

SPARKLE

Friday, December 20, 8pm
Saturday, December 21, 3pm & 8pm
Lisner Auditorium

Jeff Buhrman, Artistic Director Chase Maggiano, Executive Director



WELCOME

Dear GMCW Family,

"It's the most wonderful time of the year" to welcome you to the 2013-14 season of the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC. Thank you for spending your holiday with us. Along with Grammy Award-winner Matt Alber, we are thrilled to perform holiday music that moves you, excites you and even surprises you a bit.

We'd like to share a little about the rest of our main stage season. Just after Valentine's Day we'll present PASSION, a concert of romantic music filled with powerful emotion. With a string quartet and oboe to enhance the Chorus's beautiful sound we'll touch your heart with music from "Gabriel's Oboe" to gorgeous love songs, with a little Dolly Parton and Pink as well. The Church of the Epiphany will provide a glorious acoustic setting.

VON TRAPPED is a smart, gay parody of that well known movie with Maria, the Captain, the children and a very colorful group of sisters...you know the one. And the Chorus will be there to add a little extra twist to the story!

Our small ensembles, Potomac Fever and Rock Creek Singers, join forces for FORTE, during two weekends in April. We'll perform at the Kogod Cradle in the Mead Center for American Theater at Arena Stage and at New York Avenue Presbyterian Church.

And we end our season in great style as we present A GAY MAN'S GUIDE TO BROADWAY with our special guest, Laura Benanti in the Kennedy Center Concert Hall. From *Show Boat* to *Kinky Boots*, you'll hear music from 20th century shows that have shaped the culture of Broadway as well as songs from 21st century musicals like *The Book of Mormon* and *Wicked* that have already taken their place in history.

We are excited to continue our commitment to excellent music and sing a message of equality that reaches beyond the concert halls. To that end, our GenOUT program, which brings music and fellowship into local high schools, is as robust as ever. Our outreach ensembles were recently heard at the Matthew Shepard Vigil at Ford's Theatre, The Transgender Day of Remembrance and The White House Holiday Tours.

As you can see, we are working and singing hard to bring a voice of equality to Washington, DC, and we couldn't do it without the support of our donors, ticket buyers and friends. If you would like to learn more about supporting GMCW, please visit us at www.gmcw.org. Thank you for joining us this weekend, and have a fabulous holiday!

Chase Maggiano
Executive Director

Jeff Buhrman Artistic Director



Congratulations GMCW on 33 Years of Making Beautiful Music!



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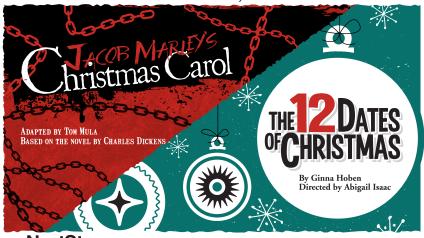


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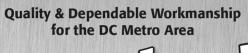
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GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON, DC

Jeff Buhrman Artistic Director

Chase Maggiano Executive Director



Artistic Staff
Associate Music DirectorThea Kano
Stage Director/ChoreographerCraig Cipollini
Co-ChoreographerJames Ellzy
Principal AccompanistTheodore Guerrant
Guest AccompanistsBrad Rinaldo, James L. Roth
Vocal Coach EmeritusPhilip Rogerson
Music LibrarianPhillip Melemed
Artistic InterpretersDavid Bruce, Jay Penuel
Administrative Staff Director of Marketing and CommunicationsCraig Cipollini
Director of Patron ServicesKirk Sobell
Production Staff
Production ManagersBarry Bugg, Larry Rosen
Lighting DesignA.J. Guban
Assistant Lighting DesignJeny Hall
Sound DesignBill Mills, Overland Pro Audio
Sound Design EngineerJason Caddell
Costume DesignNicolas Baker, Tony Prestridge
PropertiesChristopher Grieder, Stuart Kopperman
Makeup DesignEmerito Amaro-Carambot
Set ConstructionChris Asaro, Corey Bent, Ron Norberg,
Mario Sengco, Bernard Vicary,
Joel Wallace, Dennis Williams
Stage CrewJonathan Alberstadt, Chris Asaro,
Jerry Blackmon, Michael Cunningham,
Robert Joppa, Mark Klein
House ManagerBob Klein
UshersBurgundy Crescent Volunteers
Archival VideoSteve Herman

