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GAY MEN'S CHORUS

HoliGays are Here

SEASON 38 HOLIDAY SERIES

DEC. 11, 2015 8 P.M. * DEC. 12, 2015 2:30 & 8 P.M. * NOURSE THEATER

THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS
DEC. 24, 2015 * 5 P.M., 7 P.M. & 9 P.M. * CASTRO THEATRE

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PROGRAMS | 2015.12

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DR. TIMOTHY SEELIG, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

HoliGays are Here

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December 11, 2015 • 8:00 PM
December 12, 2015 • 2:30 + 8:00 PM

Nourse Theater

Our 25th Anniversary of **Home for the Holidays**
is generously underwritten by **Mrs. Pansy L. Chan**

December 24, 2015 • 5:00, 7:00 + 9:00 PM

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FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

You're here. We're here. Let's celebrate!

This may be your first time at a holiday concert of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus. Some of you may have been to five, ten or even 38! Regardless, we are thrilled to have you. As the opening song says, "It's the hap, happiest time of the year." And we're more than happy to celebrate it with you.

The men you see before you love singing – and dancing – for you at this time of year. The entire fall is spent in preparation, and now it's time to strut our holiday best.

You will hopefully experience every possible emotion in the next two hours. You'll hear some of your favorites (feel free to sing along) and some brand-new jewels that are sure to become audience favorites as they have ours.

Remember that you can take us home with you on our new holiday recording, "Festive!: Four Years of Favorites." And you can join us in April and June for the remaining two blockbuster concerts in our 38th season. You can purchase a mini-subscription in January on our website at sfgmc.org.

Most of all, we wish you the most wonderful holiday season imaginable, and we are so grateful you chose to spend part of it with us.


Tim Seelig
Artistic Director

PS: Hope to see you all at *Tales Of Our City: Our Lives, Our Heroes* at Davies Symphony Hall in April!



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Everyone loves a winning team, and everyone has a place on a team. It may be as the water boy, the cheerleader, the quarterback or maybe the even the coach. It takes everyone.

We want YOU to join our team: Team SFGMC, a league of sustaining donors!

There's not just one game here. The behind-the-scenes work continues every single day with a dedicated bunch of singers, staff, volunteers and patrons. Now we need a support team that includes YOU! **Join us today with a monthly contribution!**

JOIN THE TEAM AT
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ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

TIM SEELIG is a conductor, singer, teacher and motivational speaker. In addition to Artistic Director of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, he continues a busy guest-conducting schedule throughout the U.S. and across the globe. He is Conductor Emeritus of the Turtle Creek Chorale, which he conducted for 20 years, co-founded The Women's Chorus of Dallas and taught on the faculty at Southern Methodist University for 14 years. Dr. Seelig holds four degrees, including the Doctor of Musical Arts and the Diploma from the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria. He has authored seven books and DVDs on choral technique. Recordings have been on Billboard Top Ten and iTunes Top Ten classical charts. The PBS documentary about the TCC received the national Emmy award for best documentary. Dr. Seelig has conducted regularly at Carnegie Hall for the last 25 years, as well as Lincoln Center and the Southbank Centre in London. His groups have commissioned choral works for a variety of amazing organizations. Some of those are amFAR (The American Foundation for AIDS Research), the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation featuring Dr. Maya Angelou, and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital featuring Marlo Thomas. Recent commissions with the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus include "Tyler's Suite" for the Tyler Clementi Foundation and *I Am Harvey Milk* by Andrew Lipa and "#twitterlieder." Dr. Seelig's first career was as a singer. He made his European operatic debut at the Staatsoper in St. Gallen, Switzerland and solo recital debut at Carnegie Hall. He appeared as soloist in world premieres of composers including John Corigliano, Conrad Susa and Peter Schickele (P.D.Q. Bach). Interesting facts include conducting the Guinness Book of World Record's Longest Choral Concert and carrying the Olympic torch in 1996 as a community Hero. He has not run since. He is married to Dan England and is the proud grandfather of the amazing Clara Skye and Eden Mae.

