



Letter From The Director

Fall 2004

Part of the mission of the New Hampshire Gay Men's Chorus is to present quality entertainment. To that end, the NHGMC is proud to present its winter concert "Home for the Holidays". As we begin our seventh season this fall, we have started to work on our annual winter concert. With only a couple of rehearsals behind us, the guys in the chorus have already expressed excitement about the program for December. Last year, I had decided to break with tradition and add selections of music that were not exclusively Christmas/Winter themed. The reaction was very positive. Therefore, I have decided to use that theme of celebrating Hanukkah and the Winter Solstice, along with Christmas and elaborate on it by singing in several different languages including Swahili, Spanish, Hebrew, and French. This multicultural program should be a crowd pleaser.

After the concerts the chorus will enjoy a short break and begin rehearsals for our spring concert with an NC17 theme. Our show will present some of life's more colorful songs from the stage and screen. The opening number will set the tone for the whole concert. It is actually a combination of two songs, "Anything Goes" and "Let Me Entertain You". That should give you a better idea of the theme.

As always, one cannot predict what the members of the chorus might do to entertain you at one of our concerts, so please don't miss out on all the fun.

With all the chorus members, I look forward to seeing you at one of our winter concerts.

Luc Andre Roberge
Director NHGMC

Do You Like to SING?

MPAA would like to introduce "The Manchester Community Chorus" (MCC). The mission of MCC is to build bridges of understanding and community while presenting quality music. All members must be at least thirteen years old, able to match pitch, and want to meet people and make friends. The ability to read music is not necessary. This group is being formed to promote friendship and understanding for all regardless of age, race, religion or sexual orientation. Auditions will be held on Wednesday, October 27th, at 6:30pm at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Manchester. Rehearsals will be every Wednesday from 7:00pm until 8:30pm. Luc Andre Roberge and Gary Finger will be the director and accompanist, respectively. For more information please check out the NHGMC website at www.NHGMC.com.

Speaking of the chorus web site... If you have not logged on to our website lately, you haven't seen our new look. A great BIG thank you goes to our new webmaster, Tim Dullea. Thanks, Timmy! Please check out Tim's hard work.

Letter From The Vice President Of The Board

In the last newsletter, the Board of Directors was proud to announce that the New Hampshire Gay Men's Chorus was in the beginning stages of developing a scholarship fund. I am proud to announce that this has been established!

As part of our mission statement, we are committed to giving back to the community in the most positive way. Therefore, the scholarship will be awarded to deserving students continuing their education in the field of the performing arts.

For the first year, applications for the scholarship award will be accepted only from students in the Manchester School system (with plans to expand as the years progress). Students will be able to obtain the necessary forms through their guidance office or the NHGMC web site, www.nhgmc.com, as soon as they are available.

We have earmarked 2% of ticket sales, advertising, and fundraising by NHGMC for the scholarship. Contributions are also appreciated and should be donated specifically to the "NHGMC Scholarship Fund." Please remember that all donations are tax deductible.

We continue to be incredibly grateful to all those who support theChorus and look forward to a safe and festive holiday season. Thank you!

Allan Sheehan
Vice President
Board of Directors, MPAA

In Memoriam

It is with grief and sadness that we mourn a chorus member and friend Jim Bretz.

Jim passed away suddenly on July 6 at the age of 58. He is survived by his parents, brothers, sisters, nephews, nieces, and his companion, William H. Hill of Boston, MA. Jim worked for the State of New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services for 25 years.

Jim began his career as a mental health worker at NH Hospital. When Laconia State School closed, Jim took the lead in developing therapeutic programming and in supporting community integration for many of these individuals.

Jim was also involved in community work and worked with AIDS patients for many years. Volunteering and working to build organizations needed to improve the quality of life for lesbian and gay individuals was a large part of Jim's life. He founded many groups and organizations including Minotaur's Brotherhood Club, NH Political Coalition of Lesbians and Gays, Gay Couples Support Group, Dignity NH, Young People's Support Group, Out and Proud Men's Group, New Hampshire naturally, NH Awards Dinner and the Manchester Performing Arts Association.

