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CIVIL BIGHTS



QUAL

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WELCOME

Dear Friends,

On April 28, the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington once again sang on the steps of the Supreme Court during the rally for National Marriage Equality. As we sang, we were reminded of the triumph that was felt two years ago when the Defense of Marriage Act was overturned. When GMCW finished one of our sets that morning, a stranger stopped us and said, "Keep singing, you are our voice." We couldn't shake that phrase all day: keep singing, you are our voice... you are our voice.

We asked ouselves, "Whom does that voice belong to?"

It belongs to the early freedom fighters in the '80s who risked their careers and lives to be on the right side of history. It belongs to Marsha Pearson, who distributed fliers announcing the first meeting of the Gay Men's Chorus 34 years ago. It belongs to the men who first performed with GMCW and couldn't print their names in the program for fear of retaliation. It belongs to the brave transgender men and women of GMCW who have stood on stage challenging stereotypes and opening hearts and minds. It belongs to the children in our GenOUT Chorus who are finding their own voices. It belongs to all who feel as if they are not yet heard.

With gratitude for all of your support,



Thea Kano Artistic Director



Chase Maggiano Executive Director



Help LGBTQ youth cross the finish line



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GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON, DC

Thea Kano Artistic Director **Chase Maggiano** Executive Director



Songs and stories from civil and equal rights movements

with GenOUT Chorus, members of Metropolitan Community Church Choir and Maiya Sykes

> Maiya Sykes's appearance made possible by Paschal Murray Executive Search

Artistic Staff

Assistant Conductor	C. Paul Heins
Stage Director	John Moran
Principal Accompanist	
Vocal Coach Emeritus	Philip Rogerson
ASL Interpreter	Jamie Stephens

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Bass	Mary Scott
Percussion	Dane Krich
Piano	Michael Gottlieb, Theodore Guerrant

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Videos	Michael B. Smith
House Manager	Bob Klein
Stage Crew	Chris Asaro, Jerry Blackmon, Michael Cunningham,
	Robert Joppa, Mark Klein
Archival Video	Steve Herman
Ushers	Burgundy Crescent Volunteers

ASL Interpreter sponsored by Steve Phan Microphones supplied by Hexagon.org

PROGRAM

ACT ONE

The Impossible Dream	Dale Wasserman and Joe Darion
From Man of La Mancha	Arranged by Lyn VanNoy
Who Will Love Me As I Am?	Henry Krieger and Bill Russell
From Side Show	
Soloists: Robert Dean, Stuart Goldstone,	
L. Owen Taggart	
Over the Rainbow	Harold Arlen and E.Y. Harburg
From The Wizard of Oz	Arranged by Andy Beck
Potomac Fever	
Soloists: Matt Holland, Kevin Thomason	
Here's Where I Stand	Michael Gore and Lynn Ahrens
Soloists: Jarrod Bennett,	Arranged by Neal Richardson
Marcus Johnson, Garrick Jordan,	
Maiya Sykes	
Stay With MeJeff Ly	/nn, Samuel Smith, James Napier,
Soloist: Maiya Sykes	William Phillips and Tom Petty
You've Got to Be Carefully Taught	Richard Rodgers and
From South Pacific	Oscar Hammerstein II
Soloist: Kevin Thomason	
True Colors	Billy Steinberg and Tom Kelly
Potomac Fever and	Arranged by Deke Sharon
Rock Creek Singers	
Soloist: Justin Ritchie	
Beautiful	Linda Perry
GenOUT Chorus	
The Great Peace March	
Soloist: Michael B. Smith	Arranged by Dennis Coleman
We Shall Overcome	Traditional

INTERMISSION

ACT TWO

My Cour	ntry, 'Tis of Thee	Traditional
	Soloists: Cabbie Caban, Ben Aparicio-Co	ito,
	Robert Garcia, Adrian Gonzales	
Glory		Lonnie Lynn, Che Smith and
	From Selma	John Stephens
	Soloists: Romm Gatongay, Maiya Sykes, Josh Willett	
Proud		Peter Vettese and Heather Small
	Rock Creek Singers	Arranged by Robert T. Boaz
	Soloist: Maiya Sykes	
Not My F	⁻ ather's Son	Cynthia Lauper
	From <i>Kinky Boots</i>	Arranged by Stephen Oremus
	Soloists: Cory Claussen, Mo Hanners,	
	JJ Vera, Calvin Robinson, Micah Yarbroug	gh

PROGRAM

Define Me	Ryan Amador
Soloists: Dana Nearing, Justin Ritchie	
I Am What I Am	Jerry Herman
From La Cage aux Folles	Arranged by Alex Rybeck
Soloists: Fancy Butler, Sam Brinton,	
Dennis Carew, Sammy Graceson, Rob	hall,
Paul Negron	
Born This WayS	tefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta
Reader: Evie Priestman	
Beautiful City	Stephen Schwartz
From Godspell	Arranged by Mac Huff
Make Them Hear You	Stephen Flaherty and Lynn Ahrens
From <i>Ragtime</i>	Arranged by Jeff Funk

GenOUT Chorus

Julia Byrne Ernesto Fritts Sammy Graceson Elizaveta Kishchukova Madisson Lowe Margaret Nicholson Evie Priestman Julia J. Reider Breanna Walton

Metropolitan Community Church Choir

Tommie Adams	Jerry Miller
Beverly Barnett	Lamar Smith
Mark Dunkum	Paul Yang
Jove Jimenez	



The song list for *Born This Way* was inspired by the lyrics of "**The Impossible Dream**," from the musical *Man of La Mancha*, written in 1965. As we sing it tonight, we invite you to listen to the lyrics through the lens of the fight for civil rights, equality and social justice:

To dream the impossible dream, To fight the unbeatable foe, To bear with unbearable sorrow To run where the brave dare not go; To right the unrightable wrong. To love, pure and chaste, from afar, To try, when your arms are too weary, To reach the unreachable star! This is my quest, to follow that star...