CARL PANTLE is a vocal coach, accompanist, and singer who frequently works with San Francisco Opera, West Bay Opera, Opera San Jose and the Bay Area Summer Opera Theatre Institute. He is an alumnus of the prestigious Merola Program at the San Francisco Opera Center. Carl studied voice and choral conducting at Brigham Young University and soon after returned to the Bay Area to pursue vocal coaching and accompanying at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Carl has appeared as a vocalist with SFGMC on numerous occasions and appeared at Lincoln Center as accompanist for Dr. Tim Seelig in *The Wisdom of Old Turtle* in 2011. Mr. Pantle has collaborated with some of the finest talent Broadway has to offer, including Daniel Reichard, Keala Settle, Julia Murney, Alysha Umphress and Laura Benanti.

LYNDEN BAIR is a pianist, singer, actor, and longtime resident of San Francisco. Local audiences most recently saw him as the leader of the band The Angry Inch in Boxcar Theatre's farewell revival of their acclaimed productions of *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*. Hailing from a farm town in Northern Utah, Lynden attended the University of Northern Colorado on a performance scholarship and is known for his knowledge of and experience in musical theatre. He is currently the Principal Accompanist for the Oakland East Bay Gay Men's Chorus and has worked with a variety of vocal groups and theatre organizations in the Bay Area. He recently added vocal arranger to his resume, providing original arrangements performed by SFGMC. In addition to being the Associate Accompanist, Lynden has been a featured vocal soloist with the Chorus at Davies Symphony Hall, the Castro Theatre and on tour.



TIM SEELIG
artistic director



CARL PANTLE
principal accompanist
ensemble director, vocal minority



LYNDEN BAIR
Associate Accompanist

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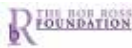


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KARPMAN



WALKER



LIJOI

GUEST ARTISTS

LAURA KARPMAN Through a rigorous musical approach coupled with conceptual and progressive uses of technology and recording, Laura creates music that reflects the acoustic lens of a true 21st-century American composer. Karpman's concert music is widely performed, with recent commissions from The Glimmerglass Festival, San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, Pacific Symphony, Los Angeles Opera, the Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music and percussionist Evelyn Glennie. The recording of her Carnegie Hall-commissioned multimedia work, "Ask Your Mama," was recently released (Avie). With four Emmys and an additional seven nominations, an Annie nomination, and two GANG awards for her video game music, Karpman is one of a handful of female composers scoring visual media. She recently collaborated with Raphael Saadiq, scoring the musical *Black Nativity* for Fox Searchlight. She was tapped by Steven Spielberg to create an epic score for his 20-hour miniseries *Taken*. She attended the University of Michigan where she studied with William Bolcom and Fontainebleau, with the legendary Nadia Boulanger. She received her doctorate from The Juilliard School, where she studied with Milton Babbitt by day, playing jazz and scat singing in clubs by night, reflecting her lifelong obsession with jazz which began at age 11 when she started memorizing Ella Fitzgerald's scat solos. She is currently a professor at UCLA in the School of Theater, Film and Television.

REBECCA WALKER Time Magazine named Rebecca Walker one of fifty most influential American leaders under forty because of her transformative views on race, gender, sexuality and power - an award which has been followed by many others, including the Women Who Could Be President Award from the League of Women Voters and an honorary doctorate from the North Carolina School of the Arts. Rebecca is the author of the original Third Wave primer *To Be Real: Telling the Truth and Changing the Face of Feminism*, the bestselling post-civil rights memoir *Black, White, and Jewish: Autobiography of a Shifting Self* and *What Makes a Man: 22 Writers Imagine The Future*. Rebecca's memoir, *Baby Love: Choosing Motherhood After a Lifetime of Ambivalence* was published to acclaim. Rebecca is the daughter of Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Alice Walker and esteemed civil rights attorney Mel Leventhal. She lives in Hawaii and Northern California with her son and his father.

ERNIE LIJOI (Composer/Lyricist on "Merry Everything," Lyricist on "Merry Christmas, I Win") is delighted to have these two holiday pieces make their debut with the SFGMC. Ernie was represented as a Lyricist on Broadway this year in the musical *It Shoulda Been You* starring Tyne Daly and directed by David Hyde Pierce. Also this year, his new musical *Under The Influence* (book/music/lyrics) made its debut in Portland at the OUTwright Festival directed by Rusty Tennant. Ernie also wrote the score for the musical *Monsters*, which has had several productions in the New England area. Another holiday song of his, "All I Want For Christmas is You," was performed at Carnegie Hall by the New York Gay Men's Chorus and his song "Chandler Street" has been performed by numerous choruses starting with the Boston Gay Men's Chorus. He has also released three CDs, the last of which - "Better Days" - was selected as Billboard's "Unsigned Artist of the Year." Still unsigned and only mildly bitter, Ernie continues to write musicals, pop songs and novelty numbers, and has a large repertoire of material that is ignored by an industry that no longer appreciates craft.