PROGRAM

ACT 1

GMCW It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year	Eddie Pela & George Wylie Arranged by Hawley Ades
Ring Out, Wild Bells	Ron Nelson
IWonder As I Wander	
	rranged by John Jacob Niles
Ocho Kandelikas	
Soloists: Rob Hall & Lonny Smith	
From Afar	John Henry Hopkins
Rock Creek Singers	Arranged by Lyn VanNoy
(Dedicated to the memory of Jack B. Smit	
Something Told the Wild Geese	
The Davey Dinkle Song	
Soloists: Rick Knight, Justin Sawyers,	
Brad Rinaldo, Curtis Gilbert, James T. Rhoo	des
Matt Alber	
I Wish I Had a River	
Velvet Goldmine	Matt Alber
Matt Alber & GMCW	
The Rose/Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming	
	15th Century German Carol
GMCW	
Bring On the Greed	Frank Wildhorn
	Original lyrics by Michael
L. Owen Taggart	Brendan Smith
Merry Christmas, Merry ChristmasJ	
O Come, All Ye FaithfulArran	
· -	gg
ACT 2	
NI II	T. 116
Noel!	
Calaista, Calvin Dahinsan Cam, Claussan	
Soloists: Calvin Robinson, Cory Claussen	
Mitchell Galloway-Edgar, Richard Dew	Arranged by Brad Holmes
Mitchell Galloway-Edgar, Richard Dew Over the Skies of YisraelRobe	Arranged by Brad Holmes ert Seeley & Robert Espindola
Mitchell Galloway-Edgar, Richard Dew Over the Skies of YisraelRobe The Christmas Can-Can	Arranged by Brad Holmes ert Seeley & Robert Espindola
Mitchell Galloway-Edgar, Richard Dew Over the Skies of YisraelRobe	Arranged by Brad Holmes ert Seeley & Robert Espindola
Mitchell Galloway-Edgar, Richard Dew Over the Skies of YisraelRobe The Christmas Can-Can	Arranged by Brad Holmes ert Seeley & Robert Espindola
Mitchell Galloway-Edgar, Richard Dew Over the Skies of YisraelRobe The Christmas Can-Can Potomac Fever	Arranged by Brad Holmes ert Seeley & Robert EspindolaWalter Chase

PROGRAM

Matt Alber & GMCW

Star of Wonder	Ierre Koche
	Arranged by Tim Sarsany
GMCW	
It Wouldn't Be Christmas Without Garland	dMatthew Conner
Soloist: Cooper Westbrook	

Variations on Jingle Bells......John Pierpont
Dragmatic Soprano: Jack Spirakes Arranged by Mark Hayes
The 12 Rockin' Days of Christmas.....Arranged by Steve Milloy
Hallelujah Chorus......George Frideric Handel

Drummers: Doug Maiwurm, Michael Gottlieb, Mark Sherman, Robby Dean, Kevin Sweitzer

Bass: Mary Scott

Dancers:

Nicolas Baker **Drew Leaser** Robert T. Boaz Alon Mazor Richard Bennett Clint Novotny Craig Cipollini Robert Patlán Sean Robinson Iván Dávila Harron Elloso Derek Smith James Ellzy L. Owen Taggart Ray Jay Garcia Cooper Westbrook Matt Komornik

Nuns:

Brent Almond Matt Komornik Corey Bent Jerry Lee Chris Costa Todd Paul Sean Robinson Scott Garrett Christopher Grieder Mark Uhen Kvle Holland **Bernard Vicary** Matt Holland **Brian Walther** Dan Kaufman Kevin Webster

"Noel!" Translation:

Noel! Jesus has come to live with us. If you want to know the Child, you have to come kneel. — Kituba dialect









Matt Alber, Musician and Composer

"That was so sweet. I want to listen to him again."

— Madonna

Matt Alber is a San Francisco-based independent singer/songwriter and two-time Grammy® Awardwinning recording artist. He was first introduced to a widespread audience by MTV's Logo Channel which featured his song, "End Of The World," and it's epically romantic music video set in a 1960s Hollywood barbershop. The song and video sparked a full-time touring career which quickly lead to features in *Out* Magazine, Sirius Out Q Radio and Fox's hit television show, *Bones*.

Matt's latest acoustic album, *Constant Crows*, debuted at number two on the iTunes Singer/Songwriter Chart, exploring themes of brotherhood, spirituality and romance. The album features two covers — one by Madonna and one by 1970s songstress, Judee Sill.

Mr. Alber's newest project, *With Strings Attached*, is a live DVD recorded at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music with the Cello Street Quartet. The film has been chosen to appear in San Francisco's FRAMELINE Film Festival and will be making its international debut in Amsterdam next spring. To learn more, visit www.mattalber.com/cellos. For information about Matt's solo touring, visit www.mattalber.com.



Chase Maggiano, Executive Director

This is Chase's first season as executive director of the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, and he brings a combination of corporate, performance and arts management experience. Chase comes to GMCW from the Washington Performing Arts Society 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 Northern 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.



Jeff Buhrman, Artistic Director

This is Jeff Buhrman's 14th season as artistic director of the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington. Under his leadership, GMCW has become recognized as one of the finest and most prominent men's choruses in the country, with more than 250 singing members and a reputation for musical diversity and innovation. From classical music to newly commissioned works to fully-staged productions of Broadway shows, GMCW is a leader in the LGBT choral movement; Jeff is a member of the board of directors of the Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses (GALA Choruses).

During Jeff's tenure GMCW has received many honors. In January 2009, the Chorus was selected to sing "America" at *We Are One: The Obama Inaugural Celebration* on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. In December 2010, the Chorus performed with Angela Lansbury,

Carol Channing and Chita Rivera at the Kennedy Center Honors tribute to Broadway composer Jerry Herman. In December 2002, the Chorus was featured at the Kennedy Center Honors tribute to Elizabeth Taylor. Under Jeff's direction the Chorus's small outreach ensemble, Potomac Fever, performed for President and Mrs. Obama at the White House in 2012 and has entertained on five occasions at the home of Vice-President and Dr. Biden. Last week Jeff directed singers from Potomac Fever and Rock Creek Singers in a performance as part of the White House holiday tour.

