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Our President's Message



The Orlando Gay Chorus is Changing Hearts once again!

For the past 22 years, the Chorus has used the transformative power of music to tell our stories, inspire the community and build connections to all people, affirming a positive image through bonding straight, transgendered, gay and lesbian people alike. Being able to transform and change hearts through music is a core value for us. We have been working "Sunrise to Sunset" to prepare a concert that will "Raise You up". We are glad you are here tonight.

So, with that reference in mind, we are very proud to be bringing the community a concert that lands smack in the middle of our chorus mission. How fitting that our mission is to inspire individuals, the community and the world through our music, and the one thing all our shows have in common is you.

Thank you for your unwavering support over the past 22 years and for taking the time to hear our music and collective stories. Specifically over the last two years we have experienced tremendous growth. Not only with our number of members, but with our caliber of music and our presence at the many outreach performances in Orlando and surrounding areas. We hope you are noticing.

This July, OGC will represent the Central Florida GLBTQ and straight alliance communities in Denver, Colorado. We are singing at the Denver GALA Festival 2012. We need your help.

If you are a regular attendee at our shows, you have witnessed our mission and our love for music first hand. These goals permeate everything we do and every song we sing. Your support helps us reach out to our community with our songs, our message of acceptance and our hearts.

Simply by attending our performance tonight you help us to achieve our mission and vision. There are many other ways you can help as well. We invite you to visit www.orlandogaychorus.org to pledge a donation, become a sponsor, join our membership or become a season subscriber. Please consider our silent auction as well, or visit our outreach performances where you can make a donation to our support members at the events.

So sit back, there "Ain't No Turning Back" now and "Imagine" a world full of "Pride" where every woman and "Man In the Mirror" will "Change the World" "For Good".

We have "Come So Far" and it's time to "Seize The Day", 'cause baby...we were "Born This Way!" Welcome to **Changing Hearts** and thank you for changing ours over the years.

Yours in song

Frank Arcidiacono

President Orlando Gay Chorus





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Artistic Director's Message



Welcome, friends and family of Orlando Gay Chorus, to our Spring 2012 concert *Changing Hearts*!

Change... it's the one, great universal force that affects all human beings. Change comes to each and every one of us, whether we like it or not. The choice, therefore, becomes whether we will welcome change willingly, or accommodate it grudgingly.

Sometimes change happens in a moment... the discovery of a miracle medicine, the election of a new leader, the birth of a child, the passing of a new law, or falling in love with a stranger across a crowded room; sometimes change can take years, or even lifetimes... change that can take generations of struggle, persistence, and persuasion. Usually, change comes through a combination of both, and through this struggle eventually comes the triumph of the human spirit. This is the story of what our musical journey of *Changing Hearts* is all about.

Great change has also come to Orlando Gay Chorus as well: we are thrilled, sometimes beyond belief, to be taking the stage with some 125 singing members of the OGC! This is the largest membership in the twenty-two year history of the chorus, and we could not be more proud of our growth and representation of our diverse community. We celebrate this accomplishment with appreciation to our Members, our Support Team, and the dedication of our Board of Directors. Thank you for your commitment, dedication, and leadership.

Our membership, both singing and support, includes gay, lesbian, bisexual, straight, male, female, transgender, young, old, multi-racial, multi-ethnic, multi-faith, no faith... is there anyone I have missed? I'm sure I probably have, so I will let them share themselves with you, at some point during our performance, in person. Ultimately, it is through knowing each and every one of us that we allow the world to understand us and, in coming out and coming to you, we take the first great steps to "change the world".

This July, we will be stepping across the country to perform at the Gay and Lesbian Association (GALA) of Choruses Festival in Denver, Colorado. We will join our brothers and sisters in song, from across the country and around the world, as we raise our voices to be heard and seen with the pride we all share at this international event. Please join us, by attending the festival in Denver, or by supporting the chorus with a generous donation. Together, we can create a presence that can no longer be denied or diminished.

