

# GATEWAY *Men's* CHORUS



**30TH SEASON  
ANNUAL REPORT  
2016-2017**

Happy Anniversary to the Gateway Men's Chorus!

The Gateway Men's Chorus (GMC) celebrated our 30th season by presenting three outstanding concerts – **Glow - A Celebration of the Season**, **Light - A Celebration of Life**, and **Shine - A Celebration of Broadway** – and participated in a number of community events which broadened our outreach to new audiences, combining music with education and advocacy. Our fundraising events also allowed us to increase awareness of our mission while raising the funds needed to sustain operations.

Our Artistic Director, Robert Stumpf, challenged our singers at each opportunity by adding items that were sung in different languages and levels of difficulty. The chorus rose to the occasion and performed beautifully. To assist with managing the challenge, all members were offered weekly vocal education courses that focused on both music theory and vocal performance. These sessions were welcomed by the many individuals who took advantage of them. As the complexity of music and abilities of the chorus increased it became evident that the GMC would benefit from transitioning to an audition-based chorus. Robert and the chorus leadership worked with the membership over the year to roll out a soft launch for the beginning of the 31st season.

The Board of Directors was active in planning for the future. A new three-year strategic plan was developed during a winter retreat and finalized to present for approval during the summer. This plan focuses on growth in all areas of the organization and is intended to be a working document that is used to help drive the decisions made for the betterment of GMC.

During our end of the season retreat the Board of Directors voted to reorganize the staff structure, moving from two professionals to three. This will allow us to leverage the strengths and needs of the GMC for future growth. In addition to the Artistic Director, Robert Stumpf, we will have an Operations Director, Michael Franzoni, and a Development Director, Michelle Gralnick.

As I look forward to all of the activities we have planned for the 31st season, I want to thank our generous donors and gracious audiences for their ongoing support of GMC's mission. We hope that you continue to enjoy our concerts and events, and you will help us further our mission with your attendance and contributions.

**Don Foster**

President - Board of Directors  
Gateway Men's Chorus





## GLow - A CELEBRATION OF THE SEASON

The 30th Anniversary of the Gateway Men’s Chorus kicked off on December 9th and 10th, 2016 with the presentation of **GLow – A Celebration of the Season**. The holiday show has been a longstanding tradition of our concert series, and this year, we returned to Union Avenue Christian Church with a program that mixed gorgeous choral repertoire from many different countries and faith traditions with campy and fun pieces. The centerpiece of this concert was our performance of John Rutter’s “Gloria” alongside a 13-piece brass and percussion ensemble.

## LIGHT - A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

The chorus took to the stage at the 560 Music Center on Sunday March 26th, 2017 for a matinée celebration of our 30th anniversary, entitled **Light – A Celebration of Life**. This concert pulled out all the stops by bringing in opera star Christine Brewer as our featured special guest, and representatives from Council Oaks Men’s Chorale and the Lindenwood Men’s Choir joined us and a 30-piece orchestra for the presentation of Randall Thompson’s “Testament of Freedom”. GMC also debuted the choral setting of Sara Teasale’s “Refuge”, commissioned from composer Gwyneth Walker in honor of our anniversary.

## SHINE - A CELEBRATION OF BROADWAY

Our concert series concluded on June 9th and 10th, 2017 with **Shine – A Celebration of Broadway**, presented on the stage of the Edison Theatre at Washington University of St. Louis. Many of our singers stepped into the solo spotlight to deliver rousing renditions of their favorite Broadway hits, and State Representative Peter Meredith joined us to kick off the show alongside CHARIS President Sharon Spurlock. As a treat for longtime singers and audience, we buried a special easter egg in the program – the song “Rhythm of Life” (from Sweet Charity) which was presented in GMC’s first ever concert!



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENTS

In addition to our major concert series, the chorus spent much time around and about St. Louis. These outreach events provide GMC unique opportunities to give of both our time and talent to reinforce community partnerships, cast a spotlight on organizations that need greater exposure, and help raise much needed funds for missions beyond just our own. Throughout the year, we sang at the Manchester United Methodist Church's *Joy of Music* series, at a fundraiser for Shriner's Children's Hospital of St. Louis, for the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, as part of the Kimmswick Business Association's annual Cookie Walk, on the main stage at St. Louis Pridefest, as featured performers for the Forest Park Forever Hat Luncheon and we sang the National Anthem at the first-ever St. Louis Blues Pride Night.