Jim was a recipient of the Diversity 2000 Leadership Awards in the category for Community Service.



Jim Bretz

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MOSTLY I'M SILENT By Jim Bretz

I love to laugh
And to be around people who are sharing love.

I tend to be idealistic
And feel that the things around me are good.

I enjoy being creative
singing songs, writing poems, drawing and painting.

I'm a dreamer
with visions of hope and gentleness surrounding me.

I'm a caring person
Who loves those that I have not yet met.

But I'm Gay
And must use restraint in all these things,

So,
Mostly
I'm
Silent.

Ant and Disney

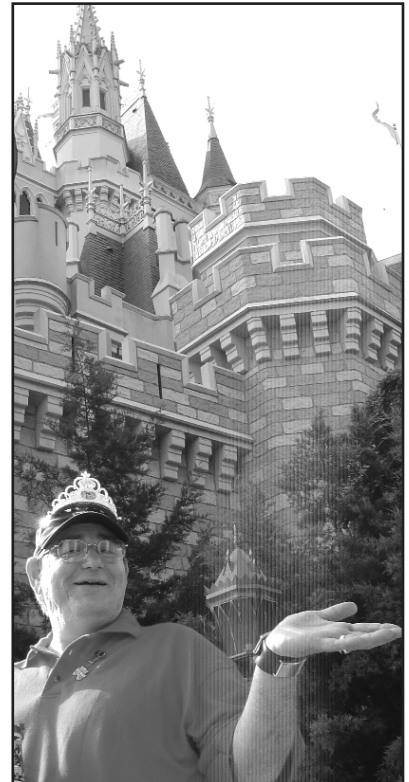
"A dream is a wish your heart makes." This lyric was sung as part of the Spring Concert and it sums up what has happened this summer for the NHGMC. Our dream was realized as we became the first openly gay and lesbian organization to ever be invited to perform at a Walt Disney attraction. This honor was realized on June 5th as the Chorus performed in front of a very enthusiastic crowd at EPCOT Center. It took many people and blessings to get us from point A to our dream, and we would like to recognize a few of those blessings.



A heartfelt thank you must go out to ANT. ANT is a New Hampshire born, gay comedian who is currently starring on Last Comic Standing on NBC. ANT was gracious enough to fly out from Los Angeles to perform a benefit concert for our trip to Disney. All of us in attendance were treated to one of the funniest performances we have ever heard. Assisting the Chorus in bringing ANT to New Hampshire were:

5 Star Travel Services of Boston (www.5star-travel.com)
Hippo Press of Manchester (www.hippopress.com)
Tage Inn of Manchester (www.tageinn.com/manchester)

For more information on ANT, please visit his website www.gaycomic.com.



A Very Special Thank You

While we were at Disney, we were with thousands of gay and lesbian people from all over the country as Gay Day at Disney was in full bloom. Looking out at the sea of our brothers and sisters made us feel as if we were part of something truly larger than ourselves. The opportunity to perform in front of them was truly a magical experience as the audience and Disney Staff applauded us for one of our best performances ever. It was the chance of a lifetime, and we really owe so much to our fans. It is because of your support that we had the confidence to undertake such a historic performance. There are several members of our audience who made a special show of support that we would like to thank now. Our Disney Sponsors are:



Tinker Bell Level (\$25 or less)

Betty Lane
Donna Marcinkowski
Sharon and Bob Moore
Carol and Martin Dullea

Goofy Level (\$50)

Robert Zinnes
Clyde and Adele Baker
Ann Butenhof Esq.
John Liston
Craig and Chris Moore

Minnie Mouse Level (\$100)

Antonio and Jeanne Roberge
Charlene Poulin

Mickey Mouse Level (\$250 or more)

Anonymous (in the name of PFLAG)

Our summer vacation was packed with activity as we rubbed elbows with celebrities, performed for a very important Mouse, and made history. We would like to thank those people who believed in our dream and helped it become a reality. Our hearts wish the best for all of you this coming year, and we look forward to seeing you in December!

