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Dear Friends,

We are delighted to kick off the holidays with you here at the historic Lincoln Theatre, with enchantment and delight, with sparkles and snowflakes, and with plentiful heart-string tugging and joy. Enjoy the escape from the holiday hustle and bustle as you sit back and enjoy our holiday magic.

We create musical magic all year long. This season we will give nearly 100 outreach performances, we will premiere our *PORTRAITS* collaboration at the Kennedy Center, and our GenOUT Youth Chorus will grow its programs thanks to your generous support. And that's just some of the magic that happens when we raise our voice for equality!

Music is the universal language, and music is an agent for change and for healing. We offer our holiday show music as a salve, and what we hope is a vehicle for healing and peace. May peace prevail around the world, and may your holiday celebrations be warm and joyous.



Thea Kano Artistic Director Justin Fyala Executive Director Π



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GINCUI



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ASSOCIATE CONDUCTOR C. PAUL HEINS

PRODUCTION DIRECTOR CHIPPER DEAN

SEASONS OF LOVE DIRECTOR RONTÉ PIERCE **TECHNICAL DIRECTOR**

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STAGE DIRECTOR

SOLOMON HAILESELASSIE



Thea Kano, Conductor C. Paul Heins, Associate Conductor

GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON, DC, GENOUT YOUTH CHORUS, & 17TH STREET DANCE

Brand New Day/Joy to the World.....Music and Lyrics by Luther Vandross/ Issac Watts, and G.F. Handel Arranged by David Maddux

GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON, DC

Little Drummer Boy......Boy.......Music and lyrics by Katherine Davis, Henry Onorati, and Harry Simeone Arranged by Ted Arthur

Speaker: Thea Kano

Oseh Shalom.....Music by Paul Leavitt

GENOUT YOUTH CHORUS

OGRAM

Still, Still, Still......Traditional Austrian Carol Arranged by Victor C. Johnson When We're Together......Music and lyrics by Elyssa Samsel and Kate Anderson Arranged by Mac Huff

Speaker: Jeffrey Fleming

GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON, DC & GENOUT YOUTH CHORUS

Umoja ("Unity").....Music by Zanaida Stewart Robles

GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON, DC, GENOUT YOUTH CHORUS, & 17TH STREET DANCE

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year.....Music and lyrics by Eddie Pola and George Wyle Arranged by Hawley Ades

POTOMAC FEVER

Carol of the Bells.....Music and lyrics by Mykola Leontovych Arranged by D. Teel Everybody's Waitin' for the Man with the Bag.....Music and lyrics by Harold Stanley, Irving Taylor, and Dudley Brooks Arranged by Theodore Hicks

Speaker: Ellery Rhodes

GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON, DC

Room......Music and lyrics by Lois Cecsarini Soloist: Shawn Morris



Speakers: Justin Fyala and Thea Kano

Silver Bears.....Music and lyrics by Ray Evans and Jay Livingston Arranged by Pax Ressler Parody text by Robert Groves

THE SILVER BEARS	
Tommie Adams	Howland Hartley
Brent Almond	John Knapp
Frank Anania	Dana Peterman
Tom Augustin	Sean Robinson
Michael Aylward	William Stroupe
Marcus Brown	Jim Tavenner
Skip Concilla	Dennis Vonasek
Andrew Harmon	Jim Williams

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

Favorite One.....Music and lyrics by Cy Coleman, Betty Comden, and Adolph Green

ROCK CREEK SINGERS

Gloria	Music by Ily Matthew Maniano
	Music and lyrics by James Pierpont and
	Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
	Arranged by Chuck Bridwell

Speaker: Joseph Levin-Manning

GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON, DC

Eight Days of Lights......Music and lyrics by Judith Clurman and David Chase

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

Happy ABBADays.....Music and lyrics by Sam Mitch and Joseph: Stephen Naimoli Mary: Gabriel Lopez Reindeer: Gregory Stowers

SEASONS OF LOVE

He Reigns Forever (We Sing	Praises)Music and lyrics by
Piano: Kevin Huang	Marshal Carpenter
-	Arranged by Carol Cymbala

SEASONS OF LOVE & GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON, DC

Anthem of Praise......Music and lyrics by Richard Smallwood Soloists: Chris Murphy and Freddie Quimbley Piano: Kevin Huang

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

The 12 Rockin' Days of Christmas.....Music and lyrics by Dave Thomas, Frederic Austin, Rick Moranis, and Andrew Carter Arranged by Steve Milloy



POTOMAC FEVER

Mike Allen Peter Cheney Gia-Ninh Chuang Jake Cundiff Jim Gruschus Gibson Haynes

ROCK CREEK SINGERS

Michael Aylward Zachary Barger Billy Barry Eric Belkengren Jarrod Bennett Rick Bennett Javon Byam Jonathan Chaffin Ethan Chiang Giancarlo D'Elia Robby Dean Bob Dragoset

SEASONS OF LOVE

Tommie Adams Brent Almond Derrick Brown Marcus Brown Alex Domini Michael Dumlao Jeffrey Fleming Timothy Foley Hunter Jackson Faraz Khan