The lyrics of "**Who Will Love Me As I Am?**" speak to the theme of feeling like an outcast. This song is originally from the musical *Side Show*, sung by conjoined twins who were forced to be on display as part of a freak show. Its lyrics are a plea for acceptance.

"Over the Rainbow" has been an anthem of the LGBT community since it was first heard on the silver screen in *The Wizard of Oz*, sung by the incomparable Judy Garland at the age of 16. Our arrangement is adapted from Israel Kamakawiwo'ole's renowned version of the song, in the style of traditional Hawaiian folk music. We chose it for tonight's show with the hope that the dream of equality for all continues to come true.

"Here's Where I Stand" is a song in the gospel style, written for the motion picture *Camp*, sung by a character desperately seeking her father's acceptance. Today we'll sing it with our guest artist, Maiya Sykes, as a statement for proudly accepting who we are and standing up for what we believe. Ms. Sykes took the stage by storm with her rendition of "Stay With Me" at her audition for NBC's *The Voice* in the fall of 2014. Originally recorded by Sam Smith, it won Record of the Year at the 2015 Grammy Awards. E I'm pretty sure God made a rainbow so I can walk my big gay self to neaven- ▼

Oscar Hammerstein was ahead of his

time when, in 1949, he wrote the poignant lyrics to "**You've Got to Be Carefully Taught**," which Richard Rodgers set to music for their wildly successful Broadway show, *South Pacific*. The lyrics challenge the listener to consider when and how their personal prejudices were adopted.

Cyndi Lauper's "**True Colors**" went platinum in 1986 for its beautiful melody and hopeful message of acceptance. It made a recent resurgence with its release as

part of a video mash-up with Sara Bareilles's **"Brave**," to raise awareness for the fight against pediatric cancer. With a theme of love and being true to oneself, it fits in with this show's theme of tolerance and acceptance. Christina Aguilera's **"Beautiful"** was chosen for the GenOUT Chorus's debut for its important message for our youth that they recognize that love knows no age, race, gender or sexual identity.

Holly Near's stirring **"The Great Peace March**" is both a lyrical evocation of and a powerful call to action for a peaceful planet. It was written in response to the event in 1986 of the same name, aimed at raising awareness to the danger of nuclear proliferation and to advocate for elimination of nuclear weapons. In tonight's setting, the words speak to the dream of people living without violence, judgment, discrimination and fear. **"We Shall Overcome**" is a protest song that became a key anthem of the African-American Civil Rights Movement in 1959, when Guy Carawan stepped in as song leader at Highlander Folk School (an adult education school in Monteagle, Tennessee that trained union organizers, which was then focused on nonviolent civil rights activism). Pete Seeger, Joan Baez and other famous folksingers in the early 1960s sang the song at rallies, folk festivals and concerts throughout the nation. Since its rise to prominence, the song has been used in a variety of social justice protests worldwide.

"My Country, 'Tis of Thee" is an American patriotic song that shares the same melody as that of the national anthem of the United Kingdom, "God Save the Queen." The song served as one of the anthems of the United States before the adoption of "The Star-Spangled Banner" as the official national anthem in 1931. Opera singer Marian Anderson made history in 1939 when, with the help of First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and President Franklin D. Roosevelt, she sang the anthem on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial before a crowd of more than 75,000 people and a radio audience in the millions, after being refused permission by the Daughters of the American Revolution to sing to an integrated audience in Constitution Hall. Nearly 70 years later, at the same location, the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington sang it at President Obama's inauguration celebration with Josh Groban and Heather Headley. Tonight you will see the video of these two historical performances,

followed by several of our singers singing it, first in English, then in Spanish, as a statement for immigration equality.

"Glory" appeared in the recent motion picture *Selma*, and won the Oscar this year for Original Song. The rap lyrics tell the story of the March on Selma, acknowledging the work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks and those whose proud fight for freedom have made a positive impact on the progress of civil rights. The song "**Proud**" is the official theme song for several organizations, including the Olympics (London, 2012) and *The Opera Winfrey Show*. It has become an unofficial anthem of the LGBT community, and our decision to include it in tonight's show is to ask, "What have you done today to make you feel proud?"



Nagel Photography



"Not My Father's Son" is a powerful ballad from the musical *Kinky Boots*. The lyrics depict the journey of learning to be ourselves, rather than the image a parent has for us, as emphasized by "*The endless story of expectations swirling inside my mind wore me down; I came to a realization and I finally turned around to see that I could just be me.*" Similar in theme, Ryan Amador's poignant "**Define Me**" was debuted in

2012 at his live performance at the True Colors LGBT Youth Conference. He then created an emotional video with Jo Lampert, in which the singers methodically wipe from their skin derogatory labels in reference to their sexual identity. The song encourages a stop to labeling, and a start to seeing people for who they are, without judgment.

