

TO: GALA Choruses Board of Directors
FROM: Governance Committee
DATE: January 4, 2008
RE: Creation of GALA Choruses Grants Committee

In light of its decision to create the four new funding initiatives for 2008/2009, the GALA Board of Directors asked the Governance Committee to evaluate existing processes and consider new decision-making architecture related to the awarding of future grants from these four designated funds. The Governance Committee recognized that although the Association Services Committee would be the most appropriate existing board-level committee to take over the responsibility of administering the process of making these grants, the consensus of the Governance Committee members, the President and the Managing Director was that too many duties are currently under the umbrella of the Association Services Committee and that this additional responsibility would overburden that committee. Accordingly, the Governance Committee recognized the opportunity to create a new committee structure that not only would be delegated the responsibility to evaluate, deliberate and award grants from the four designated funds to qualified GALA member choruses, but also may assist the organization in achieving other goals beneficial to the future of GALA Choruses.

GALA CHORUSES GRANTS COMMITTEE – STRUCTURE

CREATION. The GALA Choruses Grants Committee (the “Committee”) shall be an Article 5, Section A(3) committee created by resolution of the GALA Board of Directors.

MEMBERSHIP. The President of the GALA Board of Directors shall appoint its Vice President as the standing chairperson of the Committee. In addition to setting the agenda for and running the meetings of the Committee, the Vice President will have the authority to cast a vote to break any tied vote that may exist after being cast by the eligible voting members of the Committee, but the Vice President otherwise will not be a voting member of the Committee. In the event the Vice President is unable to cast a tie-breaking vote because of his/her conflict of interest, the President of the GALA Board of Directors, or his/her designee, will cast the tie-breaking vote.

In addition to the Vice President, the President shall appoint up to fifteen (15) members to the Committee as elected by GALA member choruses. Each elected Committee member will serve a two-year term. Committee members may be elected to no more than two (2) terms, whether consecutive or non-consecutive. Sitting members of the GALA Board of Directors will not be eligible for election to the Committee. Each member of the Committee will be elected from one of five (5) regions into which GALA Choruses has assigned each of its member choruses for the purpose of electing members to the Committee [See attached]. Three (3) candidates will be elected from each region only by the GALA member choruses in that region. Each GALA member chorus will have the opportunity to nominate one (1) candidate for election to the Committee. After the slate of candidates for each region has been determined, each GALA member chorus shall have a maximum of three (3) votes to cast for any of the candidates from their specific region, provided the GALA member chorus may cast only one (1) vote for any candidate. In the event of a tie in a region(s), the President of the GALA Board of Directors shall appoint the winning candidate(s) from those who received the same number of votes within each region pursuant to Article 5, Section A(1). In the event of a vacancy on the Committee, the President shall have the authority to appoint a person(s) from an unrepresented GALA member chorus in such region in which such vacancy exists to complete the unexpired term of the vacating elected member. Such person(s) appointed to fulfill the unexpired term of a vacant seat shall be entitled to be elected to two (2) full terms should he/she be nominated and elected within that region as set forth above. Should an elected member of the Committee cease his/her association with the GALA member chorus from which

he/she was elected, such member shall resign his/her position on the Committee.

MEETINGS. The Committee members will meet at least once each calendar quarter, with the Annual Conference or Festival serving as the site of the Committee's one required in-person annual meeting. The Committee's agenda for each calendar quarter will be established by the Vice President and shall be focused on the consideration of the granting of funds to qualifying member choruses from one of the four designated funds within the funding limitations set by the GALA Board of Directors. The Committee will have the authority to create subcommittees and appoint or consult with experts outside of the Committee to assist it in its evaluation of grant requests. The President shall have the authority to appoint temporary non-voting advisory members to the Committee or its subcommittees who are experienced in reviewing and evaluating grant proposals related to one or more of the four (4) funding initiatives to assist the Committee in its deliberations. Preference for representatives from the recipients of qualifying grants in the prior year shall be given by the President in making the appointments of such temporary advisory members to the Committee.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST. The Committee members will be governed by the existing Code of Ethics & Conflicts of Interest Policy of the GALA Board of Directors.

COMMITTEE DECISIONS. All decisions of the Committee regarding the awarding of grants to GALA member choruses, the amount of such grants and other related matters shall be subject to the final approval of the GALA Board of Directors. Grant awarding deliberations of the Committee shall be confidential and all awards shall be kept confidential pending approval by the GALA Board of Directors.

