MESSAGES FROM GMC LEADERSHIP

As the Gateway Men’s Chorus moves into our 27th season, the great city of St. Louis moves into celebrating its 250th birthday. St. Louis has been the birthplace of some of the most creative and influential artists, social activists, and change catalysts in our nation’s history. The Gateway Men’s Chorus is proud to be a part of the history and fabric of this amazing city and region. We have never been more focused than we are right now on using our collective voices to achieve our mission and be a part of shaping the future of the next 250 years in St. Louis, our nation, and our world.

We know that we impact our city and our region by connecting with individuals…the people who work together to form our society with values that promote acceptance, diversity, equality, inclusion and mutual respect. We bring together people who believe in this mission. We provide the platform to perform, to lead, to volunteer, to stretch skills and experiences, to build bonds. The Gateway Men’s Chorus is much more than an organization where people sing. It is an organization focused on celebrating, communicating and connecting. And by doing so, our “ripple” synergistically energizes the momentum of change and forward thinking that will be part of the next 250 years of history in St. Louis.

We thank our sponsors, donors, volunteers, and audiences for their continued support of our mission. We trust you will enjoy the music and its message, but also enjoy the great satisfaction of being an integral part of the canvas upon which St. Louis and region paints the future—a future where acceptance, diversity, equality, inclusion and mutual respect is commonplace.

Paul Acker, Board President

WHAT A SEASON! I was very proud of our work last season. We presented an incredible variety of music, generated a great feeling of camaraderie among the men, and represented our community with pride. We are so grateful for the support our audience showed us last year. It was a year we will remember for a long time.

We began with HOLIDAY, celebrating one of our main performance spaces, The 560 Music Center: a beautiful building which was once the synagogue of Shaare Emeth Congregation. We invited Seth Warner, the cantor of today’s Shaare Emeth, to be our guest artist. We challenged ourselves and our audience with a fair amount of unfamiliar material, living out our mission not only to affirm and promote gay culture, but also to educate. In March we continued with a fabulous, exciting collaboration with Fred Schneider of the B-52s in our show BAD BOYS. We sang a kind of music we had never sung before, bringing ourselves and our audience to a whole new place. We basically had a party in rehearsal for three months and brought that sense of joy and fun with us to the stage. In June we presented CELEBRATE, acknowledging what makes life worth living. Whether through celebrating community, love, artistic beauty or our own lives, we exhorted each other to live life to the fullest. A main thrust of the show was encouraging people who may be feeling hopeless that “it gets better”. This was a special show that we were very proud of.

Thanks for supporting us with your presence, your donations, your applause, any of the many ways that we felt the support of our community last year. You helped us make it a successful, exciting season.

Al Fischer, Artistic Director
27th Concert Season

Holiday Concert
Yule Tube
December 13 & 14, 2013
8pm
Edison Theater
at Washington University

Purchase tickets online: GMCSTL.org

I Am Harvey Milk
March 29 & 30, 2014
8pm, Kansas City
April 5, 2014
8pm, 580 Music Center

Purchase tickets online: GMCSTL.org

The 80’s Show
June 13 & 14, 2014
8pm
Edison Theater
at Washington University

Purchase tickets online: GMCSTL.org
Our Mission

The Gateway Men's Chorus affirms and promotes gay culture and acceptance through excellence in musical performance and education.

Our Vision

We believe we can achieve great things because:

- Together we become more than each of us alone.
- We open ears that would otherwise be closed to our message.
- We create a community that loves unconditionally.
- We proclaim to the world that a voice like ours can never be silenced.

Our Values

The Gateway Men’s Chorus abides by central values that govern how we both operate internally as an organization and engage externally with the community as a whole. We value:

- Community
- Leadership
- Excellence
- Initiative
- Integrity
- Diversity
Gateway Men's Chorus
Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended July 31, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>$ 4,152.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>$ 9,393.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merchandise Sales - Net</td>
<td>$(1,420.00)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fund Raising - Special Events</td>
<td>$ 13,915.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GMC Publishing</td>
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<td>GMC Productions</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Administrative</td>
<td>$ 14,871.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Programs/ Productions</td>
<td>$ 109,233.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>$ 22,265.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 146,369.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Net Income                      | **$(11,860.00)** |

| Net Assets - Beginning of Year  | $ 120,425.00 |
| Net Assets - End of Year        | $ 108,565.00 |
Performances