LAWRENCE RUSH has written several musicals, opera, art songs and choral music. His musicals, *Pride & Prejudice - the Musical* and *Winter of the Fall* were both Richard Rodgers Award finalists. *Winter of the Fall* had a workshop production at Illinois Wesleyan University. *Pride & Prejudice - the Musical* had a staged reading in New York City and was chosen by FWD Theatre Project this year for a workshop and public reading in Chicago, as well as two public readings with Main Street Musicals in Philadelphia. Lawrence co-composed the musical *Under the Influence*, which had a run at the OUTwright Festival in Portland, Oregon, and he co-composed and arranged *Rules for Girls*, which ran at two Los Angeles theaters and was nominated for an L.A.



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Weekly Theater Award for Best Musical. He composed ***A Maiden's Consent***, a bi-lingual musical written for the National Theater of the Performing Arts, which twice toured the U.S. His art song "Altar" was commissioned by Marble Collegiate Church for its World AIDS Day service, and his "Elizabeth Barrett Browning Sonnets" have been performed in Europe and the U.S. Lawrence's songs have been performed in cabarets and concerts throughout the U.S. His choral compositions "Shalom Rav" and "Sim Shalom" have been recorded and are performed regularly at synagogues in and around New York City. "Sim Shalom" received the Shalshet award for new Jewish choral music. He made his Carnegie Hall composition debut in 2013 with his piano work "Transitions." He is also an arranger, musical director, stage director, professional singer and actor, and is the chef and owner of Cooking A Cappella, where he teaches private cooking classes and corporate cooking events combined with singing! He is a member of the BMI Advanced Musical Theater Workshop and The Dramatists Guild of America, Inc.

STEVE HUFFINES Steve Huffines has composed or arranged ten songs in widely ranging styles for SFGMC, including "My Friend, My Lover – Five Walt Whitman Songs," Elton John's "American Triangle," and "Pride Day for Putin in Moscow." He was also the soloist for "Just a Boy" by John Bucchino in SFGMC's world premiere of "Tyler's Suite." He has composed songs for the Chicago Gay Men's Chorus and the Seattle Men's Chorus, and was the soloist in the Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus world premiere of ***Memento Mori – An AIDS Requiem*** by James Adler, followed by the New York premiere and recording. His diverse roles have included Mozart in ***Amadeus***, the Baker in ***Into the Woods***, Melvin P. Thorpe in ***The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*** and the baritone solos in ***Carmina Burana***. He performed both the Phantom and Raoul solos in ***The Phantom of the Opera*** excerpts conducted by Skitch Henderson on tour with numerous major orchestras. A proud member of the Lower Bass section, he has been a member of SFGMC since 2013. He lives in San Francisco with his husband, Dan McCurdy, and their Tibetan Spaniel, Hobbes.

Bay Area cellist **JERRY LIU** received his MM studying with Yeesun Kim at New England Conservatory, and a BM from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music studying with Jennifer Culp. Recent performances include Boston Symphony Hall, Davies Symphony Hall, The Venetian, Yoshi's, as well as concert halls in Europe, China, and Taiwan. Liu has had the opportunity to record for SONY, and the video game Final Fantasy. He founded JGC Publishing Company in 2013 and has been distributing his works worldwide. Both Suite 7 Days (2013), and a recently commissioned piece Calor (2015), will be part of a solo cello collective. Liu has been a won numerous competitions and performed as soloist with a variety of local symphony orchestras.

SARAH VOYNOW has performed extensively with the San Francisco Ballet Orchestra, the San Francisco Symphony, the San Francisco Opera Orchestra and the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra. She has also worked with such notable Bay Area groups as the Marin Symphony, the Golden Gate Opera Orchestra and the Santa Rosa Symphony. Sarah earned a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Juilliard. Over the years, she has performed in numerous recordings at Skywalker Sound. Sarah has also performed and recorded with The Orchestra of St. Luke's and toured with Richard Stoltzman and Woody Herman's Thundering Herd for two years. As a performer with the latter ensemble, she played on the Grammy-nominated recording of Stravinsky's ***Ebony Concerto***.