Jeff has led the Chorus in recording nine compact discs, including three original commissions: Alexander's House, Songs of My Family and Changing Hearts. Under Jeff's leadership the Chorus has won five WAMMIE awards from the Washington Area Music Association including the 2013 Outstanding Choral Recording for Alexander's House. Other WAMMIES include awards for Best Choral Group in 2003, 2005 and 2010. GMCW's 20th anniversary CD, I Dream of a Time, won the 2002 WAMMIE award for outstanding choral recording. GMCW's latest commission Alexander's House was performed by the Miami Gay Men's Chorus last June, and will have performances by gay choruses in Boston, Dallas and Columbus in 2014.

Jeff joined GMCW as a singing member in 1986. Two years later he began directing Potomac Fever, a job he held for the next 10 seasons, culminating in a European tour during which Potomac Fever sang at the opening ceremonies of Various Voices, the European LGBT choral festival in Munich. He resumed directing Potomac Fever in 2003. Under Jeff's direction, Potomac Fever has attained a wide following with its distinctive style, characterized by fluid phrasing and warmth of tone. In July, 2014 Potomac Fever and Rock Creek Singers will perform at the 2014 Various Voices choral festival in Dublin.

In 1989 Jeff began an eight-year run as assistant director of the Chorus, working with Music Director Jim Holloway. Jeff had the honor of directing GMCW at an inauguration concert for President Clinton in 1997. Jeff also directed the festival chorus at the first World Outgames in 2006 in Montreal.

Having worked with high school students as a choral director and school counselor for many years, Jeff is most proud of founding GMCW's youth outreach program in 2002, which has grown significantly and is now known as GenOUT. Through GenOUT, the Chorus visits area high schools and provides free concert tickets to LGBTQA youth, their parents, teachers and friends.

Jeff holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in music education and voice from Montclair State University and a Master of Arts in counseling from The George Washington University. He has performed with such preeminent choral conductors as Robert Shaw, Roger Wagner, David Randolph and Dennis Keene. Jeff's greatest pleasure is sharing his life with his wonderful husband, Roger, and their minidachshund. Mocha.



Thea Kano, Associate Music 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.

In 2005 Dr. Kano founded the New York City Master Chorale and has served as artistic director since its inception. The 60-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 know 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).

In addition to her work with the New York City Master Chorale, Dr. Kano has conducted an extensive range of repertoire with the Angeles Chorale, The Washington Chorus and the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC, for which she serves as associate music director and directs its acclaimed chamber ensemble, Rock Creek Singers. 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, Disney Hall, Église Saint-Sulpice (Paris) and on the National Mall for the 2009 inaugural ceremonies.

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 all sizes, as well as directing award-winning high school and collegiate choruses.

Dr. Kano received her doctorate in 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 Masters of Music degree from UCLA and a bachelors' 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.



Craig Cipollini, Director and 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. 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 troupe, performing with the group all over the United States, in Toronto and in Budapest, Hungary. He performed with the group

when they appeared on NBC-TV's *America's Got Talent* where the group made the Top 40.

He has also 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* and *West Side Story* to name a few. Craig has choreographed all major GMCW concerts for the past seven seasons. He also directed our productions of *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas, The Rocky Horror Show* and *Xanadu*, as well as *Men In Tights: A Pink Nutcracker, Divas, Seven* and *That '80s Show*. By day, Craig is the Director of Marketing for GMCW and recently completed his master's degree in arts management from George Mason University.

James Ellzy II, Choreographer

James Ellzy began his dance training at Northwestern University in 1989. He performed primarily in musical theater until starting with modern dance in 1999 in San Diego. While in San Diego, he danced primarily with San Diego Dance Theatre and with the California Ballet Company. He also performed with Butterworth Dance Company and LaDiego Dance Theater.

Since moving to DC in 2008, James has performed with Dakshina/Daniel Phoenix Singh Dance Company and the DC Cowboys. He has choreographed and directed for the Gay Men's Chorus of San Diego in the past and is delighted to be working in the same capacity with GMCW. By day, James is an active duty family physician in the U.S. Navy.



Theodore Guerrant, Principal Accompanist

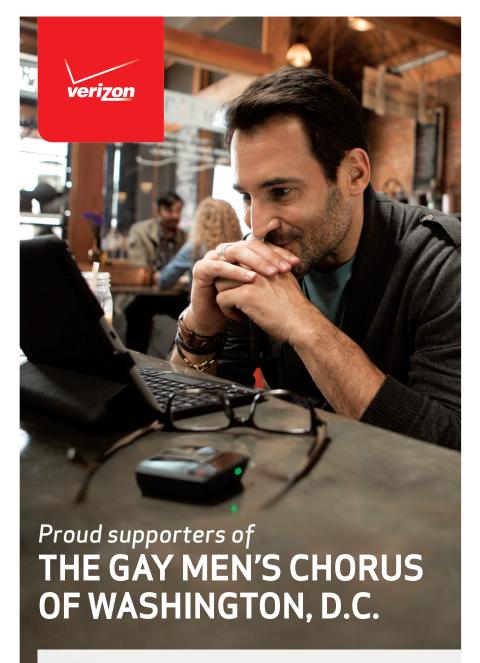
Now in his 31st season as GMCW's principal accompanist, "Dr. Teddy" is arguably the longest-tenured collaborative pianist for a single chorus within the entire GALA Choruses network. He has been honored in various ways throughout his three decades of service including a Circle of Excellence Award in 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 Jeff and Thea, 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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GMCW MEMBERS