During the 26th Season, the Gateway Men’s Chorus produced the following concerts:

*Holiday*, December 14 & 15, 2012 at the 560 Music Center
*Bad Boys*, March 15 & 16, 2013 at the 560 Music Center
*Celebrate*, June 21 & 22, 2013 at the Edison Theatre

The chorus also performed as part of a number of community events, many of which were free and open to the public: *Holiday* at Kirkwood Baptist Church, Band Together’s fall 2012 concert, Charis’s spring 2013 concerts, Muny’s production of *Les Misérables*, The 2012 GALA Festival in Denver, The Crane Project on Art Hill, Fundraising concert for former singing member Doug Bernier, Fundraising concert for One St. Louis, Shaare Emeth’s Annual Purim Shpiel, United Hebrew Pride Shabbat, Metro East Pride, St. Louis’s annual Pride Festival, Out at the Ballpark

Fundraising

GMC hosted a range of fundraising events during the 26th season, creating additional opportunities for the St. Louis community to connect with the mission of the Gateway Men’s Chorus, while also financially supporting the organization. Events included:

*The Fantabulous Fling*, a St. Louis photo scavenger hunt that sent nearly 20 teams across the St. Louis region in search of fun and unexpected places and experiences.

*Holiday Wreath Auction*, which offered patrons the opportunity to kick off the holiday season by bidding on a range of holiday wreaths designed by both major florists and designers, as well as singing members of the chorus, as a kick off to the holiday season.

*VIP Party for Fred Schneider*, an event at SubZero Vodka Bar that gave patrons access to a meet and greet with *Bad Boys* guest artist Fred Schneider for a minimal contribution to the chorus.

*Cabaret Risqué*, a fundraising concert featuring some of St. Louis’s premier cabaret talent.

Operations

Organizationally, the 26th season was a time of transition for the Gateway Men’s Chorus, as GMC said goodbye to its first Executive Director, Wendy Markum, and began a search for her successor. In the interim, the board of directors took a more hands-on approach to the management of the organization in the short term. To supplement the board’s numbers a search also began to recruit new board members, leading to the election of 8 new board members, whose terms began shortly before the end of the season. Several new policies and procedures were adopted, including a Sexual Harassment and Non-Discrimination Policy, a new ticketing system which streamlined box office operations, a new values statement for the organization (developed in partnership with the full membership), a new tiered membership dues structure which rewarded members who volunteer for the organization with lower per-concert payments, and concert “play books” to help effectively transition information about front of house policies for each of GMC’s performance venues.
CELEBRATE!
By Al Fischer, Artistic Director

In June, 2013 we presented CELEBRATE, acknowledging how much there is to live for. Beauty, love, each other, family, friends, community: all of these play their role, adding color and richness to our lives. Once every season we usually have a particular concert that is most clearly mission-driven, most purely affirming and promoting of gay life. This was that concert for the season.

I reached out to the audience in a particular way in the program for the concert. Here is what I said:

Here's a note to some of you. I know you are out there. Maybe there's a teenager who was brought here by her parents. She's feeling a little uncomfortable. She is tensing up, hoping that with all of the focus tonight on being gay her parents won't have the thought that she might be a Lesbian. She doesn't feel ready to come out yet.

Maybe there's an older gentlemen. He has never come out at work. He is bewildered and excited by all of the progress in our culture toward embracing homosexuality as normal and healthy. He is so close to coming out that he can smell it, like fresh air coming through a cracked window. His heart beats faster when he thinks about it. He's not even sure anymore what's holding him back.

We all know that there are many young people in this country who are driven to desperate acts by the lack of support of their families. They need to see our celebrating, and we can't forget about them—despite the progress that we all may be feeling in our culture. There is still much work to be done. Maybe there's someone in the room tonight who needs us like that.

We sang a large range of music for this show. We had Michael Jackson’s MAN IN THE MIRROR and Randall Thompson’s THE LAST WORDS OF DAVID. We had TRUE COLORS by Cindi Lauper and TESTIMONY by Stephen Schwartz, his new composition for GALA Choruses bringing hope to people struggling with their gay identity. We sang the traditional spiritual AIN’T GOT TIME TO DIE and the disco anthem I WILL SURVIVE. We stretched ourselves in many musical ways and were proud of the result.

