you in honoring the past, present and future heroes of the LGBT movement and are proud to support the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, D.C. To learn more about our work, visit: **aarp.org/pride**.



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Juan Tirado Heath Tjaden Santos Torres (SL) Riccardo Termolada James Trinidad James Turner Darryl Waller Aaron Ware Sharon Waren Kevin Webster Joseph Wenninger James Williams

TENOR TWO

Brent Almond Tom Augustin Jay Ball Pradipta Baneriee Eric Belkengren Eric Bisselle Guy Bosworth Tyrel Brown Javon Byam Jonathan Chaffin Scott Concilla Jose Coraspe Christian Cosby André Cotten Stephen Crisp Tony Cunningham Robert Dean James Dryburgh Darryl Eaton Jhonny Escorcia Morgan Ewing Tom Fenninger John Fichtel Justin Gawthrop Don Griesheimer Xavier Griffin Jairo Guzman Andrew Harmon Drew Hastie Will Hernandez Kyle Holland Raymond Honeycutt David Jonas John Jowers Sunggyun Kim Matt Komornik Matthew Kott Paul Lee Mike Lemon Scott Linder Eric Lu James Madigan Joval Martin Ivan Mav Adrian Mayse Shane Mayson Donald McArthur Michael McKibben William Miller George Moguin Steven Munnelly Peter Munoz David Murdock Dan Nguyen John O'Brien (SL) Neil Offner Joshua Peterson

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Derek Smith Lonny Smith Michael B. Smith Tim Smith Erich Sommerfeldt Sam Song Luke Steele Alex Surles Derek Swick Jimmv Tam Jahtay Teh Luke Telander Dennis Vonasek Paul Voorhees Brian Watts Kevin Watts John Weibel Michael White Andrew Whitson Barret Wilber Ray Yankey

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Mike Allen Ben Aparicio-Coto W. Eric Balthrop Jarrod Bennett Michael Brinkman Marcus Brown Ethan Chiang Richard Davis Robert Dragoset Mike Fila Rob Finn Brett Fox Kenneth Fox Steven Frann Romm Gatongay Lawrence Goodwin, Jr. Jim Gruschus Danny Hall James Harlow Gibson Haynes John-Paul Hayworth James Hooley Michael Hughes Cole Jaconski Jonathan Jones Daniel Jose Dan Kaufman Toku Kawata John Knapp (SL) Nick Lawton Jerry Lee Joseph Lee Sam Lee Andrew McIlroy Jonathan McNeil John Munt James Murphy Colin Muth Rob Neighbour Yoshivuki Nishio Ronald Norberg Glenn Ono Edward Oseroff Todd Paul Steve Pflasterer Chris Porter John Quiñones Jean-Phillipe Regis

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Thea Kano	Artistic Director
C. Paul Heins	Associate Conductor
Greg Watkins	Seasons of Love Director
Theodore Guerrant	Principal Accompanist
Philip Rogerson	

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(1) Give a voice to young LGBTQ+ people and their allies(2) Connect that voice to the community

- Songwriting and singing
- Poetry and creative writing
- Dancing
- Developing music-reading skills
- Guest speakers and group discussions
- Mid-week field trip
- End-of-Week performance

For more information, and to register, visit gmcw.org/genout



Jim Papoulis

IN MEMORIAM

We remember our members who have been lost to us over the years. Their spirits live on with us and we honor their memory. Respectfully, we request if you know of anyone whose name has been omitted from this list, please contact us at 202-293-1548 so that we may continue to celebrate and honor the contributions of all of our members.

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I'm singing my heart out for my best friend, Lou Rispoli. He was gay and an activist. In 2012, he was beaten to death. His killers are still at large. His husband, Danyal Lawson, is still

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STONEWALL AND THE LGBTQ RIGHTS MOVEMENT









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The Gay Men's Chorus of Washington's Ovation Society is an initiative that recognizes and honors those generous individuals and families who have made planned gifts to the Chorus.

If you have already included GMCW in your estate plans, please let us know so that we can include you as a member of the Ovation Society. If not, we hope you will consider joining this special group by including GMCW in your will, as a beneficiary of a retirement account, or by setting up a charitable trust. Planned gifts can greatly reduce the amount of tax paid by your estate at the time of your death and often do not change the amount that would go to your family and friends.

While your attorney or accountant can provide you with more information, GMCW has several corporate sponsors — both financial planners and attorneys — who specialize in LGBTQ+ estate issues. We are happy to share this resource list with you upon request.

As a member of the Ovation Society, you will be invited to attend special events and receptions especially for Ovation Society members.

For further information about GMCW's Ovation Society, or if you are interested in learning more about the many ways you can include GMCW in your plans, please contact Executive Director Justin Fyala, at 202-293-1548 or jfyala@gmcw.org.

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WHAT DOES LGBTQ STAND FOR? *

LGBGQ is an acronym for people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer or questioning. Language used to label the LGBTQ community has changed through the years.

BISEXUAL — A person who is attracted to more than one gender.

CLOSETED — A person who has not disclosed their sexual orientation of gender identity. CROSS-DRESSER — Anyone who wears clothes associate with a different gender as a form of expression but not for entertainment purposes

DRAG QUEEN — A man who performs exaggerated femininity as a form of entertainment. He can be gay, straight or transgender. Women who perform drag are called drag kings.

GAY - A person who is attracted to the same sex.

GENDER EXPRESSION — How a person expresses gender through clothing, hair, and speech. GENDER IDENTITY — A person's inner sense of gender as male or female, a blend of both, or neither.

HETEROSEXUAL — A person who is attracted to people of the opposite sex.

