

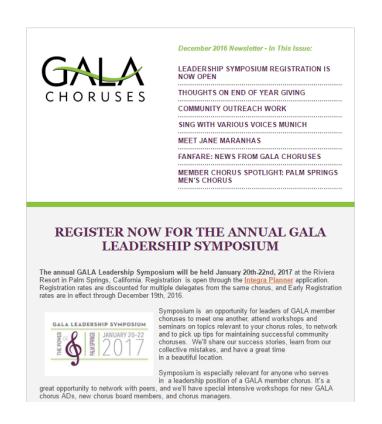
Getting the Most from Your GALA Choruses Membership



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Stay Current on Events and Programs





The first key to getting value from your GALA membership is to stay current on the events and programs offered. GALA regularly sends newsletters and eBlasts to our mailing list to communicate information about upcoming events and programs. Be sure to notify Member Services when your chorus leadership changes so that we can keep the information flowing to you.



Join the GALA Mailing List and Facebook Page



To join our email list go to the GALA Choruses web site home page and use the "Join Our Mailing List" box. Follow the link and "like" our Facebook page.



Join the GALA Discussion Groups

Discussion Groups Link You to Your Colleagues

GALA Choruses supports a variety of ways for members to stay informed and to network with other member choruses. The networking capability is frequently cited as one of the most valuable aspects of membership in GALA Choruses. Information about programs and events is sent through Constant Contact. You can join the mailing list to receive these communications. There are six different discussion groups on Google that can be used to obtain input on a particular question or issue from colleagues. Each of the discussion groups is described below.

Artistic Directors

This list includes requests and posts about repertoire, concert themes, rehearsal and performance issues, guest artists and many other stimulating AD topics! - send request to subscribe.

Volunteer Chorus Managers

Members of this discussion group are non-paid, or minimally paid, managers or administrators of GALA choruses. Please send request to subscribe.

Mid-Size Chorus Managers

There is a new discussion group for administrators of choruses with budgets between \$75,000 and \$300,000 to exchange information and best practices. Please send request to subscribe.

GALA Composers

This is a new discussion list for composers and arrangers that are connected to our choruses, have composed pieces for GALA choruses or are looking to become more connected. Please <u>send request</u> to subscribe.

Executive Directors

The Executive Directors list is for choruses who have a paid, full-time executive director - <u>send a request</u> to Robin Godfrey to join.

GALA Youth Choruses

Stay connected with other GALA Youth Choruses through this on-line discussion group. Please <u>send request</u> to subscribe.

Transgender GALA

A discussion group for transgender individuals and allies interested in conversations regarding trans experience, gender language and helping to create a trans-friendly community within GALA choruses. Please <u>send request</u> to subscribe.



The GALA Google Groups are one of the most valuable aspects of membership. These listserv discussion boards allow open dialogue between peers within GALA; use them to obtain instant feedback on a particular topic or problem from your chorus colleagues and to share your unique expertise.

There are discussion groups for artistic directors, chorus managers (of various sized choruses) youth choruses, composers/arrangers and transgender groups.

You can join the discussion groups using <u>links</u> available on the GALA web site or by emailing



Use the GALA 411 Advisors



The GALA 411 advisors are experienced chorus professionals available to consult with your chorus about artistic, management and/or board issues. The current team is artistic advisor Joe Nadeau, chorus manager advisor Jeff Heine, board development advisor Eve Campbell and youth chorus advisor Susan Haugh.

The GALA 411 advisors are available to member choruses for mentoring on a variety of topics. The consultations are free unless the advisor needs to come in person, in which case the chorus is asked to cover travel and lodging expenses. Details on the GALA 411 program and how to contact the advisors and request their services are all included on the GALA web site.



Attend Festival

Festival is the signature event of GALA Choruses. Festival 2020 will be held in Minneapolis on July 4-8, 2020 with more than 150 performing groups and 6,500 singers expected! Look on the GALA web site for a complete description of the performance opportunities and tools to help your chorus prepare for the festival experience.



Stone Arch Bridge

Minneapolis Convention Center



Attend GALA Leadership Symposium

Leadership symposia are held annually (other than Festival years), providing an opportunity for networking, education, inspiration, singing and fun! The 2018 symposium will be held February 16-18 in Orlando. Watch the web site for program details and the opening of registration and housing, as well as downloadable resources from workshops held in the past.



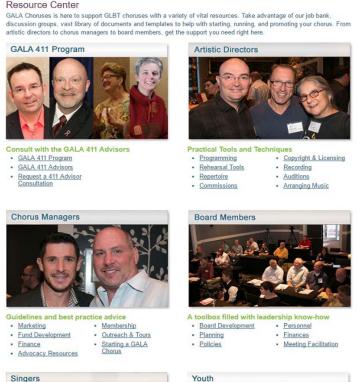






Explore the Online Resource Center

The <u>Resource Center</u> is the heart of the GALA web site. It contains an enormous collection of background information and sample documents on every aspect of chorus management, with whole sections dedicated to Artistic Directors, Chorus Managers, Board Members, Singers, Youth, and Trans* people. Check out the samples below!



Chorus Managers

This section provides content and information to assist with the day-to-day, short-term and long-term management of your Chorus.

Are you just starting out and looking for help? Are you having some difficulties with fundraising or ticket sales? Look for help on these topics in this section of the Resource Center.

Starting a GALA Chorus

Reviews the kinds of questions you will need to consider when starting a chorus.

Membership

Provides resources regarding member orientation, member handbooks, attendance policies, software products available for managing choruses, member dues policies and alumni relations.

Finance

Contains examples of charts of accounts and classes for setting up accounting software, budgets and related budget comparison reports. Includes information on IRS 990 requirements, employee vs independent contractor questions and insurance considerations.