17TH STREET DANCE

Sean Cator Craig Cipollini Iván Dávila James Ellzy Adam Greczkowski Jeffrey Hollands Cole Jaconski Daniel Kingsley Franky Lieder Michael McGovern

Tvson Reed

Simon Regenold

Darryl Pilate Brook Urquhart Yuri Velasquez Matt Zagorski

GENOUT YOUTH CHORUS

Cal Ausema Maysen Bedsole Ben Biggs Zach Briskin-Watson Mia Cary Victor Coleman Maddy Dean * Lawrence Florio * Mia Garcia Victor Kidwell * Logan Lipshultz * Vivienne Lyons Iris Maas Anjali Murthy * Lucas Olivo Ailsa Ostovitz Duncan Shaw-Rose Ziv Stuart* Ezra Thomas Asher Wise

* member of Youth Leadership Team

Matt Holland Jonathan Malavé John Marsh Josh Millson-Martula Shawn Morris Paul Negron

Robert Finn Anthony Gipson Rob Hall Ben Harris Mark Hegedus Michael Hughes Henry Johnson Paul Kelsch James Madigan Joval Martin Patrick Nelson

Joval Martin Patrick Nelson Joseph Levin-Manning Gabriel Lopez Donald Medor Chris Murphy Ronté Pierce Freddie Quimbley Mikal Rasheed

Colin Smith Kevon Smith Lamar Smith Matthew Teubert Jahdiel Torres Cabá Dennis Vonasek Aaron Wabinga Jerry Washington Micah Yarbrough

Joshua Peterson Larry Poole Jack Reiffer Raymond Rinaldo Sean Robinson Craig Ruskin Lonny Smith Jason Suggs James Turner Brian Watts Chuck Willett

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Cooper Westbrook



Rock Creek Singers



Potomac Fever



GenOUT Youth Chorus



17th Street Dance



Seasons of Love





Thea Kano (Artistic Director) (she/her)

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

Dr. Kano has conducted an extensive range of repertoire with several ensembles, including the Angeles Chorale, The Washington Chorus, and in 2014 assumed the position of artistic director of the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC, for which she also directs its acclaimed ensembles Rock Creek Singers and Potomac Fever. In addition, she oversees GMCW's outreach efforts, including its GenOUT program. A champion of music education, Dr. Kano has devoted countless hours

to students of all ages and backgrounds. She believes in the power of music to nurture and believes that classical music should be accessible to all. Dr. Kano's substantial experience in this arena includes: building partnerships with organizations serving disenfranchised adults, hosting workshops with at-risk youth, leading youth arts programs of many sizes, as well as directing award-winning high school and collegiate choruses.

In addition to her work with GMCW, Dr. Kano founded the New York City Master Chorale in 2005 and served as the artistic director until spring 2019. 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.



Theodore Guerrant (Principal Accompanist) (he/him)

Now in his 40th 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 traveled with the Chorus to various cities across the United States, two Canadian provinces, three Scandinavian countries, and can be heard on many GMCW recordings. Dr. Teddy received degrees in keyboard performance from the University of Georgia (B.M. piano cum laude; M.F.A. harpsichord), the University of Wisconsin (M.M. piano), the University of Maryland (D.M.A. piano), and the Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University (G.P.D. organ), and studied piano in Buriton, England, with Denise Lassimonne. Dr. Teddy is also organist-choirmaster at Christ Church Parish Kensington (Episcopal), accompanist for the National Philharmonic Chorale, and associate

director-accompanist for the Central Maryland Chorale. He also teaches on the staff of the University of Maryland School of Music as a coach-accompanist.





C. Paul Heins (Associate Conductor) (he/him)

C. Paul Heins joined the GMCW artistic team as associate conductor in the 2014 – 2015 season. Dr. Heins's principal role with GMCW is directing the GenOUT Youth Chorus, an outreach ensemble for LGBTQ+ and allied youth founded in 2015. Under Dr. Heins's leadership, GenOUT has grown from its inaugural class of nine singers to a current enrollment of 20 singers representing 16 schools in DC, Maryland, and Virginia. Since its inception, more than 140 students from over 80 schools have participated in GenOUT Youth Chorus and camps, and notable performance venues have included the Kennedy Center, the Library of Congress, the Washington National Cathedral, and the White House for President Obama. In addition to its regular performances with GMCW, GenOUT's collaborations have included Nashville's Major Minors, The Musicianship's Washington Youth Chorus, The Washington Chorus,

Mosaic Harmony, and the Children's Chorus of Washington.

In February 2023, GenOUT traveled to Cincinnati, Ohio to perform at the national conference of the American Choral Directors Association. As one of eight Insight Choirs, GenOUT showed how vocal ensembles are/can be communities that provide a sense of belonging to marginalized populations.