RUSH



HUFFINES



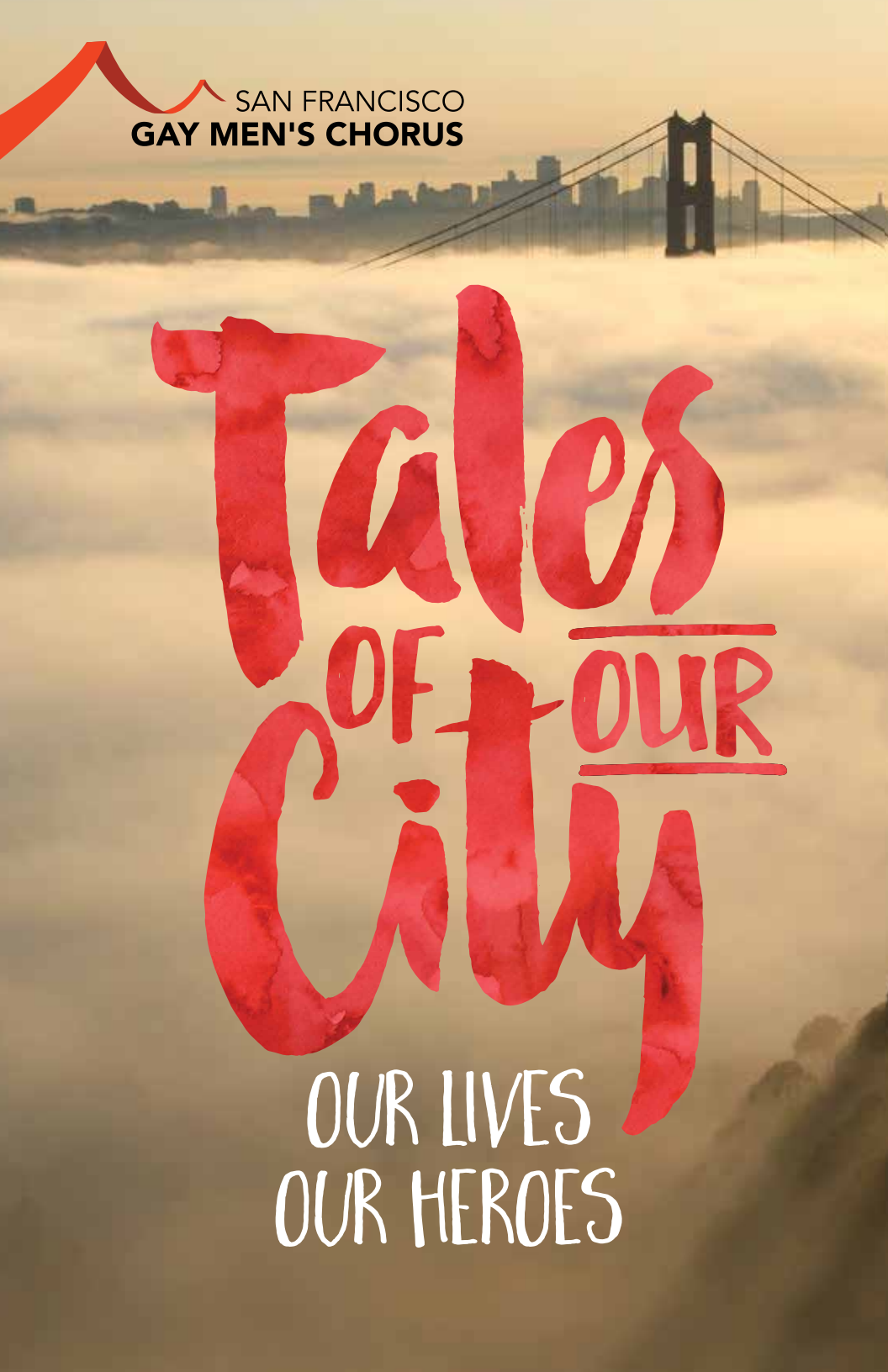
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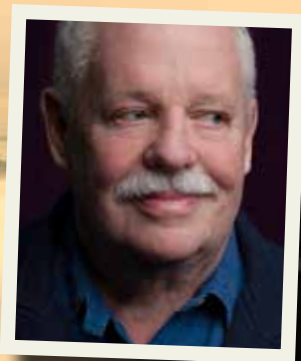