Fund Development

Includes a wealth of information on case statements, development plans, individual donors, grants, corporate sponsorships and more.

Marketing

Contains information on creating a marketing plan with specific examples of graphics and artwork, audience development, eMarketing, social media and advertising.

Outreach and Tours

Provides stories and testimonials, example documents and policies regarding tours and guidelines for outreach to schools.

Ask the Chorus Management 411 Advisor

Jeff Heine serves as the GALA Choruses 411 Advisor for Chorus Managers. Jeff has been Executive Director of Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus since 2009, and served two seasons on the Board of Directors as Chair of Resource Development.

Home » Resource Center » Board Members

Personnel

One of the Board's primary responsibilities is oversight of personnel matters. It is also an area where there seems to be frequent difficulties. Many of these difficulties can be avoided through clear and consistent communications -having an accurate job description that is clearly explained when a staff member is hired, having a clear organization chart so responsibilities and authority are transparent and the completion of regular staff evaluations so there are no misunderstandings about whether or not expectations are being met. The materials in this section provide information and document examples to help you handle personnel matters in a professional and respectful manner.

- Job Descriptions:
- Staff Evaluations:
- Contract Examples:
- Employee vs. Independent Contractor:
- Organization Chart:
- Hiring Tools:

- , Telling the Story: Why You Should Support My Chorus
- Development Plan

Fundraising Activities

Ways to fundraise are limited only by your imagination and available resources: but even with a very small number of volunteers you can have a great deal of success in raising funds for your Chorus. These are only a small number of examples of what you can do to raise money. A web search for "non profit fundraising" will return even more ideas.

- + Online Giving
- + Give OUT Day
- + Online Shopping Websites
- + Stage Asks
- + Direct Mail
- + Hosted Receptions / Breakfasts / Dinners
- + 50/50 Raffles
- + ...And Don't Forget to Say "Thank You"
- Individual Donors
- Major Donors
- Planned Giving
- Corporate Sponsorship
- Grants
- Donor Databases

Home » Resource Center » Artistic Directors

Programming

One of the most important roles of an Artistic Director is to design concert programming. Every conductor has their own method for choosing repertoire but here are some questions to ask yourself in the process:

- Am I programming a single concert or creating a series of concerts that connect over a season?
- · Will my singers be excited about this concert topic?
- Is the concert theme marketable?
- · Does my chorus have the capacity to pull it if off?
- Is the theme compelling artistically: enjoyable to hear, technically engaging?

These questions (from a Strategy Screen) and more are included the programming resources below. Also check out the Resource section on Repertoire.

Programming Tips

GALA conductors offer their wisdom and philosophy on programming concerts.

<u>Programming Tips from Bob Mensel</u>, Portland Gay Men's Chorus

Programming and conducting resources from GALA veteran, <u>Tim Seelig</u>

Guidelines for <u>programming a GALA Festival</u> set from conductors Sue Coffee and Jane Ramseyer Miller. Many of these ideas are relevant in programming any concert.

- Programming Tools
- Guest Artists



Post Your Open Positions on the GALA Job Bank

Home » Resource Center » Services

Job Bank

Find out who's hiring and what positions are open among GALA's member choruses for artistic and administrative staff. Current vacancies are listed below with links to job details and application requirements.

Submit a Job

If you would like to submit a job for posting on our site, please visit our Job Posting page for more details.

Current Vacancies



Organization	Position	Location	Closing Date
Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco	Artistic Director	San Francisco, CA USA	04/30/2017
CHARIS, the St. Louis Women's Chorus	Artistic-Director	St. Louis, MO	02/15/2017
MUSE, Cincinnati's Women's Choir	Business Manager	Cincinnati, OH USA	12/19/2016
The Columbus Gay Men's Chorus	Executive Director	Columbus, OH USA	12/31/2016
One Voice Chorus	Artistic/Music Director	Detroit, MI USA	01/31/2017

Member choruses post job openings in their choruses on the GALA Choruses web site.



Our Staff Is At Your Service

info@galachoruses.org



Robin Godfrey
Executive Director
executivedirector@galachoruses.org



Jane Ramseyer Miller Artistic Director AD@galachoruses.org



Sue Bell
Member Services
memberservices@galachoruses.org



Paul Kruse Communications communications@galachoruses.org



Joann Usher Development development@galachoruses.org



GALA Choruses Anniversary Program



GALA Choruses is pleased to celebrate our member choruses' milestone anniversaries. Your anniversary will be posted on our social media outlets, and a board or staff director will come to your celebration concert and present a small gift.



Participate in the Member Chorus Operations Survey



GALA will be conducting a member chorus operations survey in 2017. Topics to be covered include compensation, operations, board practices, management practices and performance and audience measures. All member choruses will be asked to participate in the survey. The results of the survey will be free to those who participate.



Mission

Empowering LGBT Choruses as we change our world through song.

Vision

A world where all voices are free.

Core Values

- •We are **CATALYSTS**. We provide enthusiasm, resources and tools to inspire our member choruses to use the power of music to create social change.
- •We are **HARMONIZERS**. We are diverse people who employ the power of song with respect and understanding. We bring our communities together to experience musical excellence, collaboration, cooperation, acceptance, transparency, and opportunities for all.
- •We are **LISTENERS**. We listen to our members, our colleagues, and each other in order to understand the issues, define our roles, and serve the common welfare of our movement.
- •We are **LEADERS**. We offer strategic direction to the movement we serve. We work effectively with partners around the world who seek to achieve complimentary goals. We strengthen our association by nurturing effective leadership and ensuring robust, sustainable financial resources.



