

**GALA Choruses, Inc.**  
*August 2006 eBlast*

**Please note that not all email software programs recognize the formatting of our communications. Please send any email updates to Al Baggett, Education and Membership Services Coordinator, at [abaggett@galachoruses.org](mailto:abaggett@galachoruses.org)**

**Included in this month's eBlast is information regarding: 2006 Annual Conference; GALA Choruses sponsor, American Airlines; New Website Launch/On-line Resource Library and Master Calendar; and Job Opportunities.**

**2006 Annual Conference, September 1-4, 2006; Miami, FL**

Less than one month away, GALA Choruses Annual Conference will kick off with an opening reception on Thursday evening, August 31, underwritten by the Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau. Friday, September 1, will include a variety of breakout sessions of interest to administrative, board, and artistic leadership, as well as the tour of the Miami Performing Arts Center. Friday evening, the Opening Concert will be at the historic Gusman Theater and feature the local choruses from Miami, Ft. Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. All-day institutes will be held on Saturday, September 2 and will include sessions for board, administrative, and artistic leaders. Saturday evening you will have free time to explore the sites of Miami! Breakout sessions will continue on Sunday, September 3, as well as an expo during the lunch break. SATB, TTBB, and SSAA Reading Sessions are also scheduled, as well as Board, Men's, Women's, and Mixed Roundtables.

Breakout session titles include: *Never to be Performed Again! Commissioning Music; Yoga as Inspiration for Rehearsal Focus and Vocal Production; A Workshop on Copyright and Mechanical Licensing; Survivor-Reality in the Boardroom; Mission-based Collaborations Beyond the Concert Hall; Rueda de Casino: Salsa Dancing for Choirs; A Success Story: Organizational Ideas for the First Five Years; Everything You Want to Know (that We Can Tell You) about Festival 8; CD Production/How to Succeed at Recording without Really Trying Your Patience; Member Retention Programs that Really Work; Fundraising Toolbox: Tools to Raise Money Effectively; How to Work the Media without Working Your Last Gay Nerve; Everything You've Ever Wanted to Know about Asking Foundations and Corporations for Money; So, You're the Treasurer? Tips to Manage Your Chorus's Finances without Eight Years of College; QuickBooks: A 'How To' Workshop; Staying Relevant: How Do You Do It Year after Year?; Building your On-line Community; Bridging the Gap between Database Management and Fundraising; Copyright and Mechanical Licenses; The Ups and Downs of Conducting-A Review of the Technical Basics.*

Singers Weekend rehearsals will be held throughout the weekend. The conference will conclude Sunday evening with a banquet and performance by the Singers Weekend Chorus! Individual singers are invited to attend the conference and participate in the Singers Weekend Chorus, under the direction of Larry Lapin, Professor and Program Director of Studio and Vocal Jazz at the University of Miami. The Singers Weekend

Chorus will rehearse an exciting and new vocal jazz program throughout the weekend and perform at the Banquet on Sunday night. **Registration materials as well as on-line link are available at <http://galachoruses.org/>.**

The host hotel for the conference is the Hyatt Regency Miami. To make reservations, please call 1-800-233-1234. Please remember to inform the reservation agent that you are part of GALA Choruses Annual Conference. **The cut off date for reservations under our room block is Monday, August 7, 2006.** Room rates are \$119 for single or double occupancy.

Does your chorus have a new CD or DVD to sell? Let us help you by selling it on consignment at the Annual Conference in Miami. For a nominal fee, we'll include your merchandise at the Conference Expo. Please contact Brad Ward, Executive Director, at [bward@galachoruses.org](mailto:bward@galachoruses.org) for information.

There's also still time to advertise in the Annual Conference book. GALA Choruses members are entitled to a discounted advertising rate. Ads are due by August 15, so there's still time! For a rate card, please contact Brad Ward at [bward@galachoruses.org](mailto:bward@galachoruses.org).

#### **Annual Conference Presenter Request**

Has your chorus had some great coverage in the media? If so, Chip Alfred from Voices of Kentuckiana in Louisville wants to hear from you. Chip is leading a seminar at GALA Choruses Annual Conference in Miami entitled, *How to Work the Media without Working Your Last Gay Nerve*. He's looking for success stories and visual examples of how choruses "worked the media" successfully and got results that benefited the chorus. You can e-mail Chip for more information at [chipinlexky@insightbb.com](mailto:chipinlexky@insightbb.com) or call (859) 806-8964. Please let him know if you're planning to go to Miami in September, and you can tell the story yourself at his session.

#### **American Airlines**

**NOW BOOK YOUR AIRFARE DIRECTLY ON-LINE!**

It's simple to take advantage of a 5% discount on AA, American Eagle, and AmericanConnections! After you have selected your flight(s) under the "Enter Passenger Details" tab, go to the "AA.com Discount Code" field and enter in **A2486AV**. This discount is valid for travel 08/29/06 – 09/07/06 to Miami, Fort Lauderdale, or West Palm Beach areas. Please note that fares in "Q" and "O" inventories are not eligible for a discount. Go directly to <http://www.aa.com/> to book your flights.

#### **GALA Choruses New Website/On-line Resource Library Update**

We are happy to announce that the new website is almost complete and ready to be launched. As you know, the new site is home to GALA Choruses new Resource Library, which is a new benefit for our members. Members are still invited to submit sample documents that you or your chorus uses in a variety of professional situations. Thank you to the choruses who have already submitted. If you have generic documents such as a job description or Human Resource documents that might be of use to another chorus, please send them to Al Baggett at [abaggett@galachoruses.org](mailto:abaggett@galachoruses.org).