SAN FRANCISCO
GAY MEN'S CHORUS



Tales
OF OUR
City

OUR LIVES
OUR HEROES



**TWO
NIGHTS
ONLY**

Thursday, April 14, 2016

Friday, April 15, 2016

Davies Symphony Hall

Featured Guest
Armistead Maupin

Celebrating the 40th anniversary of the very first article that launched the worldwide phenomenon known in print, screen and stage as **"Tales of the City"**

World premiere by
Mari Esabel Valverde,
Transgender composer and
SF Conservatory of Music
graduate

In collaboration with
**Bay Area Rainbow
Symphony**

Featuring excerpts from
two of our milestone
commissioned musical
works - the 20th Anniversary
of "NakedMan" and 2013's
"I Am Harvey Milk"



ACT I

Holidays Are Here

Arranged by Paul Saccone

Wassail *

*Traditional English Carol
Arranged by Steve Huffines*

The First Noel

*Traditional English Carol
Arranged by Rhonda Polay*

Loving, Tender, Present *

*Music by Laura Karpman
Text by Rebecca Walker*

Dancing Gays Part I: I Want!

Joy!

*Arranged by Eddy Clement
Based on Beethoven's "Ode to Joy"*

Dancing Gays Part II: Sugar!

Who Is She That Travels?

*By Owen Goldsmith
Arranged by Anne Albritton*

Ave Maria

*Music by Charles Gounod
A meditation on J.S. Bach's Prelude No. 1 in C Major, MBV 848
Arranged by Tony McIntosh*

Dancing Gays Part III: Bows!

* denotes World Premiere

ACT II

A selection from one of our wonderful Vocal Ensembles:
HomoPhonics, The Lollipop Guild, SWAG, Vocal Minority

Text Me Merry Christmas

*By David Javerbaum and Adam Schlesinger
Arranged by Alan Billingsley*

Almost Christmas from *A Little Princess*

By Andrew Lippa, Arranged by Mac Huff

Recycle the Fruitcake from *Santa Goes Green*

*By John Jacobson and Mac Huff
Additional music and lyrics by Danny Wesley Ray*

Merry Christmas, I Win *

Music by Lawrence Rush, Lyrics by Ernie Ljoi

Merry Everything *

Words and Music by Ernie Ljoi

Jingle Bells Hallelujah

*Traditional Lyrics
Adapted and Arrangement by Jonathan Miller,*

The Work of Christmas Begins *

Music by Steve Huffines, Text by Howard Thurman

Silent Night

By Franz Gruber and Joseph Mohr, Arranged by Anne Albritton

I'LL BE HOME:

I'll Be Home For Christmas

By Kim Gannon, Walter Kent and Buck Ram

I'll Be Home

By Meghan Trainor, Arranged by Steve Huffines

Swingin' With Santa

Arranged by Mac Huff, Arranged for SFGMC by Paul Saccone

THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS
programs will be selected from the pieces listed above.

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SFGMC in celebrating your **38th**
season of unwavering devotion
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FEATURED SOLOISTS

Wassail

Dec. 11 > 8:00 | Dec. 24 > 5:00.....David Naden, Andrew Caldwell
Dec. 12 > 2:30 | Dec. 24 > 7:00 Mike Figueira, Mark Forrer
Dec. 12 > 8:00 | Dec. 24 > 9:00.....Eric Carlson, Derek Blechinger

The First Noel

Dec. 11 > 8:00 | Dec. 24 > 5:00.....Roy Eikleberry
Dec. 12 > 2:30 | Dec. 24 > 7:00 Mark Para
Dec. 12 > 8:00..... Keith Byron
Dec. 24 > 9:00..... Steve Huffines

Loving, Tender, Present

Dec. 11 > 8:00, Dec. 24 > 5:00.....Melvin Fujikawa
Dec. 12 > 2:30, Dec. 24 > 7:00 Dennis Chase
Dec. 12 > 8:00, Dec. 24 > 9:00..... Clint Johnson

Dancing Gays Part I: I Want!

