

# **○ © © ORLANDO GAY CHORUS**

presents...



Saturday, December 10, 2011 7:35 p.m. Sunday, December 11, 2011 4:35 p.m.



Directed by Jim Brown



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# President's Holiday Message



Welcome family and friends of the Orlando Gay Chorus!

We are so excited about our 2011 holiday concert, "There's Something About Merry." You undoubtedly noticed our creative artwork on the playbill cover! We hope you love our spin on this year's show. If you are a first-timer, welcome! We hope to see you back here in the spring!

While we are known for the sass and camp that only OGC can deliver, the holiday show is a special one for us, largely because of our involvement with Toys for Tots. OGC is proud to run the longest, continuous Toys for Tots

campaign in Central Florida! We are celebrating our 21st year of working closely with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve to bring Christmas to less fortunate children. I hope you took a few minutes to look at and contribute to our amazing collection in the lobby! I'd like to thank Universal Orlando for donating many of the toys in the lobby tonight. To our surprise, Universal found us at the Come Out with Pride festival and played Santa all over our parade float.

Although you only see our concerts twice a year, we are here, year round, working with the community. Volunteerism is a huge part of OGC. Each Thanksgiving, we collect food for the Children's Home Society, where we are matched with five special families. Believe me when I say, we try to spoil them. About 10 times a year, we take our talents to outreach events, like World AIDS Day, Come Out with Pride, and the Orlando Museum of Art Festival of Trees.

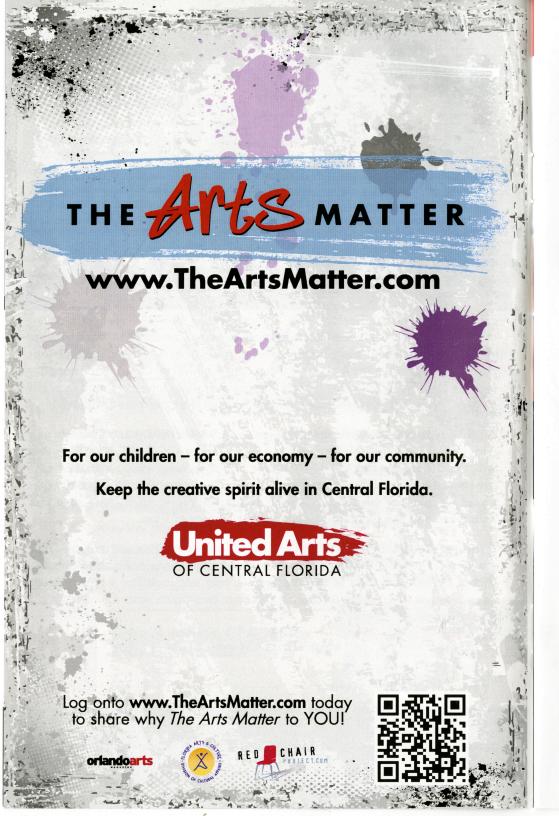
If you get the chance to chat with any of our members, they will tell you OGC is a family. The spirit of the holiday season embraces loving time with family and friends. When you look at us on stage, we may not look like a typical family, know that we are...and your sharing the next two hours with us makes you a part of our family as well.

So pass the "hair gel", and enjoy "There's Something About Merry."

Happy Holidays

Frank Arcidiacono

President, Orlando Gay Chorus



# **Artistic Director's Message**



Welcome families, friends, and members of the community to our Holiday 2011 concert "There's Something About Merry." We had a lot of fun creating the program for you tonight. I work very collaboratively with the creative team at OGC in coming up with the songs that we hope you all will enjoy. Tonight was no exception!

Of course, our program title is taken after the hilarious movie "There's Something About Mary," but our thoughts behind the title, and the songs you will hear tonight, go far beyond just the name of that funny film. We reflected on the word "Merry" and came up with the many thoughts, emotions, and memories that particular word can conjure in our hearts. The songs you are about to hear are a selection of some of those reflections.

Perhaps the first thing that comes to mind is the joy, festivities, and fun that can only be enjoyed during this time of the year! Whether it is the joy of gift giving, food, music, or the fun of getting together with family, friends, and even our co-workers, no time of the year can quite match the warmth of this season.