Written by Jerry Herman for the musical *La Cage aux Folles*, "**I Am What I Am**" has been an anthem of the LGBT community since its creation in 1983. It was chosen for *Born This Way* as a proud statement of not being ashamed to be our true selves, and a call for acceptance of all people. Lady Gaga's "**Born This Way**" was the inspiration for the title of tonight's show. The lyrics discuss the self-empowerment of minorities, including the LGBT community as well as racial minorities. The choice to have a member of the GenOUT Chorus recite it as a poem gives the youth another vehicle to raise their voices through spoken word.

"Beautiful City," from Stephen Schwartz's musical Godspell, was chosen to be the underscoring for the video showing the history of the civil and equal rights movements. The song begins with "Out of the ruins and rubble..." and is a call to come together in community. "We may not reach the ending, but we can start slowly but truly mending...maybe now we

start learning how."

"Make Them Hear You" has been an anthem of the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington since the Rock Creek Singers sang it at Frank Kameny's memorial service in November 2011. As the Chorus sang, Lieutenant Dan Choi placed the sword from his military uniform at the base of a photo of Dr. Kameny, and when we sang the



lyric "...and I could not put down my sword 'til justice was my right," the words immediately resonated in a new light. GMCW sang "Make Them Hear You" in front of the Supreme Court on June 26, 2013, when the Defense of Marriage Act was declared unconstitutional. We were heard by millions of people around the world, including its composer, Stephen Flaherty. (The song comes from his musical *Ragtime,* which tells the story of a group of African Americans, upper-class suburbanites and Eastern European immigrants in the United States in the early 20th century.) After hearing us sing his song, Mr. Flaherty wrote to express his gratitude:

I just had to write and let you know how honored, moved and proud I was this past Wednesday when your group sang my song MAKE THEM HEAR YOU in front of the US Supreme Court following the landmark decisions. It was truly an historical moment for this country and the LGBTQ community in particular. I join with my partner, Trevor Hardwick, and my RAGTIME collaborators, Lynn Ahrens and Terrence McNally, in thanking you for your beautiful singing on a day the world truly changed. Continue to sing loud and proud, guys!

It is our hope that the lyrics of these songs will inspire hearts and minds to open, and that we are inspired to take action for diversity, tolerance and acceptance of all people, regardless of race, gender, religion, nationality and sexual identity. We are grateful for the support of our patrons who enable us to do this important work.

— Thea Kano















































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 has recently 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.



John Moran, Stage Director

John Moran has produced and directed cabaret and theater premieres and revivals, worked on a number of presidential inaugural events, as well as countless other ceremonies, awards programs, conferences and shows around the country.

He had the honor to produce and direct "Time of Remembrance," a National Mall event, for the Families of the Fallen in Iraq and Afghanistan, featuring the Joint Chiefs, the military bands, George Stephanopoulos

and Kevin Bacon. The ceremonies conferred the Medal of Remembrance on the Children of the Fallen.

He designed and continues to produce/direct the annual Kennedy Center Gala for Vital Voices Global Leadership Awards with Hillary Clinton and international celebrities (Sally Field, Angelina Jolie, Ben Affleck, Nicholas Kristof, Muhammad Yunis, Judy Collins, Brian Williams, Melanne Verveer, Norah O'Donnell, Joe Biden and many more).

Annually he produces and directs the National Arts Awards for Americans for the Arts in New York City (Julie Andrews, Robert Redford, Angela Lansbury, Hal Prince, Frank Gehry, Jeff Koons, Beverly Sills, Renee Fleming, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Tommy Tune, Anna Deavere Smith, Robert Downey Jr., Jake Gyllenhall and Dakota Fanning, among others).

With Marvin Hamlisch, he directed a "Tribute to Tibet" featuring Harrison Ford and Elie Wiesel honoring the Dalai Lama.

GMCW audiences will remember he directed the sold-out productions of *Grease*, *Men in Tights: A Pink Nutcracker* (2004) and the cabaret *Everything's Coming Up Sondheim* along with several other Chorus concerts. He also emceed the very first bi-coastal gay chorus concert with the Seattle Men's Chorus, Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles and hosted by GMCW at Lisner Auditorium.

John's production of *In Gay Company* was named one of the most important events of the 1980s by the *Washington Blade*. He directed the GLAAD nominated revival of *The Boys in the Band* and the Washington area premiere of Jerry Herman's *Dear World* for the American Century Theater. A big band revue, *In the Mood*, has toured the world after being rewritten and directed by John.

In 2007, he was selected for the Wakefield High School Hall of Fame.



Maiya Sykes, guest vocalist

Maiya Sykes is a classically trained vocalist, producer, vocal arranger and entrepreneur. In addition to a degree in political science from Yale University, she studied voice independently with Nina Simone and Betty Carter. As a recording artist, Maiya released a dance single with DJ Manny Lehman, *Body Rock*, recorded under the pseudonym "Oceana," that reached the number one position on the Billboard Charts in July 2009. As a sought-after session singer, she has provided back-up vocals on recordings for The Black Eyed Peas, Macy Gray, Fantasia,

Rita Ora, Joss Stone and Alex Boyd.

Currently she has been busy as the lead singer of her band, The Endangered. The band's second release, produced by legendary producer Steven Miller (Dave Matthews Band, Chaka Khan), was released to critical acclaim in early May 2012. In 2014, she appeared as a contestant on NBC-TV's *The Voice*. She received rave reviews and was sought after by all four coaches on the show. Her single "Stay With Me" was one of the first singles of the Blind Auditions to place on the iTunes charts. In 2015, Maiya will release an album with The Endangered and her own solo EP.