Dr. Heins's previous appointments include Georgetown University (Concert Choir director), the Lesbian & Gay Chorus of Washington (director), the Washington Master Chorale (assistant director), Washington Men's Camerata (accompanist/associate conductor), and the College of William & Mary (interim choir director). He was musical director for three GMCW musicals (*Ruthless, When Pigs Fly*, and *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*). Dr. Heins is a frequent guest pianist, flutist, and conductor in the DC area. He was trained in piano and flute at Bowling Green State University (B.Mus.), flute at the University of Maryland (M.Mus.), and choral conducting at the University of Maryland (D.M.A.). His principal teachers have been Edward Maclary, Patrick Walders, and Mark S. Kelly (conducting); William Montgomery and Judith Bentley (flute); and Virginia Marks and Victoria Harris (piano). His doctoral work centered around Lukas Foss's cantata, *The Prairie*. Dr. Heins has presented at conferences of the American Choral Directors Association and Chorus America, and has served as guest clinician for DCPS music festivals and teacher workshops.



Ronté Pierce (Seasons of Love Director) (he/him)

Ronté Pierce brings over 33 years of singing, performing, and directing experience with faith-based, community, academic, and choral vocal ensembles, as well as experience with musical theater and opera to his position as the director of the Seasons of Love ensemble.

Ronté's musical journey began in Durham, NC, where he participated in the children's choir of his childhood church. It was there that his love of singing and directing gospel music was cultivated and he eventually started a successful singing group, served as a worship leader, and directed three choirs at his home church.

Ronté's musical experiences with his childhood church inspired him to study voice at North Carolina Central University (NCCU) in Durham,

NC. He was a member of the NCCU Concert Choir, NCCU Touring Choir, NCCU Vocal Jazz Ensemble, and NCCU Opera Workshop. Upon receiving a Bachelor of Arts in Music, he began a teaching career with the hopes of inspiring others to express themselves with music.

Ronté currently serves as one of three music teachers at Jackson-Reed High School in Washington, DC where he directs a successful choir program. He believes that the best teachers are those who continue to engage in the learning process, which has led him to pursue and receive a Master of Music degree from Boston University (2012) and an Education Specialist degree from Grand Canyon University (2021).





Solomon HaileSelassie (Stage Director) (he/him)

Solomon HaileSelassie is a director, stage manager, designer, and filmmaker. Since 2015, he has served as GMCW's stage manager for our main stage concerts. He attended the Duke Ellington School of the Arts and Winston Salem State University where he trained in both vocal music and theater, New York Film Academy, and received his professional training at The Studio Theatre and 2nd Stage.

His recent directing credits include The Passage; Phones; Lunch Dream; Girls; Waiting for Godot; The Shape of Things; Three in a Hallway (Ebenezer's Ghosts); [Almost] William Shakespeare's, National Lampoon's, Family Guy's, MTV's: The Real Thanksgiving Vacation at Macbeth's (working title); Punching People You Never Met; Georgia Avenue Nocturne; Hello | Brother, Sonata; Carrie: The Musical (assistant director); The Rocky Horror Show (assistant

director); and Twisted (assistant director).

Solomon was born and raised in DC and is proud to be a very-native son. He is the Resident Production Designer/Manager for the Library of Congress, the Resident Stage Manager for Longacre Lea, where he is a company member, and is the Founding Director of Artistic Collaboration for Annexus Theatre Company. He continues to be a non-equity professional stage manager because he is committed to maintaining access to high quality stage managers for small, underfunded, or under recognized professional theaters.



Craig Cipollini (Choreographer) (he/him)

As a performer, Craig toured with productions of *A Chorus Line* and 42nd Street, in addition to many regional, summer stock, and dinner theater credits. He was a member of the DC Cowboys Dance Company and danced with them in Toronto, in Budapest, Hungary, and when they appeared on NBC-TV's America's Got Talent where the group reached the Top 40.

Craig has worked extensively as a director and choreographer. Some musicals he has directed and/or choreographed include *Cabaret*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *The Will Rogers Follies*, *Anything Goes*, *42nd Street*, and *West Side Story*, to name a few. He directed and choreographed *One Night in New York!* at the 2013 Capital Fringe Festival where the show won Best Overall Production and Best

Choreography. He directed and choreographed GMCW's productions of *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas, The Rocky Horror Show,* and *Xanadu,* as well as *Men In Tights: A Pink Nutcracker* (2010), *Seven, Divas, A Gay Man's Guide to Broadway,* and *That '80s Show.* He holds bachelor's degrees in theater and art/visual communications, a masters degree in arts management, and is also a freelance illustrator.



James Elizy, II (Choreographer) (he/him)

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 the California Ballet Company. He also performed with Butterworth Dance Company and LaDiego Dance Theater. He directed the Gay Men's Chorus of San Diego's productions of *Oliver Button is a Sissy* and *Nutcracker: Men in Tights*. In 2004, he was invited to serve as one of the international judges for *Showcase!*, the Australian national dance competition.

Since moving to DC in 2008, James has performed with Dakshina/ Daniel Phoenix Singh Dance Company and the DC Cowboys. He serves many roles in GMCW depending on the concert: singer, dancer, dance captain, choreographer, stage director, and audition

co-coordinator. By day, James is a family physician at the Defense Health Agency.



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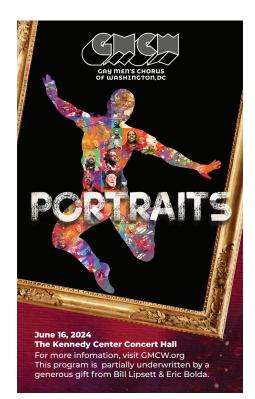
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400

Special thanks to the Lincoln Theatre team.