TENOR ONE Timothy Allmond 1999 Michael Amesquita 2010 Michael Aylward 2009 (RCS) David Ayoroa 2011 Matt Beck 2011 (RCS) Rick Bennett 2009 (RCS, D) Joe Bloomer 1999 Thomas Boeke 2006 (SL) Fancy P. Butler 2007 Charles Butler, Neto 1981 Phillip Carson 2006 (B) Chad Clayton 2010 Christopher Council 2009 Stephen Crutchfield 1988 Bill Cutter 1998 Brian Day 2006 Richard Dew 2004 Kasey M. Dunton 2009 G. Alex Ford 1996 Ray Jay Garcia 2011 (D) Jay R. Gilliam 2007 (PF) Mark S. Hegedus 2008 (RCS) Matt Holland 2009 (PF) Brian Kip Jacobs 2006 Garrick T. Jordan 2013 Rick Knight 2009 Kirby Knight 2010 John J. Masters Jr. 2005 Kerry K. Neal 2002 Soo Park 2007 Robert L. Patlán 2011 (RCS, D) Dan Patton 1995 Gary Regan 1990 Jack Reiffer 1998 (SL, RCS) Brad Rinaldo 2011 Justin T. Ritchie 2010 (PF) Bill Robinson 2011 Justin Sawyers 2013 Mario R. Sengco 2011 David Shotwell 2011 (B, RCS) Jeb Stenhouse 2008 (PF) David Streit 1988 Kevin Thomason 2010 (PF) Jeffrey Van Luyn 1983 Kevin Webster 1993 James W. Williams 1991

TENOR TWO

Brent Almond 2008 Nicolas Baker 2011 (D) Jay Ball 2001 Eric F Belkengren 2001 (RCS)

Richard Yarborough 2009 (RCS)

Yoni Bock 2007 Guy Bosworth 2012 Michael Caban 2013 Geoffrey Carlson 2013 Jonathan Chaffin 2012 Scott A. Concilla 2010 Chris Costa 2008 Tony Cunningham 2002 Robby Dean 2012 (RCS) John Fichtel 2010 Bill Fuchs 2007 Scott D. Garrett 2012 Curtis Gilbert 2012 Don Griesheimer 1999 Martin Haley 2004 Andrew Harmon 2002 (RCS) Christopher D. Harris 2010 Mark Hennen 2004 Montario Hill 2013 (PF) David Hokey 2010 Kyle Holland 2008 (RCS) Raymond Honeycutt 2011 Bill Hulseman 2012 David Jonas 2001 John Jowers 2008 (RCS) Sidney Jonathan Jowers 2011 Matthew Kenney 2013 Kody Howard Kinsley 2013 Matt Komornik 1993 (D) Casey Kreft 2012 Mike Lacher 2012 Chad Justin Lang 2013 Scott Linder 2013 Kevin Loeffler 2007 Christopher Lyon 2009 James P. Madigan III 1991 (RCS) Alon Mazor 2013 (D) Donald McArthur 2006 Dean E. Miller 2013 Dana Nearing 2013 Dan Nguyen 2013 Paul Nonte 2013 John O'Brien 2004 Eric C. Peterson 2009 (RCS) Brandon Quesnell 2009 Joseph Rendeiro 2011 Reg Richards 2003 Sean Robinson 2000 (RCS, D) David G. Robinson 1988 Calvin Robinson 2010 (SL, RCS) Ryan Robison 2008 (RCS) Jami J. Rodgers 2013 Mark Rupp 2011 Jayson Scirratt 2011 Rob Serpa, Jr. 2006

Ken Skrzesz 2013 Tom Spinelli 2010 Jack Spirakes 2011 Matthew L. Swanson 2012 Kevin Sweitzer 2012 (PF) Matthew Thompson 2010 (RCS) Michael Toth 2004 (RCS) Matt Townsend 2011 Mark Vernon 2010 Bernard Vicary 2013 Stuart Wales 2008 Bryce Weems 2002 (SL) Cooper Westbrook 2013 (PF, D) Ryan L. Williams 2004 Adam Winstanley 2013 Justin Zimmerman 2004

BARITONE Tim Agar 2010

Robert M. Agnello 2002 (SL) Tim Allen 2003 Ralph Alston 2013 Emerito Amaro-Carambot 2006 David B. Baker 2013 (SL) Justin Bank 2006 Corey Bent 2003 Joseph Berlin 2006 Robert T. Boaz 1997 (PF, D) Joe Brookman 2006 Bart Brooks 2013 Raymond Burditt 2008 Joe Canter 1994 Donald Chandler 1997 Cory Claussen 2008 Larry Cohen 1986 Paul Colloton 2006 Dan Couladis 2013 Chip Crews 1991 Iván Dávila 2009 (D) Thom Dimmock 2013 Jorge Docabo 2013 Nick Duong 2013 Harron Elloso 2012 (D) James Ellzy, II 2011 (D) Austin R. Faganel 2013 KC Fonzi 2013 James Gatliff 2013 Cliff Gilbert 2008 Stuart Goldstone 2001 Michael Gottlieb 2010 Matthew Graf 2007 Christopher Grieder 1990 (PF) Rob Hall 2002 (B, RCS) Howland Hartley 2000 (B) Rafael Heras 2009