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C. Paul Heins, Assistant Conductor

C. Paul Heins is delighted to join the GMCW artistic team in the 2014 – 15 season. Paul 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 is also the past director of the Lesbian & Gay Chorus of Washington.

In addition to his duties with GMCW, Dr. Heins serves as an assistant conductor for the Washington Master Chorale

and the accompanist for the Washington Men's Camerata. He is a frequent guest pianist, flutist and conductor in the DC area. In fall 2014, he served as interim choir director at the College of William & Mary.

Dr. Heins 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).



Chase Maggiano, Executive Director

This is Chase's second season as executive director of the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC, to which he brings a combination of corporate, performance and arts management experience. Chase comes to GMCW from Washington Performing Arts where he fundraised and worked on arts education programs.

Prior to joining the arts world, Chase was immersed in Northern Virginia's tech industry where he served as director of business development for Capterra, Inc. There

he oversaw an 85% growth in revenue and honed his marketing expertise. Having performed for most of his life as a violinist, Chase decided to combine his business experience with his love of music to start a career in the arts.

A native of Northen Virginia, he has been an active freelance musician for much of his life. Most recently, Chase could be found on the stages of the Alexandria Symphony and the Savannah Philharmonic. Chase says he's not much of a singer himself, but is excited to help GMCW make music all across the city and beyond.



Theodore Guerrant, Principal Accompanist

Now in his 32nd season as GMCW's principal accompanist, "Dr. Teddy" is arguably the longest-tenured collaborative planist for a single chorus within the entire GALA Choruses network. He has been honored in various ways throughout his 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 several GMCW recordings and in Paula Bresnan Gibson's book, *Voices from a Chorus*.

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, throughout his high school years. He eventually found himself, as a high school senior, accompanying five choral ensembles and playing five Sunday church services weekly. From there he went on to receive 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.

Aside from GMCW, Dr. Teddy is organist-choirmaster at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church (where Dignity worships), accompanist for the National Philharmonic Chorale (formerly the Montgomery County Masterworks Chorus and now 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.



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The Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC recently announced, in partnership with Youth for Understanding (YFU), the first-ever gay chorus visit to the island nation of Cuba! Featuring songs of empowerment from US social movements in an effort to raise awareness of issues faced by LGBTQ communities, the Chorus will serve as cultural ambassadors, demonstrating the power of music for social change.

Members of the Chorus will embark on a five-concert tour to promote LGBTQ awareness. Following the five performances in and around Havana, the YFU and GMCW delegation will engage in forums with the public and select organizations to open a dialogue about social policy and LGBTQ equality.

The partnership between YFU as an educational entity and GMCW as a musical

entity gives this delegation political sanction, where travel to Cuba is still limited to educational, religious, cultural. humanitarian and familv purposes. Concerts will take place at prestigious locations such as the Franciscan Monastery, and the group will meet with representatives from the Cuban National Center for Sex Education (CENESEX), a governmentfunded entity spearheaded by Mariela Castro, daughter of Cuban President Raúl Castro.







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GENOUT

For over 10 years, GMCW has sent teams of singers to DC-area schools to facilitate discussions with students about the issues that concern them the most. In a typical visit, we meet with members of a school's Gay-Straight Alliance to talk about bullying, the coming-out process, finding a community and supporting those who are struggling. We listen as students describe the environment at their schools and communities, and we try to connect to their experiences by relating stories from our own backgrounds.

The goals of GMCW's GenOUT school visits are to support Gay-Straight Alliances in DC-area schools, to serve as positive role models (as members of the local and broader community), to listen and share (especially about LGBTQ history), to foster understanding and to uplift and inspire. One singer indicated that his personal goal for participating in GenOUT school visits was "to share the positive feelings and sense of community that we experience in GMCW." Another singer said that he participated in GenOUT school visits in order to "share the journey of acceptance (accepting one's LGBTQ identity) to belief (believing we are and can be loved for who we are) to meaningful living (being true to oneself and living the life you want for yourself)."

Schools Visited During the 2014 – 15 Season

Each year, the GMCW outreach program organizes visits to around 10 schools in the DC metro area. This year, we visited the following schools:

- West Potomac High School (Alexandria, VA)
- James Hubert Blake High School (Silver Spring, MD)
- McKinley Technology High School (Washington, DC)
- E.L. Haynes Public Charter School (Washington, DC)
- Woodrow Wilson High School (Washington, DC)
- Dulaney High School (Timonium, MD)
- Richard Montgomery High School (Rockville, MD)
- Annandale High School (Annandale, VA)
- Robert E. Lee High School (Springfield, VA)
- Columbia Heights Educational Campus (Washington, DC)

The GenOUT Chorus

Last year, Thea Kano was button-holed by a GSA advisor at the conclusion of a GenOUT school visit. "Do you have a youth chorus?" wondered the advisor. The question sparked the idea, and Thea's response was, "Not yet." Over the summer of 2014, Thea and GMCW Executive Director Chase Maggiano discussed the need for a choral ensemble for LGBTQA young people in the DC area, and the role GMCW could take in meeting this need.

The FY15 budget had already been approved and there was no funding source for this new initiative, but the need outshone the financial hurdles. "We were committed to making this happen, to getting the GenOUT Chorus started in the 2014 - 15 season," recalls Chase. Thea and Chase began cobbling together the resources needed (for rehearsal space and a few supplies) to realize the vision. New Assistant





GENOUT

Conductor C. Paul Heins was enlisted to promote the Chorus among our GSA contacts and to reach out to youth choirs sponsored by GALA Choruses around the nation to learn about best practices. By the start of 2015, GMCW's GenOUT Chorus was ready for its first rehearsal, held at the Atlas Performing Arts Center on January 10.