Thank you for being here with us. Please, please carry our messages with you, and in every moment remember our faces, our voices, and our lives, and assist us in creating a world where we are all equal, but definitely not the same!

Jim Brown

Jim Brown Artistic Director & Conductor Orlando Gay Chorus

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OUR HISTORY



It's fitting that it was on Valentine's Day, 1990 that the Orlando Gay Chorus (OGC) was founded because over the next two-plus decades, the organization would truly be taken to heart by the Central Florida Community. This all volunteer, 501(c)(3) not-for-profit arts and humanitarian organization, under the leadership of Founding President, David Schuler and Founding Artistic Director, Dr. Charles Callahan, began not only with just 39 members and initial cases of the jitters, but

with a mission and vision to use music to change images and attitudes, build a stronger community and make the world a better place.

The Orlando Gay Chorus is appreciated as a vital part of the Orlando Arts Community. In addition to its celebrated major concerts throughout the year, OGC supports other local arts organizations. Beginning in 2007, the Chorus has been honored to be a main stage performer at the respected annual Red Chair Affair at the Bob Carr Performing Arts Center. which kicks off the Central Florida arts season. As the winter holiday seasons draw near, the chorus answers the call each year from the Orlando Museum of Art, our "neighbors across the parking lot", by singing a variety of holiday songs at their annual Festival of Trees a crowd favorite. And in support of United Arts of Central Florida, the Chorus provides a mini-concert during ArtsFest in early February. The chorus' ensemble OUTLOUD! made its first appearance - to critical acclaim - at the Orlando International Fringe Festival. In 2009, OGC was presented with an award by the State of Florida, recognizing the chorus' internship collaboration with Valencia College's ASL Program, and the efforts to make the arts more accessible to under-served communities. As part of OGC's mission to make the arts even more accessible, they've collaborated with local government, higher educational institutions, businesses and other non-profit organizations to bring their musical talents to as broad an audience as possible.



In addition to their music, OGC is also known for its humanitarian efforts throughout the years. Each November, for the past 20 years, in partnership with the Children's Home Society of Central Florida, Orlando Gay Chorus members have provided Thanksgiving Day meal baskets for several families in need. In conjunction with their annual Holiday Concerts, they host the longest, continuous U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys For Tots campaign in Central Florida – 22 years and counting. Since its inception the chorus has donated its time and talents performing at nursing homes and retirement centers, as well as lending its musical voice at benefits and community awareness events for cancer, HIV/AIDS, multiple sclerosis and developmental disabilities.

Honor Roll of Donors

Legacy Club:

Pat Andrews Fred Berliner Dorothy Kuhlman Michael Slaymaker

Legacy Club members have included the Orlando Gay Chorus in their estate planning through bequests or planned gifts of insurance, retirement funds or stock.

OGC deeply appreciates the generosity of these individuals.

For more information regarding bequests to the Orlando Gay Chorus, please contact the President of the Board of Directors.

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Eugene and Ruth Schorsch

\$250 - \$499

Richard and Nancy Ericson Sprint Foundation Mark Wise The chorus would also like to thank all of its volunteer members who have tirelessly donated their time and money to present this concert as well as OGC's outreach performances.

OUR PERFORMERS

Tenor I

Sheri Kettula, Leader ### Christina Jones, Asst Leader + Manny Agon Alecia Boon Richard Cassidy Melinda Cerio Alex Clavijo Michelle Czynszak Marcus Ealy 3 Stefanie Edwards Suzanne Faison Sarah Ford @ Nicolette Frederick Anise Gagnon ## Lisa Graham Dova Harmon Jolene Hollingsworth Jenna Horwitz Laura Huggins Rachel Jones Mary Jones Stephen Robin Koman Lauren Lester @ Jill Macintosh Russell Macomber **Jules Mandell** Denise Marra Rebecca Martinez Margarita Montes Simone Novaes-Card ### lason Nuez 🕽 🌣 Donna O'Connor Paul Odom Ylla Palengue ### **Betty Potts** Doreen Ratigan ### Beki Reyes Allison Rossi Mel Scott @ Sandy Skolfield Beth St. Rose Kat Stover