GMCW MEMBERS

Kenneth R. Hewitt 2012 Michael E. Hill 2003 Kendrick Hogan 2012 Terry Horner 2012 George Huffman 2000 (RCS) Stephen Johnson 2013 Ron Karlosky 2012 David Karnick 2011 Paul Kelsch 2002 (RCS) Stuart Kopperman 1996 (B) Bill Lipsett 1991 Mark Mann 2004 David C. McAuley, Jr. 2013 Phil Melemed 2008 Mitch Menchaca 2010 Brad Miller 2012 Ralph Moore 2003 Charlie Mountain 2002 D'Arcee C. Neal 2012 Patrick R. Nelson 2009 (SL, RCS) Bill Nickel 2008 Clint Novotny 2008 Franc O'Malley 2011 Erik Oppers 2011 Derek K. Orr 2012 Gregory J. Plavcan 2013 Larry Poole 2005 (RCS) Andrew Powaleny 2010 Artemio Rivera III 2012 James L. Roth 2013 Christopher J. Rowland 2012 Frank C. Salamone 2008 Bob Sheavly 1999 Derek J. Smith 2013 (D) Michael B. Smith 1990 (PF) Tim Smith 2006 (RCS) Lonny Smith 2011 (RCS) Carl Stewart 2010 James Stillwell 2013 Alex Surles 2012 Derek D. Swick 2013 L. Owen Taggart 2002 (D) Mike Weber 2006 John Weibel 1985 Richard M. Weinberg 2009 (PF) Steven Willis 2010 David Wilson 2010

BASS

Eric Akridge 1995 Mike Allen 2010 (PF) Benjamin Aparicio Coto 2013 W. Eric Balthrop 1993 Jarrod Bennett 2009 R. Mark Blaylock 2002 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 Brett Fox 2006 Ken Fox 2005 Mitchell Galloway-Edgar 2013 Jim Gruschus 1995 (PF) Ira Haber 2008 John-Paul Hayworth 2005 (B) Sammy Hendrick 2011 Michael Hughes 2002 Dennis Jaffe 1999 Christopher Johnson 2009 Jonathan L. Jones 2012 (PF) Dan Kaufman 1990 N. Lee Klein 2013 (D) Kelly Gordon Knape 2010 John Laster 2006 Drew Leaser 2010 (D) Joseph Lee 2012 Jerry Lee 1993 Michael John Longaro 2013 James Murphy 1988 (RCS) Rob Neighbour 1993 Yoshiyuki Nishio 1999 Ron Norbera 2002 Edward P Oseroff 2000 (RCS) Todd Paul 1994 Steve Pflasterer 1987 John "JO" Ouinones 1990 Dean Reichard 2010 James T. Rhodes 2010 (RCS) Craig Ruskin 2001 (RCS) JR Russ 2007 John P. Santell 2013 Morgan Slusher 2000 Steve Spar 1996 Rod Sterling 2011 Tom Stockley 2010 William B. Transue, Jr. 2013 Mark D. Uhen 2007 (SL) Lyn VanNoy 2002 (RCS) Lee Voegler 2011 Brian Walther 2003 James Weinstein 2006 (B) Dennis Williams 2004 Mike Witkop 2013

SUPPORT

Jim Arshem 2010 Chris Asaro 2006 Tim Atkin 2013 (B) J. Max Barger 2012 (B) Stephen Bennett 2003 Charles Berardesco 2011 (B) Barry Bugg 1996 Suzette Derrevere 2006 (B) Shawn Evans 2012 (B) Robert Featherstone 1998 Jack Gerard 1981 Teddy Guerrant 1983 Joshua T. Hatfield Charles 2003 Steve Herman 1981 (B) Eric Hildebrand 2010 Marsha Holloman 2000 (B) Michael Kahn 2012 (B) Adam Kerns 2013 Robert Klein 1999 (SL) Greg Kubiak 2003 (B) Kathy McGee 2000 William Moran 2013 (B) Tom Mounteer 2004 (B) Gene Robinson 2013 (B) Laurence A. Rosen 1993 Shannon Rozner 2006 William Ed Senn 2012 (B) Jason Sherlock 2011 (RCS) Gordon Tanner 2011 (B) Steven Toporoff 2008 Robert Winter 2003

SL = Section Leader D = Dancer PF = Potomac Fever RCS = Rock Creek Singers B = Board



Brent Almond, Tenor Two

A Chorus member since 2008, Brent moved to the DC area from Texas 18 years ago and works as a graphic designer. He is the owner/creative director for Design Nut LLC, but his favorite job is father to a 4-year old boy. "One of my favorite memories is bringing my son to rehearsal so the guys could sing 'Happy Birthday' to him on his 1st Birthday. He's got the 200+ best gay uncles a kid could ask for!"