The ephemeral nature of what we do in live performance necessarily means that words like these can only point to what the evening was like and how it felt to be in that room. I sincerely wish that everyone reading this note could have been there for this one.

Les Miserables at The Muny
By Colin Keller, Chorus Manager

During the summer of the 26th Season, the Gateway Men's Chorus was asked to collaborate with the award winning cast of Les Miserable at The Muny. Twenty guys were selected to participate and be a part of the cast.

New member Tim Bono said of the experience, "I’ve been going to the Muny for years and I’ve always enjoyed with great wonderment the shows they produce. Little did I know that by joining the GMC last spring I would have the opportunity to perform on that magnificent stage myself in the cast of Les Mis. Performing that glorious score night after night with my brothers from the GMC—right alongside Broadway stars—was a thrilling experience and one that I will always treasure and be grateful for!"

The cast and crew of Les Miserable made us feel extremely welcomed and we were able to share the stage with them for 7 fantastic shows. It was an amazing experience. GMC would love to have an opportunity to share the stage at The Muny again in the future.
GMC’s Values Statement Gets Refreshed

By Joe Gfaller, Board Director

An organization’s mission defines its intent for being. Its vision defines how it hopes to get there. But its values? Those are the guiding principles that make it possible for the organization to achieve those things. In the past two years, GMC has re-evaluated both its mission and its vision to ensure it was successfully aligned with both our resources and the needs of our community. During the 2012-13 Season, we applied the same rigor to defining our values through a collaborative process that brought our singers and members of our board together in productive conversations.

In between preparing for our annual holiday concert at the fall Saturday Intensive Rehearsal, the singing membership was divided up into small groups, with each group discussing one of the words that the chorus had up until that time defined as one of its values. A seventh group examined what values may have been missing from that list. When the groups reconvened to discuss, it was clear that our singers saw these values as living, breathing qualities that helped define GMC to them. It was also clear that we could do a better job of defining them in a way that was consistent with the vision of our membership.

One element that permeated many of the comments from our singers was the significance of community – not just the community that is created by being affiliated with GMC, but also the community in St. Louis that we reflect through our performances. Recognizing the importance of this, as we began to refine our organizational values, we looked to ways in which they should resonate both within the chorus and to the community at large.

Discussions were continued within the membership committee of the board, as well as within the governance committee of the board, and during the spring Saturday Intensive Rehearsal in May 2013. They were presented to the same full membership that helped start the conversation about them in the fall. Codifying a philosophy that we all already individually believed in, the Gateway Men’s Chorus is proud to affirm that we value community, leadership, excellence, initiative, integrity, and diversity. We invite you to visit our website to learn more about how we articulate each of these values in our programs throughout the year.
Thank You

To our Generous 26th Season Donors

Legacy Donors ($25,000+)
Mr. Robert Stock

Visionary Donors ($5,000+)
Mr. John Brancaglione & Mr. William Clugsten
Dr. Patrick Dawson
Dr. Kenneth Haller

Impresario Donors ($2,500—$4,999)
Mr. Walter Adair
Mr. Herb King

Maestro Level ($1,000-$2,499)
Mr. Paul Acker
Mr. John Adams
Mr. Al Fischer and Mr. Charlie Robin
Mr. Jason Johnston
Mrs. Genevieve Steidtmann
Mr. Alex LeClaire
Drs. David Jaffee & David Lewis
Mr. Ken & Mrs. Nancy Kranzberg
Mr. Joe Gfaller
Mr. David Roell
Mr. Aelred Rosser
Dr. William and Mrs. Laura Houck

Whole Note Donors ($500-$999)
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Mr. Matthew Palmer
Mrs. Mary Strauss
Mr. Bryan Buck
Mr. Michael Franzoni
Mr. David Montgomery

Half Note Donors ($250-$499)
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Mr. Thomas W. Rich
Mrs. Susan Pruchnicki
Mr. Jerry Woods
Mr. John Overall
Mr. Robert Molitor
Mr. William Wibbing
Mr. Colin Keller