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

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GAY MEN'S CHORUS DF WASHINGTON, DC



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BASS

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John Knapp Alan Laing Nick Lawton Samilet Lee (SL) John Levengood Gari Lewis Andrew McIlroy José Morales James Murphy Yoshiyuki Nishio Ronald Norberg Pat O'Connor Todd Paul Dana Peterman Dean Reichard William Riggins **Blake Roberts** Craig Ruskin JR Russ Murray Sandmeyer John Santell Adam Schwartz Alec Sherman Morgan Slusher Colin Smith William Stroupe Jahdiel Torres Cabá David Treacher Brian Walther Dustin Winkel Yiming Xu

SUPPORT

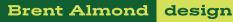
Danny Aldous Sherri Bale Michael Bigley Jerry Blackmon Steven Bobys Tomeika Bowden Michael Cunningham Mark Di Phillipo Robert Featherstone Carroll Hanson Steve Herman Eve Hill Jeffrev Hollands Kevin Huang **Derrick Jones** Daniel Kingslev Mark Klein Robert Klein (SL) Frederick J. Krebs Greg Kubiak Tim Lewis Betsy Libretta Dale Mott Steven Oatmeyer Robert Pare Jr. John U. Robinson Jeb Stenhouse Nicole Streeter Gary Turner Yuri Velasquez Matthew Zagorski

SL = Section Leader





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The Harmony Award is GMCW's highest honor. The awards are presented by the Chorus's Board of Directors to individuals and organizations from the community, and an individual from within the Chorus family. Recipients include:

Individuals from the Community:

Peter D. Rosenstein, LGBTQ+ community activist, 2004 David Catania, DC Councilmember, 2005 Frank Kameny, Gay rights movement pioneer, 2006 Adrian Fenty, DC Mayor, 2007 Noi Chudnoff*, business proprietor and arts patron, 2008 The Right Reverend V. Gene Robinson, Episcopal bishop, 2009 John Berry, Director, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, 2010 Barney Frank, U.S. Congressman, Massachusetts, 2012 Eric Schaeffer, Signature Theatre Artistic Director, 2014 Kevin Jennings, GLSEN founder & Obama "safe schools" appointee, 2015 Marsha Pearson, GMCW founder, 2016 Muriel Bowser, DC Mayor, 2018 Wendy Rieger, NBC4-TV news anchor, 2019 Phil Mendelson, DC Council Chairperson, 2022 Tammy Baldwin, US Senator, 2023

Organizations:

The Mautner Project, national Lesbian health organization, 2004 Holland & Knight, international law firm, 2005 Food and Friends, food and nutrition service providers, 2006 Metro DC PFLAG, education and advocacy organization, 2007 SMYAL, 2008 Washington DC Metropolitan Police Department's Gay and Lesbian Liaison Unit, 2009 Immigration Equality, 2010 Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, 2011 Washington Blade, 2012 Team DC. 2014 Williams Institute, 2015 National Center for Transgender Equality, 2016 NLGJA: The Association of LGBTQ Journalists, 2017 Whitman-Walker Health, 2018 Casa Ruby and NBC Out, 2019 Metro Weekly, 2022 The Wanda Alston Foundation, 2023

Individuals from the Chorus family:

Steve "Soph" Herman, 2004 Gary Regan and Roger Bergstrom, 2005 Carl Baldwin & Gary Turner and David Streit, 2006 Phil Rogerson, 2007 Laurence Rosen, 2008 Michael Baker, 2009 Jeff Buhrman, 2010 Greg Kubiak, 2011 Mark Hennen, 2012 Joe Vignali, 2013 Tom Nichols & Dan Chadburn, 2014 Michael E. Hill, 2015 Christopher Grieder & Stuart Kopperman, 2016 John Moran* and Jack Reiffer, 2017 Marcus Brown and Rob Hall, 2018 Charles Berardesco, 2019 Robert T. Boaz*, 2022 Timothy Allmond & Robert Klein, 2023

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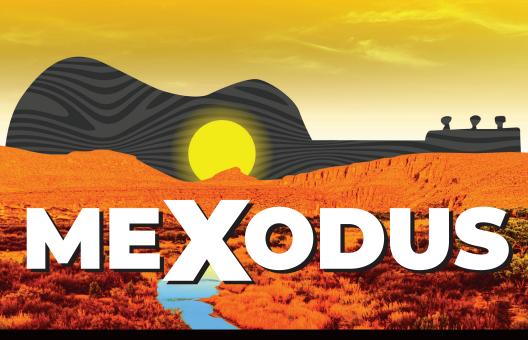
MISSION

The Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC (GMCW) sings to inspire equality and inclusion with musical performances and education promoting justice and dignity for all.