"I've had such a full, rich experience in the Chorus. I've been lucky enough to get a couple of solos, have

portrayed the Sugar Plum Fairy, Aphrodite/Paula Deen, a nun (I'm "JAH"), performed at our annual No Talent Show, led the AIDS Walk fundraising effort and have contributed lots of graphic design work to the Chorus, including our logo!"



Jarrod Bennett, Bass

"For me, the Chorus is an extension of my family. A place, where no matter how crazy my day to day life is, I can always have a friend to make me laugh."

Jarrod joined GMCW in 2009 after moving here from Maine. He sepnt most of his childhood in Hawaii and Okinawa, Japan. By day, he works at the headquarters of the American Red Cross as an aquatics specialist and is responsible for oversight of all aquatic programs (learn-to-swim, lifeguarding, small craft safety, etc.) in Delware,

Maryland, DC, and Virginia. He is also currently working on a degree in humanities. Jarrod had sung in our Home Cooked Cabaret performances, worked in our GenOUT program, and enjoys "anything and everything" to do with both live and studio audio recording/production.



Rick Bennett, Tenor One

Rick hails from Potomac, MD and joined the Chorus in 2009 for our *Snow* concert playing one of Snow White's seven dwarves. His performance in that show earned him the nickname "Blanquita" — a nickname that sticks with him to this day.

By day, Rick is an inside sales person for education services who enjoys running and growing orchids in his spare time. He joined the Chorus because he wanted a music and performing outlet after college. "The Chorus,

to me, is like a second family. Not only do I receive so much love, there is also never a lack of support, encouragement and opportunity to volunteer. I never knew the power of outreach as I have experienced with GMCW. The amount of selfless giving and amazing talent (not just on stage) is truly humbling."

What is Rick looking forward to most about tonight's performance? "My amazing overthe-top pink tutu, of course!"



Marcus Brown, Bass

Born and raised in a small farming town called Bennettsville, South Carolina, Marcus has been living in DC for 20 years, and singing with GMCW for 10 of them. He has a BA in Administration of Justice and works as a software trainer at the U.S. Department of Education and confesses to being a "'geek' — long before it was in style."

Marcus has been very involved with GMCW, including serving as Chorus President for two years and sitting on several committees. So what drew Marcus to GMCW?

"Family, community, love and support, a safe space for anyone who needs it and a voice for those who still do not have one of their own."



Ray Jay Garcia, Tenor One

Originally from the island Mindanao, Philippines, Jay joined the Chorus in 2011. Now residing in DC, by day, he is the medical director of hospice and palliative medicine for the Arlington region of Capital Caring. His hobbies include playing the piano, writing short stories, volleyball, tennis and collecting clocks.

Jay is one of the Chorus dancers and is also involved in our Chorus Care Corps. "Stepping on the stage always makes me excited as it allows me the option of becoming

someone else depending on the music, the dance and costumes; and the music, dance and costumes of this particular concert are very good."



Rick Knight, Tenor One

Rick was born in Missouri into a family of acclaimed professional television and gospel recording artists, America's "Musical Knights," and spent much of his early life touring and performing with artists including the Oak Ridge Boys, Bill and Gloria Gaither, The Goodman Family, Mahalia Jackson and many others. Rick went on to study voice and theater performance on a full vocal music scholarship at Pittsburg State University and Wichita State University Opera Theater, and eventually New York City at Julliard.

After many years performing, Rick fulfilled a life long goal and returned to school in 1992 and became a registered nurse. Rick joined GMCW in 2009 and quickly realized how much he had missed singing through the years. Singing with over 200 gay men was overwhelming and joyful to him, especially coming from a religious, confusing background in gospel music.

Rick has been a featured soloist with GMCW and Rock Creek Singers and was a featured soloist on GMCW's 2012 holiday recording *Winter Nights*. Rick lives with his partner of five years, Jeffrey, and has four grown children and five grandchildren.



Drew Leaser, Bass

Drew came to DC from Oak Harbor, Ohio and joined the Chorus in 2011. He is a trademark attorney with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. He has a BBA and MBA in marketing, and a JD from Ohio State University, and an LL.M. in intellectual property from Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law.

Drew is one of GMCW's dancers, and enjoys reading, gaming and traveling. And it was because of GMCW that he met his fiancé. "We met in Baltimore, and the only reason I was there was to celebrate the birthday of one of my Chorus friends who lived there."



Bill Lipsett, Baritone

Bill joined the Chorus in 1991 and hails from Broomall, PA, a suburb of Philadelphia. He has a BS degree in Theater from Syracuse University and works as a management analyst for the Federal Government. He joined the Chorus because he wanted to be involved in the performing arts.

Bill's Chorus nickname is "Big Al" and his hobbies include just about anything to do with automobiles. He and his partner Eric sometimes perform together and have a collection of finger puppets and hand puppets.



Todd Paul, Bass

Todd joined GMCW in 1994. He grew up in central Missouri and currently works as an office manager/HR specialist with a government contractor in VA.

"I've had many roles in the Chorus over almost 20 years: vice president of membership (twice), section leader (three times), dancer, music librarian, board member (two terms), soloist in several concerts. I will also be a nun in tonight's show!"