HOMOSEXUAL — A clinical term used to describe people who are attracted to the same sex. The term is now considered derogatory by many.

LESBIAN — A woman who is attracted to other women.

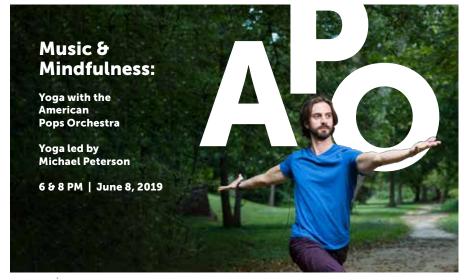
OUTING — Exposing someone's sexual orientation without their permission.

QUEER — A once derogatory term that has been reclaimed by people whose sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression is not exclusively gay or straight, or male or female.

TRANSGENDER — A person whose gender identity or gender expression does not match their sex assigned at birth.

TRANSITIONING — The social, medical, or legal process of changing public presentation to match gender identity.

*From **Rise Up: Stonewall and the LGBTQ Rights Movement,** an exhibit currently at the Newseum exploring the modern gay rights movement in the United States, and marking the 50th anniversary of the June 1969 police raid of the Stonewall Inn in New York's Greenwich Village.





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STONEWALL HISTORY



Street, in neighboring streets and in nearby Christopher Park. The Stonewall Riots served as a catalyst for the gay rights movement in the United States and around the world.

In the early hours of June 28, 1969, New York City police raided the Stonewall Inn, a gay club located in Greenwich Village in New York City. The raid sparked a riot among bar patrons and neighborhood residents as police roughly hauled employees and patrons out of the bar, leading to six days of protests and violent clashes with law enforcement outside the bar on Christopher



Gay Bars: A Place of Refuge

The 1960s and preceding decades were not welcoming times for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) Americans. For example, solicitation of homosexual relations was illegal in New York City, and there was a criminal statute that allowed police to arrest people wearing fewer than three gender-appropriate articles of clothing.

For such reasons, LGBT individuals flocked to gay bars and clubs, places of refuge where they could express themselves openly and socialize without worry. However, the New York State Liquor Authority penalized and shut down establishments that served alcohol to known or suspected LGBT individuals, arguing that the mere gathering of homosexuals was "disorderly."

Thanks to activists' efforts, these regulations were overturned in 1966, and LGBT patrons could now be served alcohol. But engaging in gay behavior in public (holding hands, kissing, or dancing with someone of the same sex) was still illegal, so police harassment of gay bars continued and many bars still operated without liquor licenses — in part because they were owned by the Mafia.

Stonewall Inn

The crime syndicate saw profit in catering to shunned gay clientele, and by the mid-1960s, the Genovese crime family controlled most Greenwich Village gay bars. In 1966, they purchased Stonewall Inn (a "straight" bar and restaurant), cheaply renovated it, and reopened it the next year as a gay bar.

Stonewall Inn was registered as a type of private "bottle bar," which did not require a liquor license because patrons were supposed to bring their own liquor. Club attendees had to sign their names in a book upon entry to maintain the club's false exclusivity. The Genovese family bribed New York's Sixth Police Precinct to ignore the activities occurring within the club.

Without police interference, the crime family could cut costs how they saw fit: the club lacked a fire exit, running water behind the bar to wash glasses, clean toilets (most routinely overflowed), and palatable drinks (most were watered down beyond recognition). What's more, the Mafia reportedly blackmailed the club's wealthier patrons who wanted to keep their sexuality a secret.

Nonetheless, Stonewall Inn quickly became an important Greenwich Village institution. It was large and relatively cheap to enter. It welcomed drag queens, who received a bitter reception at other gay bars and clubs. It was a nightly home for many runaways and homeless gay youths, who panhandled or shoplifted to afford the entry fee. And it was one of the few — if not the only — gay bar left that allowed dancing.

Raids were still a fact of life, but usually corrupt cops would tip off Mafia-run bars before they occurred, allowing owners to stash the alcohol (sold without a liquor license) and hide other illegal activities. In fact, the NYPD had stormed Stonewall Inn just a few days before the riot-inciting raid.



The Stonewall Riots Begin

When police raided Stonewall Inn on the morning of June 28, it came as a surprise — the bar wasn't tipped off this time.

Armed with a warrant, police officers entered the club, roughed up patrons, and, finding bootlegged alcohol, arrested 13 people, including employees and people violating the state's gender-appropriate clothing statute (female officers would take suspected cross-dressing patrons into the bathroom to check their sex).

Fed up with constant police harassment and social discrimination, angry patrons and neighborhood residents hung around outside of the bar rather than disperse, becoming increasingly agitated as the events unfolded and people were aggressively manhandled. At one point, an officer hit a lesbian over the head as he forced her into the paddy wagon — she shouted to onlookers to act, inciting the crowd to begin throwing objects at the police.

Within minutes, a full-blown riot involving hundreds of people began. The police, a few prisoners, and a Village Voice writer barricaded themselves in the bar, which the mob attempted to set on fire after breaching the barricade repeatedly.



The fire department and a riot squad were eventually able to douse the flames, rescue those inside Stonewall, and disperse the crowd. But the protests, sometimes involving thousands of people, continued in the area for five more days, flaring up at one point after the Village Voice published its account of the riots.

Though the Stonewall uprising didn't start the gay rights movement, it was a galvanizing force for LGBT political activism, leading to the formation of numerous gay rights organizations. In 2016, President Barack Obama designated the site of the riots a national monument in recognition of the area's contribution to gay and human rights.

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