During four months of rehearsal, GenOUT Chorus members learned vocal warm-ups, received training in choral breathing and joined GMCW in rehearsing repertoire for the concert you are hearing today. Similar to GenOUT school visits, each rehearsal included an opportunity for discussion of issues currently relevant to the students. This weekend, we are proud to present the results of our work

together, showcasing the GenOUT Chorus in their debut performance.

Our colleagues in GALA Choruses advised us to start small: "You should expect 8 – 10 kids your first year" was the enrollment predicted by directors from several member choruses. At nine members, we are right on target, and we couldn't



have asked for a more thoughtful ensemble of great singers. Thank you to Julia B., Ernesto, Sammy, Maddie, Liza, Maggie, Evie, Julia R. and Breanna for their inspiring contributions to the first season of GMCW's GenOUT Chorus. We look forward to welcoming back these fine young people in the fall, and we expect that they will be joined by 10 - 15 more, as we expand and fine-tune the program in 2015 – 16.

How to Get Involved in the GenOUT Chorus

The GenOUT Chorus is open to all young people ages 13 – 18: lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and allies. There are no auditions required to participate. The primary goals of the GenOUT Chorus are (1) to give LGBTQA young people a voice, and (2) to connect LGBTQA young people to community.

The GenOUT Chorus is the first chorus for LGBTQA youth in the metropolitan Washington, DC area. As such, it is the first opportunity for DC-area young people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or allies to make music together

in an ensemble that recognizes and celebrates their identities. The GenOUT Chorus is also the first opportunity for the DC-area community to see, hear and make a connection with young LGBTQA singers. The GenOUT Chorus is a safe space for young people to be true to themselves. Those who sing in the GenOUT Chorus are connected to each



other in community, and they are also connected to the larger community of the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington — singers, artistic leaders, supporters and audience members — all of whom enlarge the world for young people at a time when choices may seem limited.

Registrations for the 2015 – 16 GenOUT Chorus are being accepted now at the link: www.gmcw.org/outreach/genout.



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GMCW MEMBERS

TENOR ONE

Timothy E. Allmond 1999 Michael Aylward 2009 (RCS) David Ayoroa 2011 Matt Beck 2011 (RCS) Rick Bennett 2009 (RCS) Lonnie T. Bickel 2014 Joe Bloomer 1999 Thomas Boeke 2006 (SL) Laurence C. Boylan 2014 Charles Butler, Neto 1981 Fancy P. Butler 2007 Phillip Carson 2006 (B) Peelee Clark 2008 Chad Clavton 2010 Stephen Crutchfield 1988 Bill Cutter 1998 Brian Day 2006 Richard Dew 2004 Christopher Dunay 2014 Kasey M. Dunton 2009 James Edwards 2015 Edwin Figueroa Jr. 2015 G. Alex Ford 1996 Rav Jav Garcia 2011 Paul George 2003 Timothy Gillham 2014 (RCS) Jay R. Gilliam 2007 (PF) John Green 2015 Mark S. Hegedus 2008 (RCS) Reed Higgins 2014 Matt Holland 2009 (B, PF) Brian Kip Jacobs 2006 Marcus Johnson 2015 Garrick T. Jordan 2013 Todd Katschke 2003 Kirby Knight 2010 Rick Knight 2009 Dano Knobel 2015 Jason Long 2015 John J. Masters Jr. 2005 Rene Molina 2014 Carl Morgan 2015 Phillip Nguyen 2014 Mark C. Paist 2014 Soo Park 2007 Robert L. Patlán 2011 Dan Patton 1995 Gary Regan 1990 Jack Reiffer 1998 (RCS) Raymond Bradley Rinaldo 2011 Justin T. Ritchie 2010 (RCS) Bill Robinson 2011 Nathan Rogers 2014 Justin Sawvers 2013 Eric Selk 2014 Mario R. Sengco 2011 (CL) Michael Shea 2014 Patrick Shirk 2015 David Shotwell 2011 (B, RCS) Jeb Stenhouse 2008 (PF) David Streit 1988 Justin Thomas 2014 Kevin Thomason 2010 (PF)

William Trokey 2003 G. Darryl Waller 2015 Kevin Webster 1993 James W. Williams 1991 Richard Yarborough 2009

TENOR TWO

Tyler Adams 2015 Danny Aldous 2013 Brent Almond 2008 Tom Augustin 2014 Joshua Austad 2015 Robert E. Avruch 2015 Nicolas Baker 2011 Thomas Baldridge 2015 Jav Ball 2001 Eric F. Belkengren 2001 (RCS) Guy Bosworth 2012 Michael "Cabbie" Caban 2013 Kurtis M. Carter 2014 Jonathan Chaffin 2012 Chris Cochran 2004 Scott A. Concilla 2010 Chris Costa 2008 Tony Cunningham 2002 Bryann Donnelly DaSilva 2014 Robby Dean 2012 (RCS) Danny Duch 1989 James Dryburgh 2014 Phil Evans 2012 John Fichtel 2010 Cody Fulton 2015 Andrew K. Ganesh 2014 Scott D. Garrett 2012 Matt Geyer 2014 Curtis Gilbert 2012 Christian Gonzalez 2015 Richard Grant 2014 (RCS) Don Griesheimer 1999 Martin Halev 2004 Kevin Hall 2015 Adam D. Hand 2014 C. Mo Hanners 2014 Dwayne Harney 2014 Will Hernandez 2014 David Hokey 2010 Kyle Holland 2008 (RCS) Raymond Honeycutt 2011 Spencer Hurd 2014 Elcindor Johnson 2014 David Jonas 2001 John Jowers 2008 (RCS) Sidney Jonathan Jowers 2011 Kody Howard Kinsley 2013 Matt Komornik 1993 Scott Linder 2013 Kevin Loeffler 2007 Luke Lukens 2014 Christopher Lyon 2009 James P. Madigan III 1991 (RCS) Carlos Maza 2014 Alon Mazor 2013 Donald McArthur 2006 Michael McKibben 2015

