

GALA Choruses, Inc.
September 2006 eBlast

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

American Airlines

American Airlines is an important sponsor of GALA Choruses. Any travel that's booked with GALA Choruses' Business ExtrAA number, #527561, will help us meet our obligations to ensure continued sponsorship from American Airlines. Also provide your own American AAdvantage number, because it allows both you and GALA Choruses to get free mileage. American Airlines and American Eagle have a long history of proudly serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community.

GALA Choruses New Website/On-line Resource Library Update

Visit the newly redesigned GALA Choruses website at <http://www.galachoruses.org/>. As you know, the new site is home to GALA Choruses new Resource Library, which is a new benefit for our members. Member choruses will be issued usernames and passwords later this month. 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.

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, 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 – a member of the Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses, and California's first queer and allied youth show choir – invites qualified candidates to apply for the position of part-time Music Director. This growing group of 15 – 20 non-auditioned young people, founded less than a year ago, seeks a candidate able to demonstrate the following: a minimum of five years of choral conducting or music directing experience; familiarity with the show choir genre, including repertoire; ability to work with instrumentalists, dancers and twirlers, as well as singers; expertise and passion for working with youth to achieve the highest possible musical standards; able to provide a compassionate, encouraging and nurturing educational environment at rehearsals and performances; willingness to model exemplary behavior at all times when representing the organization; a strong commitment to the mission of the organization, including confidence with community participation and outreach activities within and beyond the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities; ability to communicate

well, including speaking and writing expressively about music and related topics; willingness to work closely with a steering committee in such areas as membership recruitment, developing an annual budget, fundraising, and resource development.

The Music Director position is for season '06/'07, and may be renewable. Rehearsals are currently held on Wednesday afternoons in San Francisco, and performances are scheduled approximately once per month (with additional appearances in December and June). A modest honorarium will be offered. Application deadline is September 1, 2006, or until filled. Auditions may be held for selected candidates throughout September, and the position may begin as early as October, 2006. Please contact Aidan Dunn, Manager, for a complete application packet: glamyouthchoir@yahoo.com, Ph: 415-424-8495. To learn more about GLAM Youth Choir, visit: <http://glamyouthchoir.org/>.

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, 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 or by mail to LVGMC, Box 20712, Lehigh Valley, PA 18002. Additional information can be obtained by calling (610) 366-3320.

Operational Director—Columbus Gay Men’s Chorus

The Columbus Gay Men's Chorus seeks to hire a part-time Organizational Director to support the pursuit of our mission "Voices Raised, Lives Changed." CGMC was formed in 1990 and maintains the vision of its founding members to foster increased recognition, understanding and acceptance of gay men, lesbians, bisexuals and transgender persons. CGMC is a non-auditioned chorus open to all people regardless of vocal talent, musical abilities, race, gender, religion, age, physical abilities, sexual orientation or economic means. The members of CGMC are equally dedicated to performing vocal music of the highest quality for its audiences and to maintaining an atmosphere of camaraderie, support and respect for its diverse members. As a performing arts group, CGMC strives to enrich and to entertain its diverse audience through varied concerts and other performances comprised of a range of vocal, musical, theatrical and dance presentations. CGMC creates innovative, entertaining and provocative performances that enhance the contribution of the arts in the Columbus and Central Ohio communities and that honor, preserve and expand the artistry of the all-male chorus. In selecting accessible venues and providing ASL interpreters for its concert season, CGMC endeavors to perform and entertain all people. The Columbus Gay Men’s Chorus has created and may create other ensembles under the direction of the Artistic Staff that can perform, entertain and provide outreach to new audiences.

Duties will include, but are not limited to: enable the successful business operations of the Chorus; act with the full support of the Board of Directors and a talented volunteer staff; collaborate and communicate effectively with the Artistic Staff in support of their artistic vision; supervise the operational staff of the Chorus; report monthly to the Board of Directors on the state of affairs; plan, market and carry out successful events; and limited fundraising for CGMC, including recruiting advertisers and corporate sponsors. The successful candidate will have: experience working in the nonprofit environment; professional skills in time management and self-starting in an unstructured environment; excellent written and verbal communication skills; a flexible schedule which allows for work on Sunday evenings; moderate computer skills (experience with eTapestry or Quickbooks is not required but would be helpful); and a commitment to CGMC's mission and vision as stated above. Although there is no future or continued employment offered beyond the position of Operational Director, our strategic plan calls for CGMC to have a full-time Executive Director within three years. We will seek candidates for the Operational Director position who will also be well-qualified to serve as Executive Director.

This position will report to the Board President; direct reports include volunteer organizational staff. It is a part-time (20 hours / week on average), roughly \$22,500 per year. All application materials must be submitted by September 15, 2006 at 5:00pm. Please contact Paul Feeney at 614-228-CGMC or at president@cgmc.com to inquire

about the position. Interested persons should mail or email a cover letter (or writing sample) and current resume. References will be requested of final candidates. The Columbus Gay Men's Chorus is an equal opportunity employer and seeks to employ a staff which reflects our community. To that end, we will hire talented candidates regardless of vocal talent, musical abilities, race, gender, religion, age, physical abilities, sexual orientation or economic means.

Columbus Gay Men's Chorus
PO Box 2495
Columbus, OH 43216-2495
<http://www.cgmc.com/>

Artistic Director—Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus

The Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus Artistic Director / Conductor; salary is commensurate with experience. Please note that all interested parties are requested to submit a letter of intent, along with three original letters of recommendation under separate cover, to be postmarked no later than September 29, 2006, mailed to the following address:

AGMC A.D. Search Committee
c/o Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus
1379 Tullie Road, Ste. 200
Atlanta, GA 30329-2308
<http://www.agmchorus.org/>

With approximately 150 singing members and a twenty-five year history, The Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus is one of the premier GLBT arts organizations in the state of Georgia and the Southeast. The Chorus' unique contribution to the culture and diversity of the city, the state and the region is without parallel. Formed in 1981 by the current interim director Jeffery McIntire, the AGMC has maintained the vision of its founding members to foster increased recognition, understanding and acceptance of gay men, lesbians, bisexuals and transgender persons. The AGMC is an auditioned chorus whose members are dedicated to the performance of male-voice choral music of the highest quality for their audience while maintaining an atmosphere of camaraderie, support and respect for its diverse membership. As a performing arts organization, the AGMC strives to enrich and to entertain its diverse audience through varied concerts and other performances comprised of a range of vocal, musical, theatrical and dance productions.

Successful candidates for this position will possess: working knowledge of male choral musical repertoire in addition to a general knowledge of a broad body of music; superior conducting and rehearsal skills, including experience in multi-language repertoire (classical, opera, etc...); thorough understanding of the use and care of the male singing instrument; excellent artistic research and preparation skills as it relates to planning programs and future season programming; superior interpersonal and social skills - working with other members of the organization in a constructive and synergistic manner; candidate should have experience in developing, fostering and building funding relationships with individuals, private organizations and public organizations; excellent

verbal and written communication skills; excellent time-management skills; advanced degree in Music – Masters Level or above.

Please contact Michael Turnbull at 404-394-8120 or at michael@turnbull.net to inquire about the position. Interested persons should mail or email a cover letter, current resume, and three original letters of reference. The Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus is an equal opportunity employer.