Dec. 11 > 8:00 | Dec. 24 > 5:00.....Elliott DeVore
Dec. 12 > 2:30 | Dec. 24 > 7:00 Andy Clements
Dec. 12 > 8:00 | Dec. 24 > 9:00..... Sanford Smith

Who Is She That Travels?

Dec. 11 > 8:00 | Dec. 24 > 5:00.....Cyrus Mallare
Dec. 12 > 2:30 | Dec. 24 > 7:00 Ernie Tovar
Dec. 12 > 8:00 | Dec. 24 > 9:00..... Leonard Conner

Ave Maria

Dec. 11 > 8:00 | Dec. 24 > 7:00..... Phillip Whitely
Dec. 12 > 2:30 | Dec. 24 > 9:00.....Derek Blechinger
Dec. 12 > 8:00 | Dec. 24 > 5:00..... Rylan Carpena

Text Me Merry Christmas

Dec. 11 8:00 | Dec. 12 2:30Cyrus Mallare, Dave Caldwell
Dec. 12 8:00 | Dec. 24, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00Mark Mezak, Igor Chudak

Almost Christmas

Dec. 11 > 8:00 | Dec. 24 > 5:00..... Dave Andrade, Evan Salcedo
Dec. 12 > 2:30 | Dec. 24 > 7:00 Timmy Morris, John Constable
Dec. 12 > 8:00 | Dec. 24 > 9:00..... Tyler "Sky" Hunsaker, Michael Grandys

Recycle the Fruitcake

Dec. 11 > 8:00 | Dec. 24 > 7:00..... Maxwell Snodgrass
Dec. 12 > 2:30 | Dec. 24 > 5:00 Glenn DeSandre
Dec. 12 > 8:00 | Dec. 24 > 9:00..... Dave Hayes

Merry Christmas, I Win

Dec. 11 > 8:00 | Dec. 24 > 5:00.....Dave Caldwell, Ren Blake
Dec. 12 > 2:30 | Dec. 24 > 7:00 Mark Mezak
Dec. 12 > 8:00 | Dec. 24 > 9:00..... Elliott DeVore, Jonathan Jones

Merry Everything

Dec. 11 8:00 | Dec. 24 5:00 Mitch Galli
Dec. 12 2:30 | Dec. 24 7:00 Vinney Le
Dec. 12 8:00 | Dec. 24 9:00 Kellan Christopher

I'll Be Home

Dec. 11 > 8:00 | Dec. 24 > 5:00..... Oky Sulistio, Alex Goro
Dec. 12 > 2:30 | Dec. 24 > 7:00 Evan Salcedo, Rylan Carpena
Dec. 12 > 8:00 | Dec. 24 > 9:00..... Chao Xue, Armando Zambrana

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Dec. 11 > 8:00 | Dec. 24 > 5:00:

HomoPhonics

Who Spiked the Eggnog?

Arranged by Dan Ponce

As originally performed by Straight No Chaser

The Lollipop Guild

Christmas Rhapsody

Dec. 12 > 2:30 | Dec. 24 > 7:00:

Vocal Minority

Here We Come A-Caroling

Traditional, Arranged by Kirby Shaw

There Is Faint Music

Music by Dan Forrest, Words by Nancy Buckley

Dec. 12 > 8:00 | Dec. 24 > 9:00:

SWAG

The Little Drummer Boy

By Katharine Kennicott Davis, Arranged by The Pentatonix

FEATURED PERFORMERS

Logan Ahlgren • Andrew Caldwell • Eric Carlson • Glenn DeSandre
Justin Duhé • Jeff Dumlao • Roy Eikleberry • David Falzone • Tag Frost
Raymond Gonzalez • Sky Hunsaker • David Klatt • Vinney Le
Cyrus Mallare • Rey Monteloyola • Vicente Montoya • Vaughn Mouton
Emer Pacleb • Richie Perez • Kaveh Riahi • Michael Sese
Sanford Smith • Maxwell Snodgrass • Shad Stalians • Michael Tate

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Cello Jerry Liu**
Harp Sarah Voynow**
Bass Justin Wilson*

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THE FIFTH SECTION

The rich history of the chorus would not be complete without recognizing the many talented men and women whose gifts of music helped bring us to this point, and who have left us much too soon.