Faith, spirituality, and religion also play a most important part of this season for so many people; some even like to say that this is the "Reason for the Season!" The only thing is that, although we usually associate that "reason" with the traditional observance of the birth of Jesus Christ, there is not only just one way to express our spirituality. Tonight, we honor the traditional customs of the birth of Christ, and we also honor the "Festival of Lights" with the Jewish community. We also honor those whose spirituality is of a sense of peace and harmony between all humanity. Whatever your faith as a believer, or non-believer, you are welcome here with us in love and peace.

We also salute all lovers during the holidays. Is there ever a time that is so special, so intimate, and warm? It is often the time that we appreciate loved ones the most by wishing that a "someone special" was in our lives, or missing someone who cannot be with us this year or, sadly, "only in our dreams." Even in the warmth of Florida, we sometimes like those chilly nights when we can snuggle up to our honey and be thankful that we've "got our love to keep us warm!"

Lastly, we put the GAY in MERRY as only our community can, with the fun, festivity, and camp that the community has come to, not only appreciate from us, but to also expect. And nobody does it better! We hope you enjoy our music tonight, and in your own special way, find your very own "Something About Merry."

Happiest of Holidays!

Jun Brown
Artistic Director & Conductor
Orlando Gay Chorus

#### **OUR HISTORY**



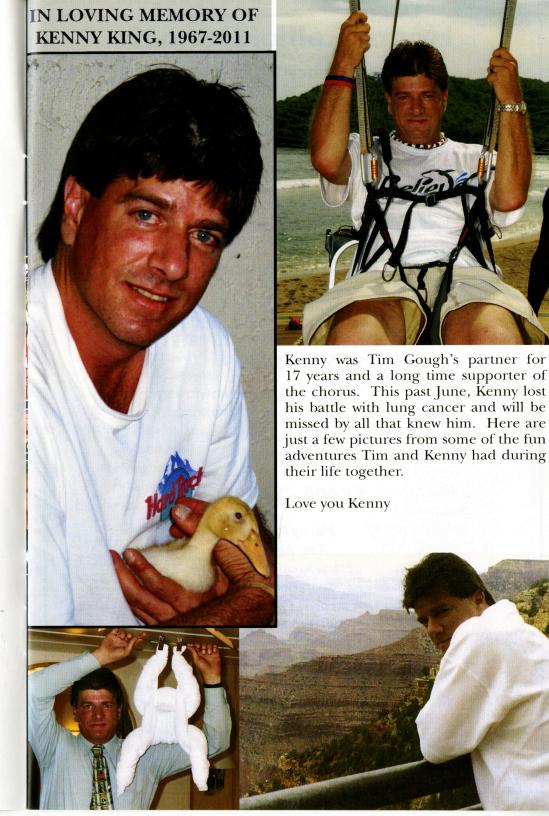
It's fitting that it was on Valentine's Day, 1990 that the Orlando Gay Chorus (OGC) was founded because over the next two-plus decades, the organization would truly be taken to heart by the Central Florida Community. This all volunteer, 501(c)(3) not-for-profit arts and humanitarian organization, under 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 19 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 – 21 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:

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.

#### \$5,000 and above:

The Walt Disney Companies United Arts of Central Florida

\$2,500 - \$4,999

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\$1,000 - \$2,499

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Beverly Campbell and Linn Wheeler
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Richard Lamberty

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Up to \$99 (continued)

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Rebecca Reyes
Jan Richardson
Jeff Ritchie
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.

Karen Norton Donna O'Connor Eric Patterson Patty Peroy Suzanne Peters James Reitze Rebecca Reyes Jan Richardson leff Ritchie Karen Roark Robert Rosario Glen Rubin Kathy Salmieri Steve Schoene Ronald Schorsch BryAnn Schroeder Gary Scott Mary Jo & Edward Searl Christopher Shackelford Sharon Shank Linda Solash-Reed **Brooke Swopes** Sally Timmons Philip Torres Susan Trembley **Nick Trombley** Michael & Cynthia Twerdochlib **Ernestine Vaus** 



Up to \$99 (continued)

#### Act One

#### It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year

Music and Lyrics by Eddie Pola and George Wyle Arranged by Hawley Ades

#### A Holly Jolly Christmas

Music and Lyrics by Johnny Marks Arranged by Kirby Shaw

#### Baby, It's Cold Outside

Music and Lyrics by Frank Loesser Arranged by Kirby Shaw

#### I've Got My Love to Keep Me Warm

Music and Lyrics by Irving Berlin Arranged by Kirby Shaw

#### Merry Christmas, Darling

Music and Lyrics by Frank Pooler and Richard Carpenter Arranged by Mac Huff Soloist: Danielle Ford