OVERVIEW

GMCW is the largest LGBTQ+ chorus in the nation's capital. We are a renowned performance group. Since 1981, we've performed shows nationally, internationally, and athome in Washington, DC. To date, we have 250+ singing members, four select ensembles, a youth chorus, over 500 donors, and an annual audience of 10,000+. Our mission is to use music to promote equality, achieve justice, and overcome our differences. Over the last 42 years, we've put on numerous shows and done hours and hours of community outreach. We've sung and danced our hearts out around the country, including our Equality Tours in 2017, 2018, and 2019. We've been around the world, too, including stops in Cuba, Iceland, and Ukraine. We've sung for the Clintons, the Bushes, the Obamas, and the Bidens. Alongside Alan Cumming, Carol Channing, Chita Rivera, and Angela Lansbury. We've visited many prestigious venues, including the Kennedy Center, the White House, and Carnegie Hall, just to name a few.

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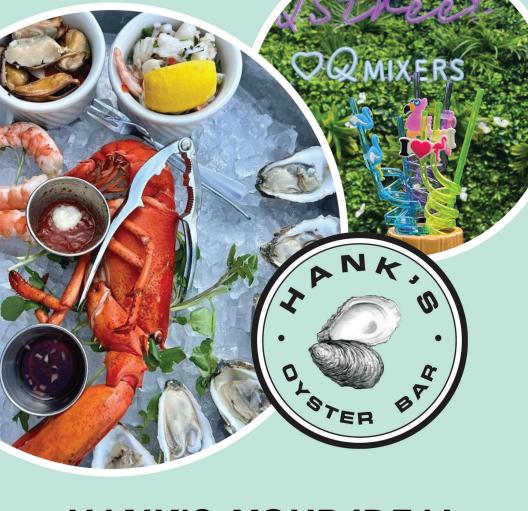
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BRAND NEW DAY/JOY TO THE WORLD

Ooh... Oh... Joy to the world! Joy to the world! The Lord is come. Woo!

Everybody look around 'Cause there's a reason to rejoice you see! Everybody come out and Let's commence to singing joyfully!

Everybody look up and feel the hope that We've been waiting for! Everybody be glad because our silent fear And dread are gone!

Freedom, you see Has got our hearts singing so joyfully! Just look about You owe it to yourself to check it out. Can't you feel a brand new day.

Joy to the world!

Everybody be glad because the sun is Shining just for us. Everybody wake up into the morning Into happiness! Hello world! It's like a different way of living now Thank You World! I always knew that we'd be Free somehow.

In harmony, let's show the world That we've got liberty! It's such a change for us to live So independently!

And He shall reign forever and ever. Can't you feel a brand new day. And He shall reign forever and ever. Can't you feel a brand new day.

Joy to the world! The Lord is come Let earth receive her... Can't you feel a brand new day. Let every heart Prepare Him room! Can't you feel a brand new day. Can't you feel a brand new day.

King of Kings, And Lord of Lords! Can't you feel a brand new day Can't you feel a brand new day Everybody sing joy! It's a brand new day! It's a brand new day!

LITTLE DRUMMER BOY

Come they told me, Pa rum pum pum pum, A newborn King to see, Pa rum pum pum pum.

Our finest gifts we bring, Pa rum pum pum pum To lay before the King Pa rum pum pum pum, Rum pum pum pum, Rum pum pum pum.

So, to honor him Pa rum pum pum pum, when we come.

Little baby, pa rum pum pum pum I am a poor boy too, rum pum, pum! I have no gifts to bring, Pa rum pum pum pum.

That's fit to give the King, Pa rum pum pum pum, Rum pum pum pum Rum pum pum Shall I play for you, rum pum pum, On my drum?

Pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum pum rum pum play for you Rum pa pum pum pum pum. Pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum pum rum pum play for you, rum pa pum pum pum pum.

Shall I play my drum?

Mary nodded, Pa rum pum pum pum, The ox and lamb kept time, Pa rum pum pum pum I played my drum for Him, Pa rum pum pum pum I played my best for Him, pa rum pum pum pum, Rum pum pum pum. Then He smiled at me Pa rum pum pum. Me and my drum. Me and my drum.

OSEH SHALOM

Oseh shalom bimromav Hu ya'aseh shalom aleinu V'al kol Yisrael. V'al kol Yisrael. V'imru amen. V'imru amen. V'al kol. V'al kol. V'al kol. Yisrael. Yisrael. (repeat)



Oseh shalom Bimromav.

Hu ya'aseh, hu ya'aseh, V'al kol, v'al kol, Yisrael, Yisrael. V'al kol Yisrael. V'al kol Yisrael. (repeat) V'al kol. V'al kol. Yisrael.

Oseh shalom Bimromav Hu ya'aseh shalom.

Ahleinu V'al kol Yisrael. Ah… Veimru Amen.

Amen. Amen. V'al kol. V'al kol. Oseh shalom!

English Translation: May the One who makes peace in high places make peace for us, for all of Israel, and now we say amen.

STILL, STILL, STILL

Still, still, still One can hear the falling snow For all is hushed, the world is sleeping Radiant stars, their vigil keeping Still, still, still One can hear the falling snow

Sleep, sleep, sleep Lie still in slumber deep The night is peaceful all around you Close your eyes, let sleep surround you Sleep, sleep, sleep Lie still in slumber deep.