Carol Studer @6

Tenor I (continued)

Nick Trombley
Jane Updyke
Tiffany Voci
Jay Webster
Ethel West

Tenor 2

Ron Schorsch, Leader ### Pat Andrews Bill Blacklock **Beverly Campbell** Orrick Dennis ## Dennis Dunham * Harry Freeman Pl Galas-Finster 🗘 Jeffrey Galvan Chase Gilley Denise Dell Harbin Dean Hatfield Patrick Herman Steven Hess Daniel M. Jones @ John Kempf Peter Lehrbaum Tracy Lutz Thom Meaders * Scott Peterson @ Father James Profirio-Bond I.R. St. Jean Christopher Sherrod Dwight Shropshire * Bob Smith-Trent ### 3 Linn Wheeler Karen White Ion Woods Bill Yahner Marc Zurich @

- ★ Front Row Dancer
- OUTLOUD!
- Menage
- Spectrum
- Nothin' But Treble

OUR PERFORMERS

Baritone

Tsar Agus, Leader ### Ben Acovio Iim Antinucci ## Paul Driver Jonathan Eisenberg 💠 Denise Encinosa Michael Gillis Tim Gough Karl Haglund Nic Jewell Matthew La Victoire Richard Lamberty Eric Lane Cody McNeeley Bret Messenger limmy Mitleff John Montes @ Albert Ng Robb Noll ### * Chip Reif Stephen Rhéaume Jeff Ritchie 3 Miguel Rulan ## Joel Strack ## Joey Talley Rene Villa **Brandon Weltz** David Zumbrennen

Bass

Bass (continued)

Christopher Shackelford
Brian Stockbridge

Michael Thoele

Craig Thompson

Support

Karen Roark, Leader Michael L. Elam Stephanie Grady Kevin Haertling Richard Herndon George Messuris Walter Munroe Katie Murphy David Norman Steve Paradis Bill Parker Ann Polson Andrew Poucher Michael Slaymaker Mary Villiard Cynthia Voci

Honorary Members

Dr. Charlie Callahan Dennis Pierce David Shuler Terry Thomas

In Memoriam

Gene Strickland Ron Zarr

Act One

A Dream Is A Wish Your Heart Makes from Cinderella

Music and Lyrics by Mack David, Al Hoffman and Jerry Livingston
Arranged by Audrey Snyder
Soloist: Suzanne Faison

Seize the Day from Newsies

Music by Allen Menken, Lyrics by Jack Feldman Arranged by Rodger Emerson

Turn! Turn! (To Everything There is a Season)

Adaptation and Music by Peter Seeger, Lyrics from the Book of Ecclesiastes Arranged by Robert DeCormier

Man in the Mirror

Music and Lyrics Glenn Ballard and Siedah Garrett Arranged by Ed Lojeski

Angels Menage: Stephen Brooks, Director

Music and Lyrics by Robert Peter Williams and Guy Chambers Arranged by Mac Huff

My Country

Dedicated to GLBTQ service members, past and present

Music by John Purifoy, Lyrics by John Jacobson

Sunrise, Sunset (with "Sabbath Prayer") from Fiddler on the Roof

Music by Jerry Bock, Lyrics by Sheldon Hornick

Arranged by Mark Brymer

In memory of OGC member Julius Eugene "Gene" Strickland (1941-2011)

In My Life Nothin' But Treble: Simone Novaes-Card, Director

Music and Lyrics by John Lennon and Paul McCartney Arranged by Carolyn Schmidt

Yesterday OUTLOUD!: Bob Smith-Trent, Director

Music and Lyrics by John Lennon and Paul McCartney

Arranged by Mac Huff

Imagine

Music and Lyrics by John Lennon Arranged by Audrey Snyder

Come So Far (Got So Far to Go) from Hairspray

Music by Marc Shaiman, Lyrics by Scott Whittman and Marc Shaiman Arranged by Alan Billingsley (ASCAP)

