



February 22, 2008

### No Talent Show



The World's Greatest No Talent Show, scheduled for Wednesday, July 16, 2008 will take place at the special event at Jungle Island in the Parrot Bowl. The program will run twice during the evening. We invite you to celebrate the glory and glamour of Queer Culture with acts ranging from the sublime to the outrageous.

Each member chorus of GALA Choruses may nominate one act. Examples of No Talent Show acts include comedy routines, baton twirling, impersonations of beloved and/or bygone stars, modern dance, poetry slams, whatever! Acts do not have to be musical. Participation is open to soloists and groups, but not entire choruses. [Click here](#) for more details and the forms to apply.



macy's.com

Macy's is the official sponsor of the Festival Village at our ambassador hotel, the

### Festival Housing Update

Many people who are planning to stay for the entire festival or arriving mid-week and staying through the end of the festival have indicated a check out date of July 19<sup>th</sup>. Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup> is the last day of the festival; however, there is a full day of concerts and the Closing Ceremony with the evening concluding around 10:30 pm. If your reservation is set up for check out on Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, but you would like to stay through the Closing Ceremony, please write to [housing@gmcbv.com](mailto:housing@gmcbv.com) and request that your reservation be amended to check out on Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup>. Please include your acknowledgement number in the e-mail. This request can also be made by fax.

PLEASE NOTE: The online reservation system is no longer available. In order for the Housing Bureau of the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau to best serve you, please complete the housing reservation form on our website and either fax or mail your reservation to the Housing Bureau. This way your reservation will be handled individually and result in a quicker acknowledgement response.

**Dr. Bernice Johnson Reagon & Toshi Reagon  
to Participate at Festival**

Radisson Hotel Miami  
(becoming a Hilton).



ACFEA Tour Consultants has continued its support for GALA Choruses by sponsoring the Opening Ceremonies at Festival.

**AA**vacations.com/rainbow  
As individual as you are

American Airlines is the official airline sponsor for Festival 2008 Miami. To receive discounted rates on travel to Festival go to [www.aa.com](http://www.aa.com) and use the code A0378AA.



Dr. Bernice Johnson Reagon and her daughter, Toshi Reagon, will be participating in the 25th anniversary celebration on Wednesday afternoon, July 16th. Dr. Reagon will also be conducting a master class for women on Tuesday, July 15th. For more than 40 years Bernice Johnson Reagon has been a major cultural voice for freedom and justice; singing, teaching-speaking out against racism and organized inequities of all kinds. An African American woman's voice, a child of Southwest Georgia, a voice raised in song, born in the struggle against racism in America during the Civil Rights Movement of the 50s and 60s, Reagon's life and work supports the concept of community based culture with an enlarged capacity for mutual respect: for self, for those who move among us who seem to be different than us, respect and care for our home, the environment including the planet that sustains life as we know it.

Perhaps no individual today better illustrates the transformative power and instruction of traditional African American music and cultural history than Bernice Johnson Reagon, who has excelled equally in the realms of scholarship, composition, and performance. Early in 2004 Reagon retired after thirty years from the acclaimed African American women's a cappella ensemble Sweet Honey In The Rock, which she founded in 1973. She joins her daughter, the formidable Toshi Reagon, continuing one of our richest legacies of struggle and song. To learn more about Bernice Johnson Reagon and Toshi go to [www.BJReagon.com](http://www.BJReagon.com) and [www.toshireagon.com](http://www.toshireagon.com).

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### **GALA Store Consignment & Festival Program Advertising Info Available**

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Member choruses have two options for marketing their CDs, etc at Festival. Choruses can have their own booth at the Expo which will be open from Saturday July 12 through mid day Monday July 14 and then after the Expo closes member chorus exhibitors can either (a) consign their merchandise to the GALA Store to be located at the Arsht Center for the Performing Arts (ACPA) or (b) have their own table at ACPA. Choruses choosing to have their own booth at the Expo and table at ACPA must provide their own staff and acquire their own State of Florida Special Event Sales Tax License. The cost for this option is \$750. The second option is to consign your merchandise to the GALA

store at ACPA for the entire week. GALA Choruses personnel will staff the store and handle the Florida sales tax license. The consignment fee is a flat \$100.00. [Click here](#) to access the forms for either option.

Opportunities are also available to advertise in the Festival program book that is given to all Festival delegates. The program is used as a resource for delegates and choruses for years to come. The program book includes all Festival schedules/activities, advertisements and delegate information. Many choruses advertise in the Festival program, frequently requesting the page opposite their performance program page. Your ad can promote the sale of your current CD's or logo merchandise or simply express your choruses' pride as we celebrate Festival 2008. [Click here](#) to access the form for advertising in the Festival program.

Please contact Scott Chilcott at [funding@galachoruses.org](mailto:funding@galachoruses.org) with any questions.

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### **Festival Chorus Information Ready**

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GALA Choruses is very excited to announce that the Festival Chorus Program for Festival 2008 has been finalized! Individual singers from choruses have the option to participate in a festival chorus that will rehearse in the mornings on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, July 13 - 16, and perform as part of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on Wednesday afternoon, July 16<sup>th</sup> at the James L Knight Center.

The Directors of the Festival Choruses are:  
Sue Coffee, Women's Festival Chorus  
Gary Miller, Men's Festival Chorus  
Jane Ramseyer Miller and Craig Carnahan, Mixed Festival Chorus

The Festival Chorus Registration Form will be available on our website next week. The repertoire for each group has been selected and MP3 rehearsal files will be available soon. Once you register for the festival chorus we will mail copies of the music to you or they will be available to download from our website.

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### **ACF/GALA Community Partners Project Update**

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This pilot *Community Partners* program represents a partnership between the American Composers Forum (ACF) and GALA Choruses, Inc. It will result in grants of \$6,000 to two GALA-member choruses to commission two composers to create a new work for each of them. Designed for choruses with limited (or no) commissioning experience as well as choruses with a history of commissioning, ACF staff will be available to assist in the composer-selection process and will provide other logistical support (contracts, composer/chorus communication, schedules, etc.) as needed.

It is the intent of the program to provide resources that will encourage the choruses to broaden their traditional efforts in artistic vision and audience development by engaging new voices and exploring new outreach initiatives. The choruses that receive these grants will work with a composer of their choosing to create a new work reflecting the

values and goals they have identified for their project. This program is made possible with funding from Mike Murphy and his partner Dwight Joyner, a former GALA Choruses board member.

**THE AWARD:**

The choruses chosen to participate in this program will each receive \$6,000, with the understanding that the composer will receive a commission fee of \$5,000 and the chorus will retain \$1,000 to help defray project related expenses.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** February 29, 2008 (*postmark*)

**MAIL APPLICATION MATERIALS TO:**

Community Partners Project  
American Composers Forum  
332 Minnesota Street, E-145  
Saint Paul, MN 55101-1300

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Please visit ACF'S site at

[http://www.composersforum.org/programs\\_detail.cfm?oid=9520&ion=community](http://www.composersforum.org/programs_detail.cfm?oid=9520&ion=community).

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