GALA CHORUSES GRANT COMMITTEE - BENEFITS

ELECTED MEMBERS. Many members of GALA Board of Directors and the Staff have expressed their desire to foster and grow the idea of "ownership" of GALA Choruses by its member choruses. Although the Bylaws provide the President with the authority to appoint members to all committees established by the Board of Directors, it is suggested that in this instance, the primary appointments for the Committee should be limited to the candidates elected by the GALA member choruses as set forth above. The Governance Committee also believes that the proposed "democratic" process for awarding grants from a representative body of all GALA member choruses will minimize any criticisms of the process related to favoritism or relationships with individual members of the GALA Board of Directors or its Staff.

FUTURE BOARD CANDIDATES. The Governance Committee believes that tenure on the Committee will provide a better opportunity for the Governance Committee to identify potential new candidates for appointment to the GALA Choruses Board of Directors.

GALA Member Chorus	Region	State/Prov
Des Moines Gay Men's Chorus	Central	IA
Quire, The: Eastern Iowa's GLBT Chorus	Central	IA
Chicago Gay Men's Chorus	Central	IL
Indianapolis Men's Chorus	Central	IN
Indianapolis Women's Chorus	Central	IN
Quarryland Men's Chorus	Central	IN
Heart of America	Central	KS
New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus	Central	LA
Rainbow Harmony Project	Central	MB
Calliope	Central	MN
One Voice Mixed Chorus	Central	MN
Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus	Central	MN
CHARIS, the St. Louis Women's Choir	Central	MO
Gateway Men's Chorus	Central	MO
Heartland Men's Chorus	Central	MO
Kansas City Women's Chorus	Central	MO
River City Mixed Chorus	Central	NE
Cincinnati Men's Chorus	Central	OH
Dayton Gay Men's Chorus	Central	OH
MUSE: Cincinnati's Women's Choir	Central	OH
Council Oak Men's Chorale	Central	OK
Forte - The Toronto Men's Chorus	Central	Ontario
Rainbow Chorus of Waterloo Wellington	Central	Ontario
Singing Out Toronto	Central	Ontario
Nashville in Harmony	Central	TN
Men's Voices Milwaukee	Central	WI
Perfect Harmony Men's Chorus	Central	WI
Another Octave-Connecticut Women's Chorus	Eastern North	CT
Connecticut Gay Men's Chorus	Eastern North	CT
Rainbow Chorale of Delaware	Eastern North	DE
Boston Gay Men's Chorus	Eastern North	MA
Coro Allegro	Eastern North	MA
Voices Rising	Eastern North	MA
Maine Gay Men's Chorus	Eastern North	ME
Detroit Together Men's Chorus	Eastern North	MI
One Voice of Metropolitan Detroit	Eastern North	MI
Out Loud Chorus	Eastern North	MI
New Jersey Gay Men's Chorus	Eastern North	NJ
Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus	Eastern North	NY
Lavender Light Gospel Choir	Eastern North	NY
Long Island Pride Chorus	Eastern North	NY
New Century Singers	Eastern North	NY

New York City Gay Men's Chorus	Eastern North	NY
Rochester Gay Men's Chorus	Eastern North	NY
Rochester Women's Community Chorus	Eastern North	NY
Syracuse Gay & Lesbian Chorus, Inc.	Eastern North	NY
Columbus Gay Men's Chorus	Eastern North	OH
North Coast Men's Chorus	Eastern North	OH
Windsong	Eastern North	OH
Anna Crusis Women's Choir	Eastern North	PA
Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus	Eastern North	PA
Harrisburg Men's Chorus	Eastern North	PA
Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus	Eastern North	PA
Philadelphia Gay Men's Chorus	Eastern North	PA
Renaissance City Men's Choir	Eastern North	PA
Renaissance City Women's Choir	Eastern North	PA
Providence Gay Men's Chorus	Eastern North	RI

Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC	Eastern South	DC
Backstage	Eastern South	FL
Crescendo: The Tampa Bay Women's Chorus	Eastern South	FL
First Coast Chorus	Eastern South	FL
Ft. Lauderdale Gay Men's Chorus	Eastern South	FL
Gulf Coast Men's Chorus	Eastern South	FL
in HARMONY	Eastern South	FL
Miami Gay Men's Chorus	Eastern South	FL
Orlando Gay Chorus	Eastern South	FL
South Florida Lambda Chorale	Eastern South	FL
Southwest Florida Gay & Lesbian Chorus, Inc.	Eastern South	FL
Una Voce: The Florida Men's Chorale	Eastern South	FL
Voices of Pride	Eastern South	FL
Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus	Eastern South	GA
Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus	Eastern South	GA
Melodivas	Eastern South	GA
OurSong	Eastern South	GA
Schola Cantorosa-Schwuler Mannerchor Hamburg	Eastern South	Germany
VOICES of Kentuckiana Inc.	Eastern South	KY
New Wave Singers of Baltimore, Inc.	Eastern South	MD
Cantaria (Men's Chorus of Asheville)	Eastern South	NC
Gay Men's Chorus of Charlotte	Eastern South	NC
One Voice	Eastern South	NC
Triad Pride Men's Chorus	Eastern South	NC
Triangle Gay Men's Chorus	Eastern South	NC
Tone Cluster	Eastern South	ON
London Gay Men's Chorus	Eastern South	UK
Hampton Roads Men's Chorus	Eastern South	VA

Calgary Men's Chorus	Mountain	AB
Arizona Women in Tune	Mountain	AZ
Desert Voices	Mountain	AZ
Phoenix Metropolitan Men's Chorus	Mountain	AZ
Reveille Men's Chorus	Mountain	AZ
GLASS Youth Choir	Mountain	BC
Vancouver Lesbian and Gay Choir	Mountain	BC
Denver Gay Men's Chorus	Mountain	CO
Denver Women's Chorus	Mountain	CO
Harmony	Mountain	CO
Mosaic Youth Chorus	Mountain	CO
Out Loud: The Colorado Springs Men's Chorus	Mountain	CO
Resonance Women's Chorus of Boulder	Mountain	CO
Sine Nomine	Mountain	CO
Sound Circle	Mountain	CO
Missoula Men's Chorus	Mountain	MT
New Mexico Gay Men's Chorus	Mountain	NM
New Mexico Women's Chorus	Mountain	NM
Confluence: Willamette Valley Mixed Chorus	Mountain	OR
Portland Gay Men's Chorus	Mountain	OR
Alamo City Men's Chorale	Mountain	TX
Bayou City Women's Chorus	Mountain	TX
Capital City Men's Chorus	Mountain	TX
Gay Men's Chorus of Houston	Mountain	TX
The Women's Chorus of Dallas	Mountain	TX
Turtle Creek Chorale	Mountain	TX
Salt Lake Men's Choir	Mountain	UT
Melbourne Gay & Lesbian Chorus, Inc.	Mountain	Victoria
Juneau Pride Chorus	Pacific	AK
Caballeros - The GMC of Palm Springs	Pacific	CA
Colla Voce	Pacific	CA
Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles	Pacific	CA
Gay Men's Chorus of San Diego	Pacific	CA
GLAM Youth Choir	Pacific	CA
Golden Gate Men's Chorus	Pacific	CA
In aChord, Inc.	Pacific	CA
Lesbian/Gay Chorus Of San Francisco	Pacific	CA
Men Alive	Pacific	CA
Oakland East Bay Gay Men's Chorus	Pacific	CA
Rainbow Women's Chorus, The	Pacific	CA

Sacramento Gay Men's Chorus	Pacific	CA
San Diego Men's Chorus	Pacific	CA
San Diego Women's Chorus	Pacific	CA
San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus	Pacific	CA
Silicon Valley Gay Men's Chorus	Pacific	CA
Siyahamba Community Chorus	Pacific	CA
Small Difference Women's Choral Ensemble	Pacific	CA
South Coast Chorale	Pacific	CA
The Cosmos	Pacific	CA
True Colors Women's Chorus, The	Pacific	CA
VOX Femina Los Angeles	Pacific	CA
West Coast Singers	Pacific	CA
Worship and Praise Team (MCC San Francisco)	Pacific	CA
AEDONIS	Pacific	WA
Diverse Harmony	Pacific	WA
Seattle Men's Chorus	Pacific	WA
Seattle Women's Chorus	Pacific	WA
The BEARatones	Pacific	WA