"The fact is that we are a great chorus and advance the case for LGBT rights just by being onstage. I love that we are one big happy family that takes care of each other no matter what! "Todd says one of the best side benefits to being in GMCW is the family that is created. "I've created and maintained some of the best relationships because of the Chorus and I treasure that!"



Sean Robinson, Tenor Two

Sean joined the Chorus in 2002. He has a PhD in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is an Associate Professor at Morgan State University and lives in DC with his husband, Jeff.

"The Chorus has several different meanings for me: 1) it is that creative outlet that lets me sing (usually) great music, be involved in fun productions and enjoy a larger connection to the LGBTQ community; 2) it is one way that I can take a stand for equality and justice on behalf of those that can't

—for whatever reason; it is how I can get involved in part of a larger social movement; and 3) it is the place where I can truly be me, where I can let go of the expectations of trying to "conform" to other's expectations, where I can blur the lines of gender and sexuality, where I can be everything stereotypically gay if I want, and where I can color outside of the lines and have it be truly ok."



Jami Rodgers, Tenor Two

Jami joins us from State College, PA and this is his first concert with GMCW. He has an MBA from The George Washington University and has worked as a contracting officer for EPA and USAID for the last 11 years.

Jami joined the Chorus because he was very active with music from elementary school through college, singing in the Penn State Concert Choir and marching in the Penn State Blue Band. After a decade hiatus, he realized he was

missing something and decided to get back to his roots and join an ensemble.

"I am especially excited to have family and friends come to DC during the holidays to share in the celebration of song. Sadly, my mother passed away this fall before she could see me on stage for the first time with GMCW, but I know Carol will hear our carols from a far better place this year. This one's for you, Mom!"



April 11, 2014 8pm April 19, 2014 5pm & 8pm Tickets: Call 202-293-1548 or visit www.gmcw.org



David Shotwell, Tenor One

"I love to travel – almost anywhere, but especially international destinations. My favorites to date are the Patagonia region of Argentina and the South Island of New Zealand." David is a realtor, and he joined GMCW in 2011 at the encouragement of our very own Thea Kano, who was his voice teacher. He also serves on the GMCW board of directors, is a member of Rock Creek Singers and is one of the chairs for this season's Spring Affair fundraiser in May.

"The Chorus is so much more than a group of very talented people. It has been a wonderful way for me to reclaim my long lost love of singing and to build an incredible network of new friends. The Chorus does so much in the community, too, from our outreach to area high schools through our GenOUT program to volunteering at Food & Friends to outreach performances at places of faith and senior centers. So proud to be a part of this organization!"



Jack Spirakes, Tenor Two

Jack joined GMCW in the fall of 2011. His dad was in the Air Force and he grew up around the Pacific Rim. "I was 'Made in Taiwan,' born in Hawaii, started kindergarten in New Zealand and consider San Diego my hometown." He has a master's degree in public administration and currently works for the U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

"The Chorus represents a certain perfection to me the perfect blending of musical excellence and creative exuberance, combined with organizational integrity, plenty of heart and a demonstrated commitment to community

service. And I get to sing in four languages, three dialects...and as a Christmas tree!"

"As a person of Chinese/Caucasian ancestry, who was raised by an angelic stepmother from Mexico, I enjoy practicing my basic Mandarin, Spanish and Tagalog language skills whenever — and wherever — possible!"



Matthew Swanson, Tenor Two

Joining the Chorus in 2012, Matthew was born in Portales, New Mexico, but spent most of his life in Oklahoma, then went to high school in Wisconsin. Matt has a masters from The Catholic University of America and works as an informations systems specialist for the Department of Energy.

After seeing our production of *The Rocky Horror Show* in 2012, Matt decided he wanted to be a part of the Chorus. "Before joining the Chorus I was struggling in my personal

life; joining the Chorus gave me something to look forward to each week and introduced me to a group of friends I could rely on and cherish! The Chorus is full of talented, passionate and caring singers who have already found a special place in my heart!"

In his spare time, Matt likes tinkering with computers, hiking, camping, karaoke and is a "huge sci-fi nerd" (his favorites are *Star Trek* and *Stargate*).



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OUIZ

How many can you guess correctly?



1. What song from the musical *Chicago* did GMCW perform in our June 2013 concert *SEVEN*?



2. In 2010, GMCW performed at the Kennedy Center Honors as part of the tribute to this Broadway composer.



3. GMCW has performed *The Wizard of Oz* two times. Can you name the years?



4. Name this 1950s-based musical that GMCW performed in 2010 and name the song pictured.



5. What was the name of the 2009 commission GMCW performed about crystal meth addiction?



6. What is the name of the brothel depicted in our 2011 musical, *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*?

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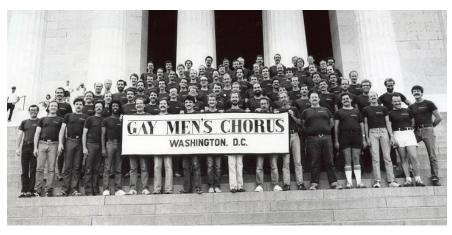
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THE GMCW HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Did you know that?