Dan Nguyen 2013 John O'Brien 2004 (SL) Benjamin Paulsen 2014 Jason Peeples 2013 Eric C. Peterson 2009 (RCS) Michael A. Price 2014 A.J. Rawls 2014 (PF) Lucas Regner 2015 Reg Richards 2003 Calvin Robinson 2010 (RCS) David G. Robinson 1988 Sean Robinson 2000 (RCS) Ryan Robison 2008 Jami J. Rodgers 2013 Mark Rupp 2011 Faris Saniakdar 2015 Jayson Scirratt 2011 Salman Shamsi 2007 Rob Serpa Jr. 2006 (B) Tom Spinelli 2010 Jack Spirakes 2011 Scott R. Starin 2014 Krishman Subramanian 2015 Matthew L. Swanson 2012 Kevin Sweitzer 2012 (PF) Matthew Thompson 2010 Michael Toth 2004 (RCS) JJ Vera 2014 Bernard Vicary 2013 Stuart Wales 2008 Aaron Z. Wallace 2012 Bryce Weems 2002 (SL) Silvio Weisner 2014 Cooper Westbrook 2013 (PF) Ryan L. Williams 2004 Matthew Williamson 2014 (RCS) Ken Woodhouse 2014 Micah J. Yarbrough 2015

BARITONE

Tim Agar 2010 Robert M. Agnello 2002 (SL) Tim Allen 2003 Ralph Alston 2013 David B. Baker 2013 (SL) Corey Bent 2003 Joseph Berlin 2006 Robert T. Boaz 1997 (PF) Samuel Brinton 2014 (RCS) Bart Brooks 2013 John Brown 2014 Raymond Burditt 2008 (CL) Joe Canter 1994 Dennis Carew 2014 Kurtis M. Carter 2014 Donald Chandler 1997 Cory Claussen 2008 Larry Cohen 1986 Iván Dávila 2009 Thom Dimmock 2013 Jorge Docabo 2013 Nick Duong 2013 Jimmy Edwards 2015 Harron Elloso 2012

GMCW MEMBERS

James Ellzy II 2011 Chris Fredericks 2005 Kent Gay 2006 Cliff Gilbert 2008 R. Warren Gill III 2014 Stuart Goldstone 2001 Adrian Gonzalez 2015 Michael Gottlieb 2010 Matthew Graf 2007 Christopher Grieder 1990 Rob Hall 2002 (B, RCS) Benjamin M. Hammer 2015 Ben Harris 2015 Howland Hartley 2000 (B) Kenneth R. Hewitt 2012 Michael E. Hill 2003 Sean Hoag 2014 Ray Hoffman 2014 Alan Huddleston 2014 George Huffman 2000 (RCS) Ricky Junquera 2015 David Karnick 2011 (CL) Paul Kelsch 2002 (RCS) Brett Kessler 2014 Stuart Kopperman 1996 (B) Bill Lipsett 1991 Sean Lyons-Burke 2014 Mark Mann 2004 David C. McAuley, Jr. 2013 Patrick McIntvre 2015 Ivan Medic 2015 Phil Melemed 2008 Mitch Menchaca 2010 Thomas Mienk 2014 Brad Miller 2012 Nicholas Miller 2015 Ross Miller 2015 Ralph Moore 2003 Kevin M. Morris 2014 (RCS) D'Arcee C. Neal 2012 Dana Nearing 2013 Paul J. Negron 2014 (PF) Patrick R. Nelson 2009 (SL, RCS) Paul Nicholsen 2015 Bill Nickel 2008 Franc O'Malley 2011 Erik Oppers 2011 Derek K. Orr 2012 Jim Orrell 2015 Matthew Perra 2015 Gregory J. Plavcan 2013 Ryan Poirier 2014 Larry Poole 2005 (RCS) Andrew Powaleny 2010 Zachary Logan Powell 2015 Caleb Queen 2014 Artemio Rivera III 2012 Gary Roebuck 2014 James L. Roth 2013 Justin Rush 2015 Thomas W. Schmitt 2015 Bob Sheavly 1999 Jared Shortmeier 2014 Christopher D. Smith Jr. 2014

Derek J. Smith 2013 Lonny Smith 2011 (RCS) Michael B. Smith 1990 (PF) Tim Smith 2006 Erich Sommerfeldt 2014 Dan Stephens 2013 Carl Stewart 2010 Tom Stockley 2010 Alex Surles 2012 Derek D. Swick 2013 L. Owen Taggart 2002 Paul Voorhees 2015 Mike Weber 2006 John Weibel 1985 Steven Willis 2010