Quarter Note Donors ($100-$249)
Mr. Don Bergman & Mr. Willie Meadows
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Mr. Geoffrey Bright
Mr. Bruce Carvell
Mr. Jay Reiter & Mr. Richard Charow
Mr. Charles Metz
Mr. Howard & Mrs. Penny Miller
Mr. Craig Monson
Dr. Robert Packman
Mr. Todd Pettit
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Eighth Note Donors ($25-$99)
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Ms. Loretta K. Haggard
Ms. Susan Hardebeck
Ms. Alice Abrams
Mr. Edward Adams
Mr. Brian Adkisson
Mr. Don Bergman & Mr. Willie Meadows
Mr. Michael Brown
Mr. Geoffrey Bright
Mr. Bruce Carvell
Mr. Jay Reiter & Mr. Richard Charow
Mr. Charles Metz
Mr. Howard & Mrs. Penny Miller
Mr. Craig Monson
Dr. Robert Packman
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Mr. Paul & Mrs. Sue Sutherland
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Ms. Wendy Markum & Ms. Jayne Scanlan
Mr. Joseph Nelson & Mr. John Goad
Mr. Donald Posegate II & Mr. Mark Silvermintz
Mr. John Hamblin & Mr. Jim Chamberlin
Mr. William Roth
Mr. Michael Brave & Mr. David Fuller
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Mr. Donald Posegate II & Mr. Mark Silvermintz
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Mr. William Roth
Mr. Michael Brave & Mr. David Fuller
Mr. JD Brooks
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Rev. Betty L Shirley & Linda L. Mudd
Ms. Jean Smith
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Mr. Don J. Reinh & Mr. John Goeders
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Mr. Michael Saxvik
Ms. Dee Hodge & Ms. Ann Petlin
Mrs. Naomi & Mr. Saul Silvermintz
Ms. Maureen Smith
Ms. Toni L. Smith
Mr. Daniel & Mrs. Laura Stelfast
Ms. Nancy Tonkings
Recognizing the Many Ways Our Donors Support the Chorus

The Gateway Men’s Chorus relies on the generosity of many throughout our community, and support comes in all shapes and sizes. In addition to the cash donations that many of our donors provide us, here is a highlight of just a few people and organizations who have made GMC stronger by donating time, talent, and resources this past year:

**Fred Schneider** – Our March “Bad Boys” concert wouldn’t have been the same without our special guest artist from the B-52s. Having Fred in the concert didn’t just make it a fun show for our audiences or an amazing opportunity for our singers to share the stage with a rock star, it also helped make the concert one of our best attended in recent history, and through extensive press coverage, one of our best publicized. In fact, over half our audiences during the 2012-13 Season joined us at “Bad Boys.” How was GMC able to afford bringing in a big name like Fred? He generously donated an entire week of his time to be with us in St. Louis. In addition to not charging GMC a fee for his work, he also donated CDs, posters, and his own glitter Converse shoes – which you might just see make an appearance at a GMC silent auction in the near future!

**MetLife** – What does a great insurance company have to do with GMC’s program books? You might be surprised to learn that throughout the 2012-13 Season, all of GMC’s printed materials, including program books, postcards, and even tickets, were printed through the in-kind generosity of our friends at MetLife. MetLife’s support ensured that all our patrons had quality printed materials throughout the year – and by saving us from paying directly for the high cost of printing, their support reduced our overall cash expenses for the year by nearly 10%. Thank you, MetLife!

**Mike Hodges** – During the 2012-13 Season, GMC’s showmanship took to new heights thanks to a new subset of the chorus, our dance team now known as “The Footnotes.” The vision for this group came from one of our own singing members, Mike Hodges, who donates his time and talent two nights each week (in addition to singing rehearsal) to get our singers on their feet, dancing to everything from “Hanukah in Santa Monica” to “Hot Pants Explosion.” Unlike many on our artistic staff, Mike receives no compensation for being the choreographer of “The Footnotes,” and we are extremely grateful to him for his great ideas and his generous spirit.

**Hartford Coffee Company** – Throughout the season at concerts and GMC special events, you’ve probably tasted the delicious scones and piping hot coffee from one of our season sponsors, Hartford Coffee. But did you know that all of that delicious food and drink is generously donated to the chorus? Hartford makes it possible for our audiences to have a great experience every time they join us for an event, and for that, we gladly salute them.

If some of these stories give you ideas for creative ways in which your time, talent, or resources might help make the chorus even stronger in the year to come, we would be delighted to hear them – and to welcome you into the family of these generous supporters!
THANK YOU TO OUR GRANTORS

AT&T FOUNDATION
BOEING COMPANY
ENTERPRISE HOLDING FOUNDATION
IBM CORPORATION
MONSANTO