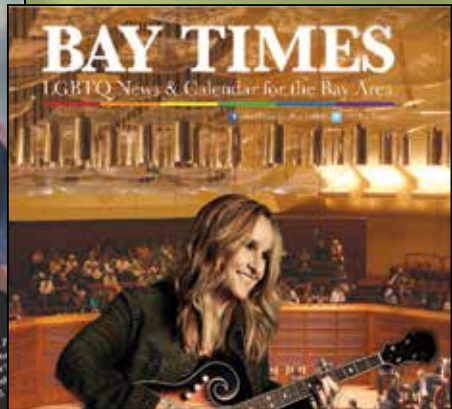
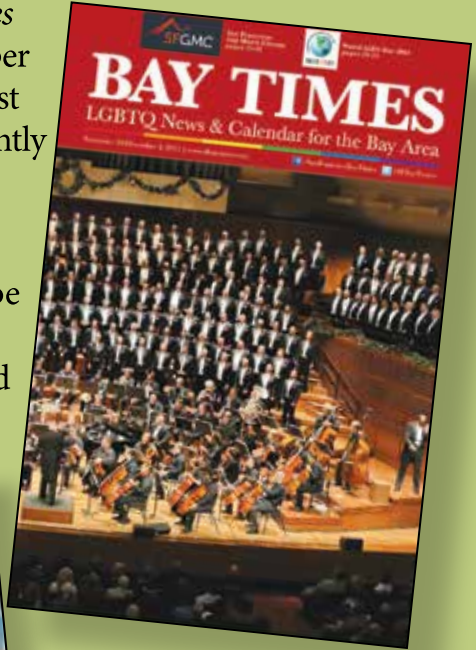
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MISSION, VISION & VALUES

MISSION: The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus creates extraordinary musical experiences that inspire community, activism and compassion.

VISION: A world inspired and unified by the music we create.

VALUES: We believe in the transformative power of music to heal, to enlighten and to foster unity. We embrace the life affirming changes we create within and beyond our chorus community. We evolve society's views toward LGBT people through our commitment to excellence. We honor all who came before us and whose sacrifices made it possible for us to raise our voices.

THE LEGACY SOCIETY

LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR THE FUTURE OF
THE SAN FRANCISCO GAY MEN'S CHORUS

The Legacy Society of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus is an illustrious group of patrons, donors and singers who, through their visionary philanthropy, have made a commitment to ensuring the Chorus' future by remembering the Chorus in their estate plans.

In particular, we are thankful to have been the recipient of generous gifts in recent years through the visionary estates of Bob Emery, Jerry Geller and Ken Sullivan, James H. Jones Asset Trust, William G. Stephens and Archibald Wilson.

Our Legacy Society members ensure that the transformative power of our music will continue to heal, enlighten, and foster unity. Together - we dream of a world where people are drawn together by the extraordinary musical experiences the Chorus creates.

The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus expresses its deep appreciation to the following Legacy Society members who have contributed to the Chorus' future through an estate gift:

Daniel P. Aaron • Al Abramowitz • Norman Abramson + David Beery
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Together we honor the legacies of those who have come before us and continue to empower us to raise our voices.

To learn how to include SFGMC in your estate planning, or to complete a Declaration of Intent, please contact Miles Walls, SFGMC Development Coordinator, at 415.865.3650 or miles.walls@sfgmc.org. Thank you.

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It is with great pride that the Board of Directors announces the reinstatement of five restricted funds established for the benefit of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus by some incredible men. Over the years, the funds were depleted in emergency situations. A dedicated group of SFGMC historians, researched the original funds, donors and uses for which the donations were made. We are thrilled to announce the following bequests have been fully restored in honor of those who gave the generous gifts:

- Robert Weinand Reserve Fund
- Peter Davids Fund for FAN Club
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- Bud Castleman Fund for the Artistic Director's Salary
- Lee Westbrook Fund for Chorus Education

These funds continue to grow along with our endowment. For information about the funds or the endowment, please contact Miles Walls, SFGMC Development Coordinator, at 415.865.3650 or miles.walls@sfgmc.org. Thank you.

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