Gateway Men's Chorus  
**Salute to Broadway**  
 Benefit Concert for Shriners Hospital's for Children St. Louis



Saturday, June 17, 2017  
 Gateway Center • Collinsville, Illinois  
 Door opens at 6:00 PM Event time 7:00 to 9:00 PM

\$ 20 per-ticket. Tickets will be made available at the door on the night of the event or by calling the Ainad Shrine at 618- 874-1870



# The Kinsey Sicks in *Chicks with Shticks*

## FUNDRAISERS & SPECIAL EVENTS

As a non-profit organization, the Gateway Men's Chorus raises funds through many different avenues, including individual donations, corporate and foundational sponsorship, ticket sales, and special events. These fundraising vehicles are designed to appeal to varying audiences and to provide GMC with the opportunity to entertain, engage, and appreciate our patrons in ways beyond our concerts.

Our fundraising season began on November 11th, 2016 with our annual **Wine + Art** event. This unique experience provided local artists with a space to showcase their work and make connections with the community. Throughout the evening, we featured fine wines from local wineries and appetizers from local eateries (like Vito's Sicilian Pizzeria and Ristorante).

On February 25th, 2017, GMC rolled out the red carpet for an Oscar-themed **Trivia Night** filled with glitz, glam, and questions about favorite movie moments and award winners. Featuring an array of special guest presenters and performers (with their own house band!), the trivia night was enjoyed by a packed house of gamers dressed to the nines in their best red carpet finery.

As is tradition for GMC, we saved the best fundraiser for last. Our annual **Cabaret Risqué** event returned for its sixth year on April 29th, 2017. We moved the event to a new venue this year, taking over the stage at the Boo Cat Club. This larger space allowed us to seat our largest audience ever as we welcomed the wry and crass stylings of Drag-apella sensations, The Kinsey Sicks! Audiences had the opportunity to enjoy a catered dinner, two bars, and a silent auction stocked to the gills with experiences, gift baskets, and art from our **Wine + Art** participants.

In addition to these fantastic events, GMC launched a special donation campaign. Spearheaded by our membership, donors were encouraged to donate \$30 to celebrate our 30th anniversary. This campaign also featured a donation match up to \$5000 and helped the chorus raise an additional \$12,000 for our operating costs.

Finally, our members organized their 4th annual Homegrown Cabaret event. With **Winter's Fire: A Homegrown Cabaret**, 16 singers from the Gateway Men's Chorus presented heartfelt renditions of songs that have impact and meaning to their lives all while raising money for our GALA Fund. The GALA Fund sets aside moneys to help send our members to the quadrennial GALA Choruses Festival. In 2016, we were able to provide registration fees for all members who went to the festival in Denver. As the festival returns to Minneapolis in 2020, we hope to send a larger contingent of singers and provide additional support for housing and transportation.

# Financial Report



END OF YEAR	ACTUAL
<b>Income</b>	
Membership Dues	\$10,513.30
Ticket Sales	\$34,344.23
Contributions, Grants, Sponsorships	\$137,435.90
Investment Income	\$2,186.35
In-Kind Support	\$37.35
Fundraising Income	\$24,970.52
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$209,487.65</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Program Expenses	\$122,822.14
Fundraising Expenses	\$24,563.46
Management & General Expenses	\$64,858.52
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$212,244.12</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>(-\$2,756.47)</b>

## SEASON 30 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joe Gfaller	<b>President</b>	Don Foster	<b>Treasurer</b>
Keith Thompson	<b>Vice President</b>	Colin Keller	<b>Secretary</b>
Darren Chapman		Vinay Pridgen	
William "Guy" Crouch		Guy Ranney	
Elizabeth Grimm-Howell		Jason Sallee	
Reagan Nelson		Steve Swymeler	

## SEASON 30 - STAFF

Robert Stumpf	<b>Artistic Director</b>	Julie George-Carlson	<b>Executive Director</b>
John Cargile	<b>Principle Accompanist</b>	Michael Franzoni	<b>Admin Assistant</b>



# Thank you to our Season 30 Sponsors



**Toni Smith -  
State Farm**