Act Two

Nature Boy

Music and Lyrics by Eden Ahbez

Soloist:

Brandon Weltz

Born This Way

Music and Lyrics by Fernando Garibay, Stefani Germanotta, Jeppe Laursen and Paul Edward Blair Arranged by Alan Billingsley

Change The World

Music and Lyrics by Wayne Kirkpatrick, Gordon Kennedy, and Tommy Simms

Arranged by Mac Huff

Soloists: Ajay Darter

Dennis Dunham

Children Will Listen from Into the Woods

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim Arranged by Mark Brymer

Everybody Rejoice from The Wiz

Music and Lyrics by Luther Vandross

Spectrum: Dan Jones, Co-Director

Carol Studer, Co-Director

Arranged by Andy Beck

You Raise Me Up

Music and Lyrics by Brendan Graham and Rolf Lovland Arranged by Roger Emerson

For Good from Wicked

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz Arranged by Mac Huff

Ain't No Turning Back On This Road

Music and Lyrics by David Maddux

Pride (In the Name of Love)

Music by U2, Lyrics by Bono and The Edge Arranged by Mark Brymer

ASL INTERPRETERS



Debbie Drobney

Debbie has been signing for over 20 years and for the same amount of time has been involved with interpreting for the theatre. She is the coordinator of the Sign Language Program at Valencia College and is thrilled to have the opportunity to mentor her Valencia interpreting students in this concert.

ADDITIONAL ASL INTERPRETERS

Kiva Bennett

Crystal Graham

Corey Wys

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OGC ARTISTIC STAFF



Jim Brown Artistic Director & Conductor

Jim Brown is ecstatic to be the Artistic Director & Conductor of The Orlando Gay Chorus, joining OGC in Spring 2009. He is currently a professor at UCF Conservatory Theatre and serves the department as their Musical Theatre Specialist. Jim received his BFA in Musical Theatre Performance from the School of Performing and Visual Arts at United States International

University (USIU) in San Diego and received his MFA in Musical Theatre Performance from San Diego State University. He has performed for over 30 years and has served UCF Conservatory Theatre as Stage Director, Music and Vocal Director, and Conductor since 2001.



Jedediah C. Daiger Assistant Artistic Director

Jed began his musical training with piano lessons at the age of four, yet his passion has always been singing. He joined church and school choirs at age ten and was an active participant in chorus and musicals in high school. Jed attended Shenandoah Conservatory of Shenandoah University in Winchester, Virginia where he participated in the concert choir, chamber choir, and

vocal jazz/show choir. He studied voice under the tutelage of Dr. Eugene Galvin and the choral arts under the baton of Mr. Robert Shaffer, earning a Bachelor of Music in Music Education. He completed his student teaching in grades K-5 and 9-12, where he made his concert conducting debut leading the Sherando High School Concert Chorale. Jed's choral experiences have taken him to the Kennedy Center, venues across Europe, and of course Epcot.



Sue Glerum Principal Accompanist

Sue has spent most of her life in the field of music accompanying and teaching both in New York and Florida. She joined the UCF Theatre Department as Music Specialist in August 2006. She received her Masters Degree in Music from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York and her Bachelor of Music Degree from Stetson University in DeLand, Florida.



Bob Smith-Trent Principal Choreographer

Bob hails from Indiana where he studied Modern, Jazz, Ballet and Tap. He began as a Choreographer for High School & College show choirs and community theatre groups. In 1979, Bob became a Ballroom/Latin Instructor adding the American and International Standard of Ballroom and Latin Styles of Dance to his repertoire. Before retiring from Professional

Competition, Bob won numerous top dance awards in the American, Latin and Cabaret/ Theatre Arts divisions across the United States. He has also won several top Pro/Amateur awards with his clients. Bob made the move to Florida in 1996 to work for Arthur Murray's and Fred Astaire's Dance Studios. He joined the OGC family in the spring concert in 1996 as a singing member. Bob still teaches Social Style Ballroom and Latin dance classes in addition to coaching and choreographing with Studio 19 Center for Performing Arts in Eustis, Florida.