Dream, dream, dream Of the joyous day to come. While guardian angels without number Watch you as you sweetly slumber. Dream, dream, dream Of the joyous day to come. Dream, dream, dream Of the joyous day to come.

WHEN WE'RE TOGETHER

Sure, it's nice to open a gift that's tied up With a perfect bow But the greatest present of all Was given to me long ago.

It's something I would never trade, It's the family that we've made And when we're together, I have everything on my list. And when we're together, I have all I wished.

All around the Christmas tree, There'll be dreams coming true. But when we're together Then my favorite gift is you.

I would travel miles and miles and I would follow any star I'd go almost any place If it's any place you are 'Cause when we're together I'll forever feel at home And when we're together We'll be safe and warm.

Doesn't matter where we are If you're there with me 'Cause when we're together, That's my favorite place to be 'Cause when we're together It's a holiday every night And when we're together Then the season's bright I don't need the bells to ring I'll know when it's here 'Cause when we're together I could stay forever And when we're together It's my favorite time of year.

UMOJA

Umoja Umoja Umoja (unity).

IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR

It's the most wonderful time of the year! With the kids jingle-belling And ev'ryone telling you, "Be of good cheer!" It's the most wonderful time Of the year!

It's the hap... happiest season of all! With those holiday greetings And gay happy meetings When friends come to call. It's the hap... happiest season of all!

There'll be parties for hosting, Marshmallows for toasting, And caroling out in the snow There'll be scary ghost stories And tales of the glories of Christmases long, long ago. It's the most wonderful time Of the year!



There'll be much mistletoe-ing And hearts will be glowing When loved ones are near; It's the most wonderful time Of the year!

There'll be parties for hosting, Marshmallows for toasting, And caroling out in the snow; There'll be scary ghost stories And tales of the glories of Christmases long, long ago.

It's the most wonderful time Of the year! There'll be much mistletoe-ing and hearts Will be glowing when loved ones are near;

It's the most wonderful, Most marvelous, Most fabulous, most joyous, Most wonderful time of the year, The most wonderful time of the year!

CAROL OF THE BELLS

Hark! How the bells, Sweet silver bells, All seem to say, Throw cares away. Christmas is here, Bringing good cheer, To young and old, meek and the bold. Ding-dong-ding-dong, That is their song, With joyful ring, all caroling.

One seems to hear, words of the cheer From everywhere, filling the air, Oh, how they pound, raising the sound Or here and there, telling their tale Gaily they ring, while People sing Songs of good cheer, Christmas is here Merry, merry, merry, merry Christmas.

Hark! How the bells, Sweet silver bells, All seem to say, Throw cares away. Christmas is here, Bringing good cheer, To young and old, meek and the bold. Ding-dong-ding-dong, That is their song, With joyful ring, all caroling

One seems to hear, words of the cheer From everywhere, filling the air, Oh, how they pound, raising the sound Or here and there, telling their tale Gaily they ring, while people sing Songs of good cheer, Christmas is here. Merry, merry, merry, merry Christmas Merry, merry, merry, merry Christmas.

On, on they send, on without end Their joyful tone, to every home On, on they send, on without end Their joyful tone, to every home Ding-dong-ding-dong.

EVERYBODY'S WAITIN' FOR THE MAN WITH THE BAG

Old Mr. Kringle, Is soon gonna jingle The bells that'll tinkle All your troubles away Ev'rybody's waitin' for the Man with the bag 'Cause Christmas is comin' again.

He's got a sleighful, It's not gonna stay full He's got stuff to drop At ev'ry stop of the way Ev'rybody's waitin' for the man with the bag 'Cause Christmas is comin' again.

He'll be here with the Answers to the prayers That you've made through the year You'll get yours If you've done ev'rything you should Extra special good.

He'll make this December, The one you'll remember The best and the merriest You ever did have Ev'rybody's waitin' for the man with the bag Christmas is here again.

Old Mr. Kringle, is soon gonna jingle All the bells that'll tinkle All your troubles a way Ev'rybody's waitin' for the man with the bag Christmas is here again

He's got a sleighful and It's not gonna stay full Got stuff that he's droppin' Ev'ry stop of the way Ev'rybody's waitin' for the man with the bag Christmas is here again

He'll be here with the answer to the prayers That you've made through the year You'll get yours if you've done Ev'rything you should Extra special good.

He'll make this December, The one you'll remember



The best and the merriest you ever did have Ev'rybody's waitin', They're all congregatin' Patiently waitin' for the... Waitin' for the man with the bag.

ROOM

You came and sat beside me (Good King Wenceslas looked out) As carols filled the air (Deck the halls with boughs of holly) And you told me of your story (O come, o come Emanuel) A tale of your troubled years And I wondered as I watched you Clutch your bag and hold it tight Yes, I wondered as I watched you Disappear into the night. (Silent night) Will you find room in a stable? Is there a place where they know your name Will you find hearthfire and laughter Colored lights 'round a window pane? Will there be space at table And kindness to share And if the manger child should come now Would He find you there?

And I wondered as we parted And I looked into your eyes If I should see you again Would I stop for a friend or Would I simply pass you by?