### **Online Master Calendar Submissions**

Check out the goings-on around the United States and internationally by visiting the association's Master Calendar at <http://galachoruses.org/>. If your chorus has dates to submit, please send to [info@galachoruses.org](mailto:info@galachoruses.org), and be sure to include: title of the event, date, start time, location (venue), name of chorus, phone contact, email contact, and website address.

### **Job Opportunities within Our Extended GALA Choruses Family**

The following positions are currently open; contact information for each is included below.

#### **Music Director—GLAM (Gay, Lesbian, & Allied Musicians) Youth Choir**

GLAM Youth Choir of San Francisco, CA is looking for a new Music Director. GLAM fosters the acceptance of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) youth, and their allies by empowering and inspiring its members and community through mentorship, education, and musical presentations. GLAM provides a welcoming, safe, and creative arena for all youth, regardless of their financial status, home situation, sexual orientation, or gender identity. GLAM is a relatively "new" chorus, and we began rehearsing in February 2006. We have approximately 15-20 members, ages 12-22, from all over the San Francisco Bay Area. We rehearse weekly, and perform approximately 18 times per year at a variety of concerts and outreach events. See <http://glamyouthchoir.org/> for more information. The deadline to apply for this position is September 1. The position starts October 1. Interested candidates should email Aidan Dunn, General Manager, at [glamyouthchoir@yahoo.com](mailto:glamyouthchoir@yahoo.com) for more information.

#### **Artistic Director & Conductor--VOICES of Kentuckiana**

VOICES has been providing quality choral music to the Kentuckiana region since 1994. The chorus is fully-inclusive of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and heterosexual friends. VOICES is a non-auditioned, mixed chorus comprised of 60-70 volunteer singers, and a small, auditioned group of 8 – 12 voices. See <http://www.voicesky.org/> for more information. The Artistic Director will work with the Board to provide overall artistic leadership to the chorus. Specifically, he/she will: program, prepare, and conduct 2 - 3 full-length, major concerts per year; program, prepare, and conduct 2-5 outreach performances per year; prepare the chorus for GALA performance every 4th year; prepare the chorus for performances with other organizations as necessary; select and/or audition soloists from among the chorus or, as necessary and appropriate, from outside the chorus; select and/or audition instrumentalists as necessary and appropriate; and participate in public relations, marketing, and fundraising activities in conjunction with the Board as appropriate. Requirements include: professional training and experience in choral conducting; familiarity with a wide variety of musical styles and classical traditions; affinity for working with gays/lesbians; strong leadership, charisma, and interpersonal skills; and dedication to artistic achievement by amateur performers. Compensation will be commensurate with experience and availability. Position begins September 1, 2006. Annual time commitment: September 1 – June 30. Application materials: please send: cover letter, résumé and/or Curriculum Vitae, two letters of

recommendation, contact information of three additional professional references, and videotape/DVD of representative work. Deadline for application: August 15, 2006. Selected applicants will be interviewed by the Board of Directors and subject to a live audition with the chorus. Applications/materials should be sent to: Steve Adams, Board Chair, 6206 Regal Springs Drive, Louisville, KY 40205. For more information call (502) 721-9786 or email [sandmansta@aol.com](mailto:sandmansta@aol.com).

### **Co-Director--New Mexico Women's Chorus**

The New Mexico Women's Chorus is a non-auditioned feminist community chorus committed to improving our musical skill and welcoming women of all musical abilities and experience levels. We are seeking a co-director with choral directing experience who is familiar with women's voices, and who is able to coach and work respectfully with women of all musical abilities and comfort levels. You must be willing to work within the feminist and democratic structure of NMWC to help us meet our musical and organizational goals. We are a small-budget chorus, so this is a part-time position with a modest salary. The ideal co-director would also sing with the chorus when not directing. Please send resume to PO Box 40703, Albuquerque, NM 87105, or contact Caroline Parks ([cparks@mindspring.com](mailto:cparks@mindspring.com), 505-286-4037) Job Description: As a non-auditioned feminist community chorus, New Mexico Women's Chorus welcomes all women without regard to musical ability or experience level, sexual orientation, or gender identity, and we are committed as a group to improving our musical skill. NMWC is run democratically by chorus members, with a 7-member Board of Directors who manage business matters and chorus operations. Oversight of artistic affairs is shared between chorus membership, the Board, and the choral director or co-directors. Co-Director's responsibilities include: conducting the musical portion of chorus rehearsals and performances, and organizing and assisting in the production of section-based rehearsal tapes; collaborating with, determining placement of, and providing musical direction to singers, including coaching in vocal and choral techniques; working respectfully with women at various levels of musical performance, comfort, experience, and skill; working respectfully with differently-abled and special-needs members; collaborating with and providing musical direction to accompanists, instrumentalists, section leaders, ensembles, and other musical guests; working with the Board of Directors and the chorus membership to establish and achieve musical goals through program development, repertoire selection, and maintenance and improvement of artistic standards; performing related work as mutually agreed upon with the Board of Directors and the chorus membership; and collaborating with other choruses and their directors as appropriate (such as the New Mexico Gay Men's Chorus). Co-directors will work together, with Board input, to determine how conducting duties will be shared.

### **Artistic Director—Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus**

This is an interim position with permanent potential. Rehearse and prepare chorus for fall/holiday concert; time requirements and salary negotiable. Send introduction and resume to [lvgmc@yahoo.com](mailto:lvgmc@yahoo.com) or by mail to LVGMC, Box 20712, Lehigh Valley, PA 18002. Additional information can be obtained by calling (610) 366-3320.