

GALA CHORUSES

**An Introduction to GALA Festival
Minneapolis July 10-14, 2024**





What is GALA Chorus?

GALA is an association of nearly 200 member choruses throughout the Americas, whose mission is to “support, guide and inspire LGBTQ+ choruses and their allies to leverage the liberating power of singing to create harmony and equity for all.”

Our 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.



What is Festival?



- GALA's signature event, held once every 4 years in a city with multiple association member host choruses.
- A gathering of approximately 120 international choruses, with more than 6,000 allied singers in attendance, making it the largest LGBTQ+ choral event in the world.
- A 5-day energetic celebration of choral music and LGBTQIA culture with wall-to-wall concerts, workshops, and social events.
- The "Festival Village" is a walkable area with concert halls, restaurants, hotels and entertainment options, adorned with participating chorus banners and populated by GALA singers.



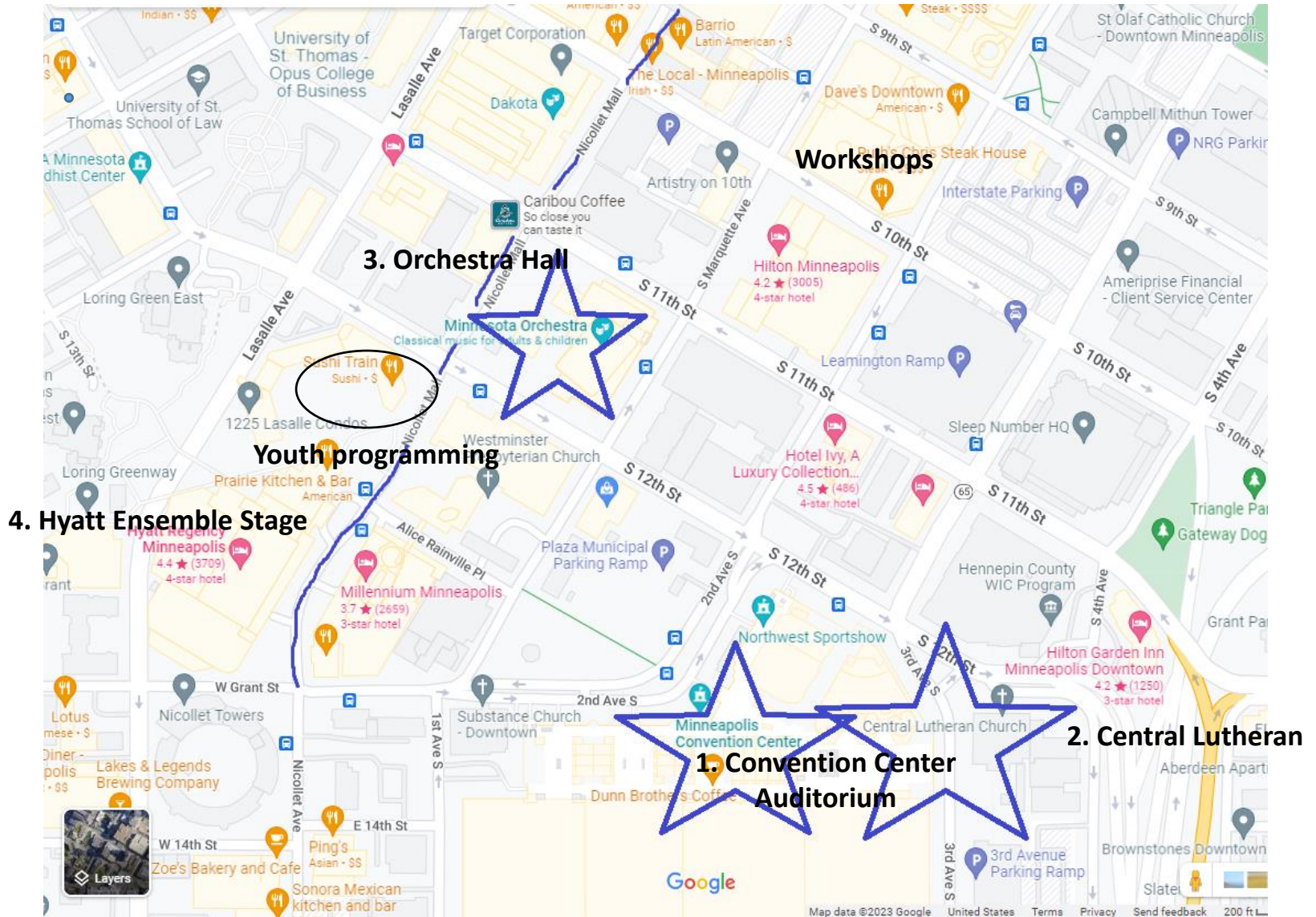
Welcome to Minneapolis!