- On June 28, 1981, a mere 12 years after Stonewall, Marsha Pearson and 18 others founded the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington.
- GMCW gave its first performance on September 23, 1981, at the District Building (now the Wilson Building).
- In 1982, The George Washington University administration denied GMCW's first application to rent Lisner Auditorium. That decision was subsequently reversed, and GMCW has sung at Lisner ever since.
- On July 2, 1988, GMCW sang at the funeral of Leonard Matlovich, a Vietnam veteran decorated with the Bronze Star and Purple Heart and a GMCW support member, who was discharged from the Air Force in 1975 for declaring his homosexuality. In 2011, the Rock Creek Singers sang at the memorial for gay rights pioneer Frank Kameny, who was fired from the Civil Service for being gay.
- In 1988, the Washington National Cathedral invited GMCW to sing at the Cathedral's AIDS Healing Service, only to have the invitation to sing under its own name rescinded because the Episcopal hierarchy deemed GMCW too "political." The following year, GMCW did sing at the service under its own name.
- On January 19, 1997, GMCW performed at the American History

THE GMCW HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Museum to help celebrate the second inauguration of President Bill Clinton, a first for a gay choral group. GMCW would again help inaugurate a president, this time on January 19, 2009, singing in a concert to mark the inauguration of President Barack Obama.

- Not once but twice, GMCW has performed as part of the Kennedy Center Honors program, first in 2002 to honor Elizabeth Taylor and then in 2010 to honor Jerry Herman.
- On June 26, 2013, the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington sang on the steps of the United States Supreme Court to celebrate the Court's declaring unconstitutional the Defense of Marriage Act.

GMCW has made — and continues to make — history. That history includes not just milestones like these, but the stories of thousands of GMCW members and supporters through the years. The GMCW Historical Society seeks to secure, share and celebrate the rich and evolving history of GMCW with its members, supporters, audience and the general public — helping build the organization's bright future. To learn more about the Historical Society, contact Mark S. Hegedus, Chair, at history@gmcw.org.



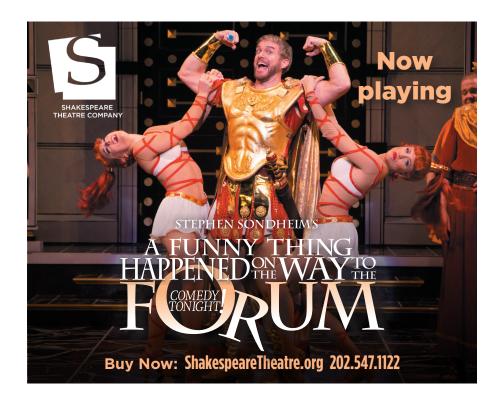
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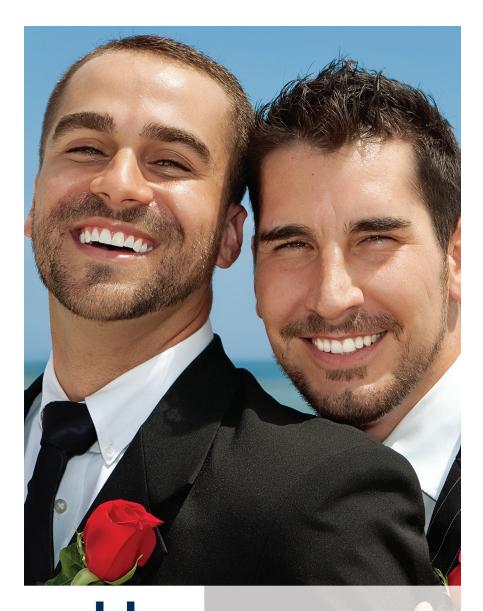
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CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE

Circle of Excellence Awards are chosen annually by members of GMCW to recognize the outstanding contributions made by members of the Chorus. 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

1992

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

Michael 7iskind

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 2013

Joe Bloomer

Marcus Brown

Sean Robinson

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

* Awarded posthumously.



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8:00 PM - Lessons, Carols & Candlelight

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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 January 1, 2013 to December 1, 2013, and include annual fund gifts, Capital Circle contributions and support for special projects, events and sponsorships. Please notify us of any corrections so that future listings can acknowledge your generous support. Thank you!

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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 groups.

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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 the GMCW office at 202.293.1548 so that we may continue to celebrate and honor the contributions of all of our members.

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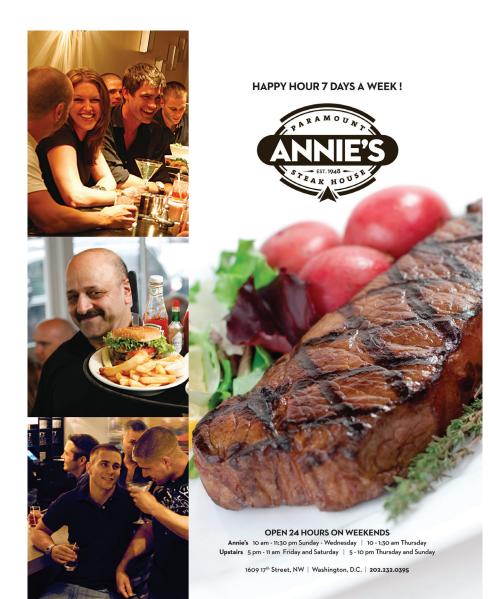












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