BASS

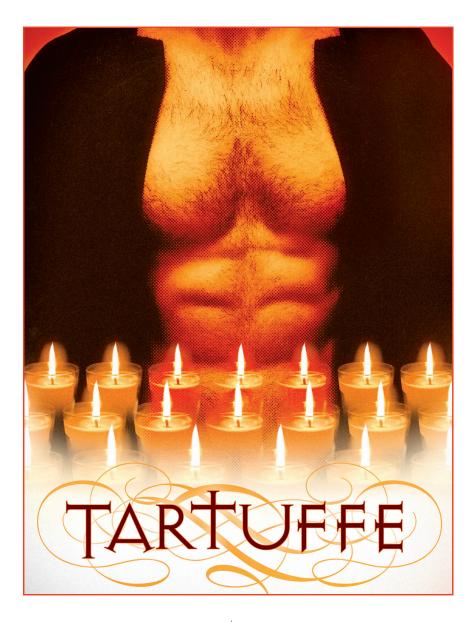
Eric Akridge 1995 (SL) Mike Allen 2010 (PF) Frank Anderson 2014 Benjamin Aparicio-Coto 2013 W. Eric Balthrop 1993 Liam Beliveau 2015 Jarrod Bennett 2009 (RCS) Michael Brinkman 2000 Marcus Brown 2004 Russ Capps 1999 Ethan Chiang 2012 Rick Davis 2008 Chipper Dean 2012 (SL) Bob Dragoset 1984 (RCS) Mike Fila 2012 Robert Emmet Finn 2015 (RCS) Brett Fox 2006 Ken Fox 2005 J. Robert Garcia 2014 (RCS) Romm Gatongay 2015 John Goodrich 2015 Gregg Grisa 2015 Jim Gruschus 1995 (PF) James Harlow 2014 Gibson Haynes 2014 (PF) John-Paul Hayworth 2005 (B, CL) Sammy Hendrick 2011 Michael Hughes 2002 Christopher Johnson 2009 Jonathan L. Jones 2012 (PF) Jakub Kakietek 2014 Dan Kaufman 1990 Kelly Gordon Knape 2010 John Knapp 2014 John Laster 2006 Paul Leavitt 2003 Jerry Lee 1993 Joseph Lee 2012 Sam Lee 2015 Michelangelo Longaro 2013 (RCS) James Murphy 1988 (RCS) Rob Neighbour 1993 Yoshiyuki Nishio 1999 Ron Norberg 2002 James Dillon O'Rourke 2015 Edward P. Oseroff 2000 Carl D. Owens 2015

Todd Paul 1994 Steve Pflasterer 1987 John "JQ" Quinones 1990 Dean Reichard 2010 James T. Rhodes 2010 (CL, RCS) Jerry Rigdon 2014 Adam N. Rosenwasser 2014 Craig Ruskin 2001 (RCS) John P. Santell 2013 (SL) John Anthony Schwanke 2014 Morgan Slusher 2000 Steve Spar 1996 Rod Sterling 2011 Warren Turner 1993 Mark D. Uhen 2007 Lvn VanNov 2002 (RCS) Lee Voegler 2011 Brian Walther 2003 (RCS) James Weinstein 2006 (B) Robert P. Wilkinson 2014 Josh Willett 2014 Dennis Williams 2004

SUPPORT

Jim Arshem 2010 Chris Asaro 2006 Tim Atkin 2013 (B) J. Max Barger 2012 (B) Charles Berardesco 2011 (B) Jerry Blackmon 2010 Barry Bugg 1996 Michael Cunningham 1987 Suzette Derrevere 2006 (B) Shawn Evans 2012 (B) Robert Featherstone 1998 Mark Fox 2007 Teddy Guerrant 1983 Ira Haber 2008 Steve Herman 1981 (B) Marsha Holloman 2000 (B) Janene Jackson 2014 (B) Mark Klein 2008 Robert Klein 1999 (SL) Greg Kubiak 2003 (B) Kathy McGee 2000 William Moran 2013 (B) Gene Robinson 2013 (B) Laurence A. Rosen 1993 William Ed Senn 2012 (B) Jason Sherlock 2011 Alex Tang 2014 (RCS) Christopher Thomson 2014 (B) Steven Toporoff 2008

B = Board Member CL = Chorus Leadership SL = Section Leader PF = Potomac Fever RCS = Rock Creek Singers



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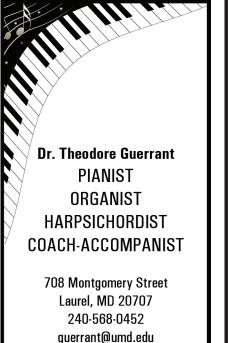
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We are proud to partner with the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC and look forward to participating in their important community outreach efforts.

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Congratulations to all of our GMCW members who got married this season!



Today's Intersections: Race, Sexuality, and Privilege Sunday, June 21 at 12:30 PM

Chett Pritchett, the Executive Director of the Methodist Federation for Social Action (MFSA), will facilitate a conversation on the intersections of race and LGBTQ issues. Racism is a noted concern in LGBTQ communities. This conversation will focus on how to work as allies for justice in all areas of injustice and inequality.

Outstanding Preacher Series Every Sunday in July at 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM

National leaders and speakers will share missional emphases in their respective areas. For a full listing of this year's Outstanding Preachers visit our website at www.foundryumc.org/upcoming-sermon-series.







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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. These awards honor those individuals who have exemplified the spirit of camaraderie, brother- and sisterhood and community in the Chorus and whose work has had lasting impact over many years.