Will there be room in my stable to stay, Stay the night And where the lonely find welcome Midst the gifts and the glist'ning lights? Will there be space at my table For the ones we'd keep apart, If the manger child should come now, Would He find Christmas?

Would he find room in my stable Where the wanderer might stay the night. Where the lonely find welcome, Midst gifts and glist'ning lights? Will there be space at the table, For the ones we'd keep apart. And if the manger child should come now, Would He find Christmas in our hearts? In our hearts!

SILVER BEARS

You know there's black bears And brown bears and grizzlies and polars Then there's sun bears and sloth bears And pandas with molars But do you recall the most festive bear Of them all? Silver bears, silver bears It's Christmas time and they're pretty Hair of gray, makes me say I can't wait till Christmas Day.

On the sidewalk, older men walk, Dressed in bright red and white My new man crush is named Father Christmas. Bearded daddies, silver foxes Hot and hairy and gray And on every street corner you see.

Silver bears, silver bears It's Christmas time and they're pretty See them strut, love that gut. Helping to make Christmas gay.

Strings of people all are waiting Just to sit on his lap I think I know who I want for Christmas. You'll be nice and I'll be naughty We'll both get what we want At the top of my wish list you'll see, You'll see.

Silver bears, silver bears It's Christmas time and they're pretty See them prance, watch them dance. Helping to make Christmas gay. Helping to make Christmas gay.

FAVORITE ONE

We want you to know our holiday show Now features our fav'rite ho ho ho! We give you Mrs. Claus's bouncing son! Wherever he goes this jolly old soul brings Presents and cheer and love to ev'ryone. Hooray for our favorite one. (repeat)

Hooray for our favorite, Hooray for our favorite, Hooray for our favorite one. Hooray!

NUTCRACKER JINGLES

Dashing through the snow In a one-horse open sleigh O'er the fields we go Laughing all the way Bells on bobtail ring Making spirits bright What fun it is to ride and sing A sleighing song tonight!

Jingle bells, jingle bells, Jingle all the way. Oh! What fun it is to ride In a one-horse open sleigh. Jingle bells, jingle bells,



Jingle all the way; Oh! What fun it is to ride In a one-horse open sleigh.

(repeat)

Dashing through the snow In a one-horse open sleigh O'er the fields we go Laughing all the way Bells on bobtail ring Making spirits bright What fun it is to ride and sing A sleighing song tonight!

It's jingle bells, jingle bells, What fun to ride in a one horse open sleigh. Hey!

GLORIA

Demons on my shoulder Monsters in my head Shadow in the water Will you be my friend? The world revolves around me As I lay in my bed Dreaming of more, more.

Be yourself so loud tonight They'll hear you from the stars (And they will hear your voice) Sparkling like dynamite If that is who you are (is who you are) A hymn for Gloria For Gloria, Gloria A hymn for Gloria For Gloria, Gloria, Gloria.

It's all but a hymn for Gloria. It's all but a hymn for Gloria.

EIGHT DAYS OF LIGHTS

Sh'monat y'mei. Chanukah Eight days of lights Haneirot halalu kodesh Eight sacred lights! Ah, Ah We give thanks to Your name For Your miracles, Eight days of lights.

Eight sacred lights. Sacred lights, sacred lights!

Sh'monat y'mei Chanukah Eight days of lights, Haneirot halalu kodesh.

Eight sacred lights Eight sacred, sacred lights!

O Chanukah. O Chanukah

O Chanukah. O Chanukah Chanukah. O Chanukah, Chanukah. Chanukah!

Eight sacred lights, Eight sacred lights Ah... Ah Eight sacred lights. Sacred lights, Sacred lights!

HAPPY ABBADAYS

I was cheated by you and I think you know when So I made up my mind This must come to an end. Look at me now, will I ever learn? I don't know how Baby J makes me lose control There's a savior inside my soul.

Just one push, and all the angels will sing One more push, I think His head is crowning Woh, woh Mamma Mary, she's a "virgin," My, my! Immaculate conception, Mamma Mary Stuck in Bethlehem Only an ass for transportation. Hark! I hear wise men knockin' Why did they let livestock in? Jesus, born the King of Israe!!

I've been here all night I was first in line Santa I'm still free Take a chance on me.

If you're all alone. And the elves are still at home Santa I'm still free, take a chance on me. I'm a reindeer that can lift you off the ground Take a chance on me, I won't let you down.

If you're all alone And the elves are still at home Santa I'm still free, Take a chance on me. Gonna do my very best, And it ain't no lie If you put me to the test, if you let me fly If you let me fly, if you let me try. Take a chance on me. Take a chance on me.

Ah. Ah. Oo. You can prance, you can fly Santa's sleigh through the night sky! Oo, see that nose, Watch it gleam, Rudolph the prancing queen. Christmas eve and the fog is low, Santa can't see the way to go.



Lookin' out for the chimneys Of the girls and boys. Good ones will all get toys.

Rudolph with your nose so bright Won't you help guide my sleigh tonight You can lead all the reindeer, Flying through the snow Now is your time to prance, Well Rudolph here's your chance.