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PRODUCTION STAFF

INODUCTIONSTAIL				
General Manager, The Plaza 'Live'	Kirk Colvin, The Plaza 'Live'			
Technical Manager	Adam Thomas, The Plaza 'Live'			
Set Designer	Brian Lorenz, OGC			
Lighting Design	Brian Lorenz, OGC			
Stage Arrangement	PJ Galas-Finster, OGC			
Choreography	Bob Smith-Trent, OGC			
Show Graphics	Paul Driver, OGC			
Sound Engineer	Roscoe Edney, The Plaza 'Live'			
Production Manager	Steve Rhéaume, OGC			
Tech Crew Support	Provided by The Plaza 'Live'			
Stage Managers	Kyle Jones, Emma Ramsay-Wood, OGC			
Production Assistant	Tony Gianfransico, OGC			
Front of House Manager	Karen Roark, OGC			
Box Office	Steven Paradis, Stephanie Grady, OGC			
Season Tickets	Bill Parker, Walter Munroe, OGC			
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Graphic Design	Daniel M. Jones, Karl Haglund, OGC			
Playbill Layout/Design	Karl Haglund, Chip Reif, OGC			
Office Manager	Tony Gianfransico, OGC			
Web Master	John Cabrera, OGC			
MUSICIANS				
Piano	Sue Glerum			
	Jon Warcholak			
Guitar	Carlos DeSoto			

USHERS

Jeff Durichek
Michael Elam
Ron Ford
Richard Herndon
Nancy LaPointe
Paul LaPointe

George Messaris
Jennifer Monfette Raggozine
Ann Polson
Christal Portwood
Christopher Portwood
Melyssa Portwood

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The Orlando Gay Chorus (OGC) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit arts and humanitarian organization. We, the men and women of the chorus, now 120+ strong and comprised of gay, straight, bisexual, and transgender individuals, feel thankful to be able to carry on our mission of inspiring individuals, the community and the world through excellence in musical entertainment and our vision to use music to change images and attitudes, build a stronger community and make the world a better place. Our musical artistry speaks directly to our pride in ourselves and offers the world a chance to see beyond headlines and contentious social issues to build bridges of understanding and love.

PAUL R. ERICSON MEMORIAL FUND



Established in 1991, the Ericson Fund honors one of Orlando Gay Chorus' founding members. Paul was a charter member, Tenor II Section Leader extraordinaire and friend of all.

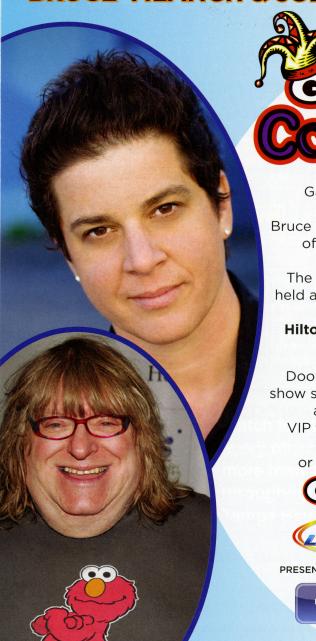
The Ericson Fund was established as a means of providing emergency financial assistance to Orlando Gay Chorus members who, due to a medical condition, need help in meeting their medical and non-medical financial obligations. Your gift will help keep Paul's dreams alive and be part of the powerful tradition born of our community's response to AIDS.