#### I'll Be Home For Christmas

Music and Lyrics by Kim Gannon and Walter Kent

Soloist: Ajay Darter

#### **Grinch! A Christmas Choral Medley**

from the motion picture Dr. Seuss's How the Grinch Stole Christmas Music by Albert Hauge, Paul O'Neill, Robert Kinkel and Jon Olivia Lyrics by Theodore Geisel (a.k.a. Dr. Seuss)

Arranged by Andy Beck

Spectrum: Daniel M. Jones, Director

Nothin' But Treble: Simone Novaes-Card, Director

#### Kislev Cowbovs

Music and Lyrics by Eric Lane Barnes OUTLOUD!: Bob Smith-Trent, Director

#### **Audience Sing-A-Long**

#### All I Want for Christmas is You

Music and Lyrics by Mariah Carey and Walter Afanasieff Arranged by Mac Huff Soloist: Laura Huggins

#### Intermission

#### Act Two

#### Gloria in Excelsis Deo

from Gloria Music and Lyrics by Antonio Vivaldi, Arranged by Catherine Delanoy

#### Ave Maria

Music and Lyrics by Franz Schubert Arranged by leffrey lones

Trio: Ajay Darter, Jonathan Eisenberg, Father James Profirio-Bond Soloist: Allison Rossi

#### Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

a Traditional Polish Carol Arranged by John Rutter, Translation by Edith M. Reed.

Soloist: Daniel M. Jones

#### Noel: Christmas Eve, 1913

Music by Lee Holdridge, Lyrics by Robert Bridges, Arranged by Audrey Snyder

#### O Come, Emmanuel

from The Voices of Christmas Music and Lyrics by Joseph M. Martin

Soloist: Brandon Weltz

## We Are Lights (The Chanukah Song)

Music by Stephen Schwartz, Lyrics by Steve Young Arranged by Carole Stephens

#### Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas

Music and Lyrics by Hugh Martin and Ralph Blane Arranged by Russ Robinson

#### Various Themes on "Fa-La-La"

a Traditional Carol Arranged by Chuck Bridwell

Menage: Stephen Brooks, Director

#### The Christmas Song

Music and Lyrics by Mel Tormé and Robert Wells Arranged by David Snyder

Menage: Stephen Brooks, Director

#### O Holy Night

Music by Adolphe Adam, Text by Placide Clappeau, Translation by John Sullivan Dwight Arranged by Rene Clausen

#### loyful, loyful

Original Music and Lyrics by Ludwig von Beethoven

Arranged by Mervyn Warren Adapted by Roger Emerson

Soloists: Marcia-Lynn Faber, Marcus Ealy

#### **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 for performances in partnership with the Washington Chorus and on three concert tours abroad. More recently he has volunteered to sing in Orlando-area holiday concerts and co-arranged music for the Orlando Gay Chorus.



#### 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. In addition to accompanying voice lessons and classes in the department, she has worked on productions of Fiddler on the Roof, The Most Happy Fella, Smokey Joe's Cafe and The Pirates of Penzance.

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. In 1979, he walked into a Ballroom Studio where he found a new love of Dance. There he added the American and International Standard of Ballroom and Latin Styles of Dance to his repertoire. Before retiring from the Pro Division of competition, he 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 and Amateur awards with his clients. Bob now teaches Social Style Ballroom and Latin dance and helps coach and choreograph with Studio 19 Center for the Performing Arts in Eustis, Florida.

#### **OUR PERFORMERS**

#### Tenor I

Sheri Kettula, Leader ## & Manny Agon Juliane Arnold ## Alecia Boon # & Melissa Boreman Michelle Czynszak Marcus Ealy 3 Marcia-Lynn Faber Danielle Ford Sarah Ford Nicolette Frederick Lisa Graham Sabrina Hessel Jolene Hollingsworth Laura Huggins Christina Jones Daniel M. Jones @ Rachel Jones Denise Marra Rebecca Martinez Simone Novaes-Card ### & lason Nuez 🗘 Donna O'Connor @ Paul Odom **Betty Potts** Beki Reyes Allison Rossi Heather Sander Sandy Skolfield & Carol Studer @ & **Nick Trombley** 