Minneapolis has a dramatic riverfront skyline, the best park system in the nation, art everywhere and theaters on almost every corner. It's a friendly, diverse, walkable city committed to brew-craft and a foodie paradise where you can get a Nordic breakfast, an African lunch, the celebrated "Juicy Lucy" for dinner, and a nightcap on a Ferris wheel.

The newly renovated Nicollet Mall (right) is a tree-lined, car-free street offering a plethora of outdoor eating, drinking and shopping options, all in the heart of the "Festival Village".



Festival Village in Minneapolis





Basic Concert Blocks

- Bring your most unique and compelling programming to Festival!
- 30 minute set: entrance/exit time and all movement/transitions
- Movement of piano or instrumentalist will come out of your set time
- Stage set-up includes a grand piano, music stand, and risers that are 4 feet deep & 5 risers high



Collaborations and Shared Concert Sets

Partner with a chorus in your community

...from another province or state

...or, from across the world!

Request a shared or back-to-back concert block at registration.



Morning Coffee Concerts

Opportunity for unique and innovative programming that cannot be performed in a standard concert block.

- 50 minute performance sets
- Performed in primary concert halls
- Can accommodate more complicated staging or instrumentation
- Selected choruses are responsible for any incremental backstage labor, sound, lighting costs incurred

If selected this performance counts as your chorus' Festival performance.



Anna Crusis Women's Chorus
Stronger for the Struggle



Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus
When I Was Your Age: Our Fathers. Their Sons. Real Stories.



Seattle Women's Chorus
We Can Do It!



Coffee Concert Selection Criteria

- Unique and creative programming concepts along with high artistic quality
- Ability to successfully perform the proposed program based on previous programming
- Visible diversity and inclusion on stage
- Connection to the mission of GALA Choruses.

Coffee Concert Timeline

Jan 2023	Coffee Concert application process opened. Application on website.
Mar 1, 2023	Coffee Concert applications due
April 2023	Selection committee reviews Coffee Concert applications
May 2023	Coffee concert participants selected and notified



Ensemble Performances

- Hyatt Great Lakes Stage
- Opening Day Ensemble Festival
- Coaching sessions with professional ensembles
- Blockbuster Concerts
- Show Stoppers





Preliminary Blockbuster Concerts

- **Global Pride** – voices from around the world
- **Stiletto Squares** –a musical Hollywood squares queer chorus style
- **Bayard Rustin: The Man Behind the Dream**
- **Choral Carnival** – mini arts events all over downtown Minneapolis
- **Beyond the Binary** – exploring the intersections between gender and race
- **Rise Up Closing Concert** – honoring the power of the people to make change



Orchestra Hall Stage – 2,092 Seats



Mpls Convention Center Stage – 3,483 seats



Central Lutheran Stage – 1,700 seats



Additional Performance Options for your Chorus

- **Blockbuster concerts**
- **Festival Mass Choirs**
- **Community concerts** across the Twin Cities
- **Seven Last Words of the Unarmed** – conducted by Eugene Rogers
- **Choral Carnival**
- **Show Stoppers**



GALA Youth Choruses

- Youth Chorus performances
- Shared housing
- Workshops and guest presenters
- Performances in Blockbuster Concerts
- Social activities
- Show Stoppers





Festival Workshops

A variety of workshops will be held each morning

- **Singer workshops:** vocal-focused training, musical issues
- Workshops for **non-singing board members**
- Workshops for **chorus volunteers** and **administrative staff**
- **Artistic Directors:** programming, conducting

Start now to **encourage your non-singing volunteers** to join your chorus for the Festival experience!



Festival Choruses - preliminary

- International Chorus
- Trans and Non-Binary
- Elders Sage Chorus
- Bi and Pan-Sexual Festival Chorus
- LGBT Allies
- Veterans Chorus
- People of Color Chorus





Bring the SING Opening!