You are the prancing queen, Only you can save Christmas eve! Prancing queen, Now you'll go down in history oh yeah. You can prance. You can fly. Santa's sleigh through the night sky! Oo, see that nose, Watch it gleam, Rudolph the prancing queen!

HE REIGNS FOREVER

We sing praises to the King For He is the King of Kings. We sing praises to the King For He is the King of Kings.

Give Him glory for He is the King of Kings. (repeat)

We sing praises to the King For He is the King of Kings. We sing praises to the King For He is the King of Kings.

Give Him glory for He is the King of Kings. (repeat)

All hail King Jesus! All hail Emmanuel! (repeat)

He reigns forever, He reigns forever He reigns forever, and evermore! All hail King Jesus!

ANTHEM OF PRAISE

Praise Him with the timbrel and dance Praise Him with the Sound of the trumpet Praise Him with the psaltery and harp Let everything that Hath breath praise the Lord. (repeat)

Oh magnify the Lord, Magnify the Lord with me Magnify the Lord, Oh magnify the Lord with me Magnify the Lord, magnify the Lord with me Magnify the Lord, Let us exalt his name together.

Praise Him with the timbrel and dance Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet Praise Him with the psaltery and harp Let everything that hath Breath praise the Lord.

Oh magnify the Lord, Magnify the Lord with me Magnify the Lord, Oh magnify the Lord with me Magnify the Lord, magnify the Lord with me Magnify the Lord Let us exalt his name together.

Oh be joyful all ye people, Oh be joyful and clap your hands Oh be joyful all ye people, Oh be joyful and clap your hands. (repeat)

Oh, oh, oh praise Him. (repeat)

Lift Him up, lift Him up Lift Him up, lift Him up. (repeat)

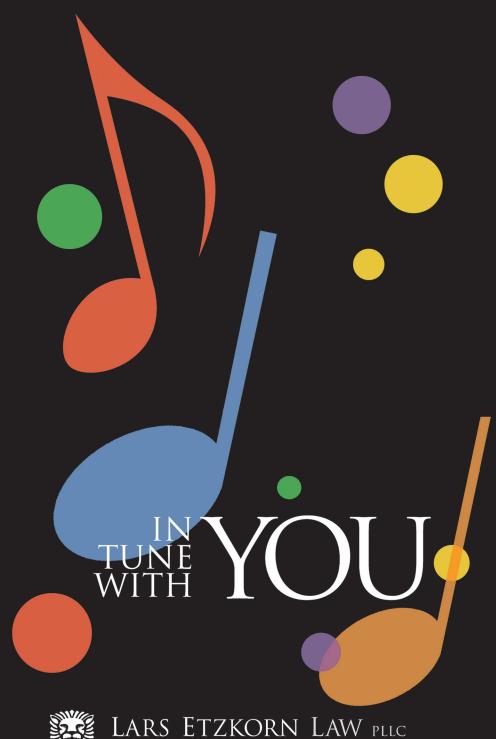
Higher and higher Lift Him up, lift Him up Lift Him up, lift Him up. (repeat)

Let everything that hath breath praise Him Let everything that hath breath praise Him Let everything that hath breath Praise him the Lord!

THE TWELVE ROCKIN' DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

On the 1st day of Christmas, My true love gave to me A partridge in a pear tree.

2nd... 2 turtle doves...
3rd... 3 French hens...
4th... 4 calling birds...
5th... 5 golden rings...
6th... 6 geese a-laying...
7th... 7 swans a-swimming...
8th... 8 maids a-milking...
9th... 9 ladies dancing...
10th... 10 lords a-leaping...
11th... 11 pipers piping...
12th... 12 drummers drumming...



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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 Laurence A. 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" Quiñones Shannon Rozner

2013

Joe Bloomer Marcus Brown Sean Robinson

2014

Timothy E. Allmond Raymond Burditt Mary Scott Ryan L. Williams

2015

Emérito Amaro-Carambot Larry Cohen John-Paul Hayworth Rob Serpa, Jr.

2016

Chris Asaro Rick Davis Suzette Derrevere James Ellzy Rob Neighbour Lyn VanNoy

2017

Jarrod Bennett Chipper Dean Jay Gilliam Matt Graf

2018

Howland Hartley Mark Hegedus Dan Kaufman Mario Sengco

2019

Jim Arshem* Corey Bent Romm Gatongay Matt Holland Mark Klein Samilet Lee John U. Robinson

2020

Ben Harris Derrick Jones Betsy Libretta Kevin Thomason Bernard Vicary

2021

Michael Dumlao Jim Gruschus C. Paul Heins Jim Madigan Raymond Rinaldo Bryce Weems Micah Yarbrough

2022

Brent Almond Tom Boeke Jonathan Chaffin Michael Hughes Brett Kessler

2023

Michael Aylward Rick Bennett Justin Fyala Solomon HaileSelassie Keygan Miller Paul Negron Kirk Sobell Santos Torres



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

While your attorney or accountant can provide you with more information, GMCW has several corporate sponsors — both financial planners and attorneys — who specialize in LGBTQ+ estate issues. We are happy to share this resource list with you upon request. As a member of the Ovation Society, you will be invited to attend special events and receptions especially for Ovation Society members.

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

GMCW Ovation Society

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