#### Tenor 2

Jay Webster

Ethel West ##

Ron Schorsch, Leader \*\*\*
Pat Andrews
Joanne Berry
Beverly Campbell
Orrick Dennis \*\*\*
Dennis Dunham \*\*
Harry Freeman
P. J. Galas-Finster Chase Gilley
Denise Dell Harbin \*\*\*
Patrick Herman
John Kempf

#### Tenor 2 (continued)

Thom Meaders Scott Peterson Scott Peterson Father James Profirio-Bond J. R. St. Jean

Dwight Shropshire \*\*

Bob Smith-Trent \*\*

Linn Wheeler \*

Karen White

Jonathon Woods

Bill Yahner

Marc Zurich S

#### **Baritone**

Tsar Agus, Leader Paul Driver Jonathan Eisenberg 🌣 Denise Encinosa & Tim Gough Karl Haglund Nic lewell Richard Lamberty Matthew La Victoire John Montes @ Albert Ng Robb Noll O ## Chip Reif Steve Rhéaume leff Ritchie 🗘 Joel Strack 🗘 া Joey Talley Rene Villa **Brandon Weltz** David Zumbrennen

#### Bass

Stephen Brooks, Leader Frank Arcidiacono Mercidiacono M

#### Support

Karen Roark, Leader lan Aikens David Behrns Prall Bird Rhonda Cassady Kathy Cummins Dennis Denholm Kevin Haertling David Henderson Richard Herndon Russ Macomber Walter Munroe Katie Murphy David Norman Steve Paradis Bill Parker Cathy Paulsen Ann Polson Andrew Poucher Clifford Sawyer Michael Slaymaker Josh Sousa Jonathan Tissue Frankie Valentine Christi Vihlen

#### **Honorary Members**

Dr. Charlie Callahan Dennis Pierce David Shuler Terry Thomas

#### **Guest Emcee**

David Almeida

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

#### **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**

Melissa Barongi Alicia Chea-Junga

Heather Garvin Jordan Woodard

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#### **PRODUCTION STAFF**

General Manager,The Plaza 'Live'	Kirk Colvin,The Plaza 'Live'
Technical Manager	Adam Thomas, The Plaza 'Live'
Set Designer	Kyle Jones, OGC
Lighting Design	Brian Lorenz, OGC
Stage Arrangement	P. J. Galas-Finster, OGC
Choreography	Bob Smith-Trent, OGC
Show Graphics	Paul Driver, OGC
Special Show Graphic "Snow Deer"Trista	an Alexander [www.vampyre-nmp.com]
Sound Engineer	Brian Robertson, c/o The Plaza 'Live'
Production Manager	Steve Rhéaume, OGC
Tech Crew Support	Provided by The Plaza 'Live'
Stage Manager	Emma Ramsay-Wood
Production Assistants	Kyle Jones, Tony Gianfransico, OGC
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Web Master	John Cabrera, OGC
MUSICIA	ANS
Piano	Sue Glerum
Drums	Ken Shadrake
USHE	RS

Andrew Poucher
Ann Polson
Richard Herndon
Robert Rosario
Christal Portwood

Christopher Portwood Melyssa Portwood Michael Portwood Ramona Portwood Stephanie Grady Jeff Durichek Mike Ames Michael Slaymaker John Shorthill

Nancy LaPointe

Paul LaPointe Dennis Blyth

laymaker Scott Stiff

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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 100+ 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 c/o Orlando Gay Chorus, P.O. Box 3103, Orlando, FL 32802



## **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, the international association of the lesbian and gay choral movement. Founded in 1982, GALA Choruses represents 190 choruses, their 10,000 singers and 750,000 patrons in Australia, Europe, South America and North America. The association's

programs and services include annual conferences, matching grants to support the creation of new works, publication of reference materials, a resource center, training programs and music festivals. 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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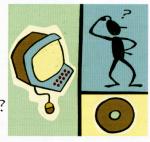
Wine Raffle Rules: Suggested minimum donation \$10. No purchase necessary to enter or to win. A purchase will not improve your chances of winning. All prizes have been donated to Orlando Gay Chorus, Inc. Limit 3 raffle tickets per entrant. Prizes to be awarded immediately after intermission of the Orlando Gay Chorus concert on Sunday, December 11, 2011 at approximately 6:00 p.m. (ET). This raffle is sponsored and operated by Orlando Gay Chorus, Inc. Visit the official rules section at www.orlandogaychorus.org for more information and eligibility details.

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL FREE (800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. REGISTRATION #: CH4722.

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