- 8,000 singers: delegates and Twin Cities' locals
- Mainstage in Peavey Plaza with screens on Nicollet Mall
- Live Broadcast by Minnesota Public Radio
- Partnership with Twin Cities Pride
- Live band





More Festival Opening Events

- Minnesota Welcome Concert
- Ensemble Festival
- Meet & Mingle in the MCC “Lounge”
- Food & drink vendors at Convention Center and Peavey Plaza
- International food trucks



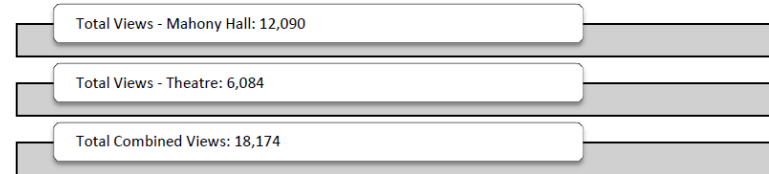


Festival Live Broadcast

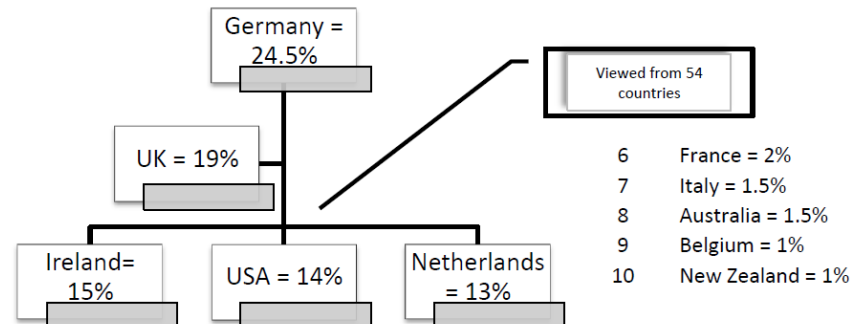


Various Voices: 13th, 14th, 15th & 16th of June

Festival 2016 coffee concerts and blockbusters were live broadcast over the internet and into the Seawell Ballroom.



Demographic Views





Chorus & Ensemble registration opens May 1, 2023

- Registration is through our *Integra Planner* software; registration is not complete until payment is received.
- Performance slots are secured on a first-come, first-reserved basis. Once all performance slots are secured, choruses who wish to perform will go on a waiting list. We make all efforts to include everyone.
- Chorus/Ensemble registration fees go toward the cost of hall rental.



Chorus Registration	\$450
Ensemble Registration	\$290
Coffee Concert production fee	\$900 - \$1500



Delegate Registration Fees		
Early Discount	Jun-Oct 2023	\$275
Regular Dscnt	Nov-Dec 2023	\$350
Full Price	Jan-Jul 2024	\$425
Youth		\$150
Disabled		\$165
Senior Early	Jun-Oct 2023	\$175
Senior Regular	Nov-Dec 2023	\$185
Senior Late	Jan-Jul 2024	\$195



GALA Festival 2024 Estimated Chorus Costs

Chorus Name

Chorus Registration	\$ 450.00	
Ensemble Registration	\$ 290.00	
Director Registration	\$ 299.00	
Accomp Registration	\$ 299.00	
Staff flight & travel	\$ 950.00	Flight - plus \$20-60 for local travel (2 staff @ \$450)
Staff Housing estimate	\$ 533.93	See hotel estimates below (double occupancy, 5 nights)
Staff food per diem	\$ 500.00	See meal estimates below (2 staff, middle cost, 5 days)
Rehearsal Space	\$ 120.00	Optional
Instrumentalists	\$ 250.00	Optional
ASL interpreter	\$ 100.00	Optional
Banner	\$ 150.00	Optional
Merchandise Consignment	\$100.00	Optional
Chorus Costs	\$4,041.93	



Chorus Member Scholarships

- GALA offers 1 comp registration for every 20 paid from your chorus.
- Each chorus decides how to distribute comps.
- We welcome choruses that have raised sufficient funds for their singers to “donate” their free registrations to a chorus with fewer resources.



Festival Countdown & Essential Dates

Jan 15, 2023	Coffee Concert application process opens
Mar 31, 2023	Coffee Concert application deadline
May 1, 2023	Chorus/Ensemble Registration opens
April 2023	Coffee Concert participants selected and notified
June 2023	Delegate Registration opens
Oct 31, 2023	Last day for early registration discount
December 2023	Chorus performance schedule announced
Dec 31, 2023	Last day for delegate registration discount
January 2024	Housing registration opens
April 2024	Music Program list , production worksheets & rehearsal space requests due
April 2024	1-minute Chorus Introduction videos are due
July 10, 2024	Festival performances begin
July 14, 2024	Festival closing concerts & ceremony