1991

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

1992

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

1993

Craig Bowen* Peter Brayton Phil Rogerson

1994

Rod Fiorito Scott Pierce* David Streit Robert Wheeler

1995

Darrell Lewis Len Padgett Jim Peterson

1996

Michael Baker Roger Bergstrom Dick Dorr Dennis Swick^{*}

1997

Jack Gerard Charlie Merk Michael Milano Gary Regan

1998

Kevin Doss Robb Rexroth Larry Rosen

1999

Jerry Carpenter Bob Dragoset Thom Gibb

2000

Christopher Grieder Gary Turner Joe Vignali Marvin Weeks

2001

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

2002

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

2003

Tom DiGiovanni Rick Johnson Kathy McGee Chuck Walker

2004

Scott Button Robert Klein Jerry Lee Harold Lewis Jack Reiffer

2005

Jeff Van Luyn Stuart Kopperman Edward P. Oseroff

2006

David Bielenberg Joe Canter Bill Cutter Matt Komornik Barrett Whitener

2007

Russ Capps Rob Hall Marsha Holloman Paul Leavitt Jim Murphy

2008

Greg Kubiak Rob Driggers Michael Hill

2009

Chip Crews Mark Hennen John O'Brien

2010

Jay Ball Thea Kano Steve Pflasterer Andy Van Etten

2011

Sherman Blow Robert T. Boaz Peter Fox Andrew Harmon

2012

Craig Cipollini Ron Norberg John "JQ" Quinones Shannon Rozner

> * posthumously awarded

2014 Timothy E. Allmond Raymond Burditt Mary Scott

Ryan L. Williams

2013

Joe Bloomer

Marcus Brown

Sean Robinson

OVATION SOCIETY

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 LGBT 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 Chase Maggiano at 202-293-1548 or Chase@gmcw.org.

GMCW Ovation Society

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Michael Hill Gary Janus* Nick Kyrus Jerry Lee & Joe Vignali Harold Lewis **Bill Lipsett** Steve Maddox* Frank Maiellano Michael McElvaine Kathleen McGee & Marsha Holloman John Perkins Harry B. Powers* Jack Reiffer Phil Roaerson Shannon & Steve Rozner Alan J. Savada Ed Senn Duward Sumner Robert Switala & William Edgin Steven Toporoff Jim Weinstein

* Deceased

The Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC is grateful to the following individuals and organizations who support the Chorus and its many activites. The gifts listed here are from April 1, 2014 to April 29, 2015, and include annual gifts and support for special projects, events and sponsorships. Thank you!

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GMCW is pleased to honor former members of the Board of Directors who have made multi-year commitments to continue their legacy of leadership within the Chorus by joining the Directors Circle.

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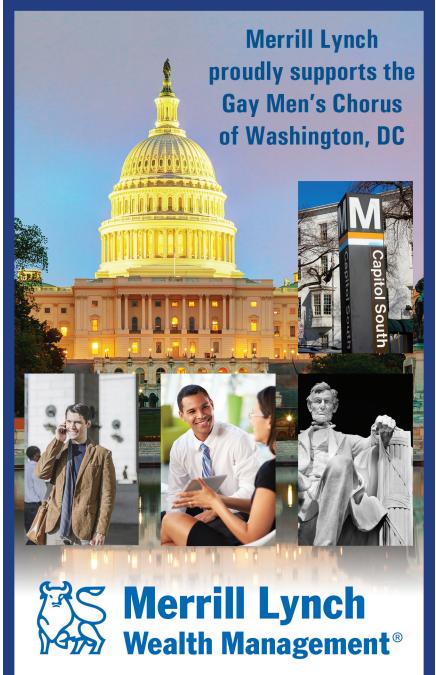
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In a world where religious leaders and their organizations have too often embodied the oppression and rejection that many of us have suffered, we rejoice to notice the growing number of synagogues, congregations and other religious organizations that welcome, enfold and celebrate LGBT persons.

We proudly list them here as our **PARTNERS IN HARMONY**. We recommend them to any who are looking for a faith community to call home. Visit OUTREACH at gmcw.org for links to all of these religious organizations.

All Souls Church

All Souls Memorial Episcopal Church Augustana Lutheran Church Bethesda United Church of Christ Bet Mishpachah Capitol Hill Presbyterian Church Capitol Hill United Methodist Church Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church Christ Congregational Church Church of the Ascension The Church of the Epiphany Church of the Pilgrims Clarendon Presbyterian Church **Dignity Washington** Dumbarton United Methodist Church Ecumenicon Fellowship Fairlington United Methodist Church First Congregational United Church of Christ Foundry United Methodist Church Friends Meeting of Washington (Quakers) Georgetown Lutheran Church Little River United Church of Christ Lutheran Church of the Reformation

Luther Place Memorial Church Many Voices Metropolitan Community Church of Washington Mount Vernon Unitarian Church National City Christian Church New York Avenue Presbyterian Church Oaklands Presbyterian Church River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation St. Albans Episcopal Church St. George's Episcopal Church St. Margaret's Episcopal Church St. Mark's Episcopal Church St. Stephen and the Incarnation Episcopal Church St. Thomas' Episcopal Church Takoma Park Presbyterian Church Tikkun Leil Shabbat Unitarian Universalists of Sterling The United Church — Die Vereinigte Kirche Unity Fellowship Church of Washington, DC Universalist National Memorial Church

Washington National Cathedral



IN MEMORIAM

We remember our brothers who have been lost to us over the years. Their spirit lives 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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