PLEASE SEND DONATIONS TO

Paul R. Ericson Memorial Fund clo Orlando Gay Chorus, P.O. Box 3103, Orlando, FL 32802

AN EVENING OF LAUGHTERI

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CONFEDY

Gay Days brings you Emmywinning comedy writer Bruce Vilanch and Julie Goldman of *The Big Gay Sketch Show*,

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Doors open at 7:30PM with the show starting at **8:00PM**. Regular admission starts at **\$25.00**. VIP tickets are available only in advance and are \$50.00 or \$400.00 for a table of ten.





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JOIN US!

Open auditions for the Orlando Gay Chorus are held twice a year; in August and January. We rehearse Wednesday evenings at the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra Rehearsal Hall inside the Lowndes Shakespeare Center in Loch Haven Park. For more information, please visit the Membership section of our website at www. orlandogaychorus.org or contact us at: membership@orlandogaychorus.org.

GALA CHORUSES



The Orlando Gay Chorus is a member of GALA Choruses. GALA Choruses leads the GLBT choral movement, cultivating the artistic development of 8,000 singers from more than 170 choruses around the globe—from the Americas to Europe to Africa to Australia. Member choruses have access to

valuable resources, collaboration groups, commissioned music, and much more.

This July, the Orlando Gay Chorus will be traveling to Denver, Colorado for 5 days to participate in Festival 2012 with 45 ensembles, 130 choirs, 200 performances, and over 5,000 delegates in beautiful downtown Denver, Colorado! The Festival features many new and exciting programming elements and offers an opportunity to share our joy in making music that makes a difference.



For more information contact: GALA Choruses, P.O. Box 65084, Washington, DC 20035; Phone: (202) 467-5830; Fax: (202) 467-5831; www.galachoruses.org

OGC ENDOWMENT FUND

There is a tremendous need for non-profit organizations to establish stable, predictable sources of income. In 2004, the Orlando Gay Chorus created an Endowment Fund at the Community Foundation of Central Florida. This permanent pool of assets will grow over time and provides OGC a reliable source of additional income each year.

If you would like to make a special donation to the Orlando Gay Chorus Endowment Fund, please contact OGC President, Frank Arcidiacono at (407) 841-SING or development@orlandogaychorus. org. To learn more about philanthropy and the Community Foundation of Central Florida, please contact Mark Brewer, President/CEO at (407) 872-3050 or mbrewer@cfcflorida.org or visit their website at http://www.cfcflorida.org.

THE FINE PRINT

The Orlando Gay Chorus follows an equal-opportunity employment policy and employs personnel without regard to race, creed, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, heritage, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental handicap, veteran status, or marital status. This policy applies to all OGC employees, volunteers and contractors.

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Whether you are a long-time friend of the chorus or relatively new to the OGC family, we appreciate your attendance at our concerts.

We have a magnificent season in store for you in 2012-2013. Our 23rd season kicks off with the annual holiday concert, **Reasons For The Season** on December 15-16, 2012. This concert will feature many of your favorite songs and some new tunes, too. Once again OGC will be serving as a collection site for the U.S. Marine Corps' "Toys for Tots" program. Your generous donations of toys have brought joy to thousands of underserved children in Central Florida.

The second half of our season the chorus will present, **We're Ready For Our Close Up...**, on May 18-19, 2013. You will not want to miss either of these shows! Both concerts will be performed at The Plaza LIVE Theatre in Orlando.



OGC is offering both of these concerts to you for \$45! Included in this price is the opportunity for early seating which allows you to enter the theatre 45 minutes prior to show time. Individual admission tickets are \$25 for general seating and \$30 for early seating, so you can see this is a substantial savings for you.

The Orlando Gay Chorus hopes you will be able to join us this season. Please fill out the form on the next page and visit us in the lobby or mail it, along with your check, to Orlando Gay Chorus, P.O. Box 3103, Orlando, FL 32802. Please make your check made payable to the **Orlando Gay Chorus**. Alternatively, you can purchase tickets online by visiting our website at www.orlandogaychorus.org.

Thank you so much! We look forward to seeing you at the shows!

Sincerely,

Frank Arcidiacono President, Orlando Gay Chorus

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