

**Various Voices  
North American GALA Choruses Festival Chorus  
FAQs**

**1. What is Various Voices and who is eligible to participate in the North American GALA Choruses Festival Chorus?**

Various Voices is a long weekend of performances, workshops, meetings and special events hosted by the LGBT choruses of Europe. Any singer from a GALA Choruses member chorus is eligible to participate.

**2. When/where is Various Voices and when/where would the North American GALA Chorus (NAGC) be performing?**

Various Voices will be held from Friday, May 1 to Monday, May 4, 2009 in London. The current plan is for the NAGC to perform on Saturday May 2 in the Queen Elizabeth Hall in the South Bank Centre. The NAGC will be conducted by Dr. Timothy Seelig.

**3. What would the NAGC be performing at Various Voices?**

The NAGC will be performing the European premier of Sing for the Cure with full orchestra. Sing for the Cure is a powerful song cycle which chronicles the diagnosis, treatment and survival of breast cancer commissioned in 2000 by The Turtle Creek Chorale and The Women's Chorus of Dallas. It has been performed in nearly every major U.S. city as a fundraiser for Komen for the Cure.

**4. How would the singers learn the music?**

A piano/vocal score and full performance CD of Sing for the Cure by The Turtle Creek Chorale and The Women's Chorus of Dallas are available. Email Scott Chilcott at [schilcott8@comcast.net](mailto:schilcott8@comcast.net) if you need the music and CD. The cost is \$13 and it can be charged to a credit card. We have located rehearsal CDs as well are working on getting those to registered singers.

**5. What would the travel and housing arrangements be?**

Participants would make their own travel and housing arrangements at their own cost. The Various Voices web site provides a reference to a housing service, Hotelopia, which shows example hotel costs ranging from \$71 to \$310 per night, double occupancy. The Hotelopia information includes the distance and manner of travel from the hotels to the Southbank Centre i.e. 15 minutes by tube, short walk, etc.

## **6. Would there be a delegate registration cost?**

We are past the registration period with GALA Choruses and any further registrations must be done directly on the Various Voices web site. Registration at the regular rate (100 pounds or ~\$150) closes December 31. Late registration is 125 pounds or ~ \$185. When you reach the question asking if you are performing with a chorus look for the "GALA Chorus – Sing for the Cure" option.

## **7. Is it necessary to register directly with Various Voices if you originally registered with GALA Choruses?**

Yes. You will need to go to the Various Voices web site and create a logon. After you receive your password go back onto the Various Voices web site and register. When you get to the screen that asks if you are performing with a chorus look for the "GALA Chorus – Sing for the Cure" option and choose that. At the end of the registration you will reach a screen that says that your chorus has indicated that payment will be coming from the chorus for all of its members and that your registration will be finalized after payment is received. There is nothing further you need to do.

## **8. When would we need to arrive in London and how long would we need to be there?**

You would need to arrive no later than early in the day on Thursday, April 30. The performance is the evening of May 2 so your departure could be no earlier than Sunday, May 3.

## **9. Would there be any community housing available?**

Yes. There is an extensive discussion of "host accommodation" on the Various Voices web site at <http://www.variousvoiceslondon.org.uk/vv/london/host.aspx>. There are 50 hosted homes in the database currently and Various Voices has a major push underway to add to that. The Various Voices staff recommend that anyone interested in host accommodations read the hosted accommodation charter on their web site. Bookings will open in January. They advise that you book hotel accommodations and revise if you get hosted. The length of your stay in host accommodations is entirely between you and your host should you wish to stay in London before or after Various Voices.

**10. Is there still room to join the GALA Chorus performing Sing for the Cure?**

Yes. We have ~100 singers registered to date but we welcome additional singers. We could particularly use altos and sopranos.

**11. Is the registration fee refundable or transferable?**

The fee is **not** refundable but it can be transferred.

**12. Where can I find more information about Various Voices?**

The Various Voices web site at <http://www.variousvoiceslondon.org.uk> provides additional information on the event.

**13. Do partners need to register if they are going to attend the NAGC performance?**

No, so long as they are not singing. Every event at Various Voices is open to the general public. Tickets will go on sale around December.

**14. What is and is not included in delegate registration?**

Various Voices is structured in a somewhat more a la carte fashion than GALA's Festival so you need to review the Various Voices web site carefully to see what events and workshops are included with your registration and which are ticketed separately. Tickets will be sold through the Southbank Centre box office for those events ticketed separately.

**15. Will we be performing with music?**

You will be permitted to use music. Please bring a black binder if you plan to use your music.

**16. Is a list of registered singers available should we wish to organize any regional pre-London get togethers?**

Yes, the list of registered singers is included on the GALA Choruses web site.

**17. Is there any place to post “looking for a roommate” or similar notices?**

Yes, if you send such information to Scott Chilcott, GALA’s development director, at [schilcott8@comcast.net](mailto:schilcott8@comcast.net), we will attempt to connect individuals looking for roommates.

**18. When and where will rehearsals be held?**

Rehearsals are tentatively set for the following times. They may change a bit, but will remain as close to this schedule as possible.

Wednesday orchestra rehearsal; no singers  
Thursday 7:00 - 9:30 PM  
Friday 2:00 – 4:30 PM  
4:30 – 5:30 PM soloists and narrators only  
  
Saturday 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM  
4:30 – 5:00 PM orchestra only  
5:00 – 7:00 PM tech and dress  
8:00 PM performance

We do not have the rehearsal locations yet and will post that information when it becomes available.

**19. How do I purchase advance tickets for friends/spouses to attend Sing for the Cure?**

Tickets will go on sale through the Southbank Centre box office in January. Watch the Various Voices web site.

**20. What will we wear for the performance?**

Men and women will wear solid color tops with black bottoms. There can be no brands, logos or text on the shirt, it must be long sleeve and one of the colors of the rainbow flag. Wear comfortable shoes!

**21. How will soloists and narrators be chosen?**

The organizers and the Komen Foundation are working on celebrities to assist with the event. However, there will most likely be openings for participating singers to do narration and/or solo parts. We will let you know as early as possible. If so, these will be done by CD or Mp3 audition for Dr. Seelig.