MPAA Membership

MPAA was formed a few years ago as a way for our many friends and supporters to help us meet expenses that we incur throughout the year while continuing to promote and educate the communities of NH to the performing arts available to them, and while preparing the new programs that we present during our concert seasons.

As many of you may already know, putting on a concert has many expenses before our chorus members appear on stage. Rental of our rehearsal site, rental for our concert venues, salaries for our Director and Accompanist, insurance, the buying of new music, advertising and program printing, piano tuning and maintenance are just some of the expenses incurred that ticket sales alone cannot cover.

Because of wonderful people like you and the support you give, we continue to present programs of high entertainment value and content that you have come to expect. As we continue to grow and expand our music repertoire, the list of expenses continues to grow as well. To that end we once again ask for your help by either joining or renewing your membership in MPAA.

For those of you renewing your membership, we sincerely thank you for your continued support. For those who are considering membership for the first time, you will see that not only does the Chorus benefit, but you also receive a tax deduction for your charitable contribution and other benefits included in each level of membership listed to the right.

So please take the time to read our newsletter, see the many benefits you can reap at the various member levels and consider joining for the first time. And remember the amounts listed are only a guide. We will be happy to accept any amount you wish to contribute as they are all tax deductible.

We look forward to seeing you at our next concert. If you know of any individual or corporation who may be looking for a worthwhile non-profit organization to donate to, or sponsor please pass our newsletter on to them or give them our website address so they may contact us. Corporate Sponsorships also have benefits!

If you have any questions please feel free to contact us at: www.NHGMCC.com or write to us at the address given on the outside of this newsletter.

Thank you for your continued support!

Charles D. Hill
Sergeant At Arms
Board of Directors, MPAA

Home For The Holidays	Day	Date	Time	Quantity	Member Price Each	Non-Member Price Each	Total
Manchester UUC	Friday	December 3, 2004	7:30 PM		\$10	\$15	
Nashua UUC	Saturday	December 4, 2004	7:30 PM		\$10	\$15	
Portsmouth Christ Church	Saturday	December 11, 2004	7:30 PM		\$10	\$15	
Manchester UUC	Sunday	December 12, 2004	4:00 PM		\$10	\$15	
MMGC Merchandise				Quantity	Reg. Price	Sale Price	
Nostalgic Holiday CD (recorded live in Manchester in Dec. of 2001)					\$15	\$15	
Take Five CD (recorded live in Manchester in April of 2003)					\$15	\$15	
Nostalgic Holiday and Take Five CD Bundle					\$30	\$25	
MPAA Membership levels (your donation is TAX DEDUCTIBLE)						Donation	
MEMBER level	Entitled to TWO concert tickets per season at member discount price. Entitled to recognition in our program.					\$25+	
DONOR level	Entitled to FOUR concert tickets per season at member discount price. Entitled to TWO FREE concert tickets or quarter-page ad in our program.					\$100+	
SPONSOR level	Entitled to SIX concert tickets per season at member discount price. Entitled to FOUR FREE concert tickets or half-page ad in our program.					\$250+	
PATRON level	Entitled to TEN concert tickets per season at member discount price. Entitled to FOUR FREE concert tickets with PRIORITY SEATING or a full-page ad in our program.					\$500+	
ANGEL level	Entitled to UNLIMITED concert tickets per season at member discount price. Entitled to FOUR FREE concert tickets with PRIORITY SEATING or a full-page ad in our program. Entitled to admission into the intermezzo VIP room.					\$1,000+	
ALL LEVELS also receive the following:	Entitled to advance ticket purchase/ticket availability priority.						
	Entitled to receipt of newsletter/upcoming events notification.						
	Entitled to recognition in our program.						
Please add \$5 shipping charge for the first item and \$1 per additional item.						SHIPPING	
Shipping charges apply ONLY to orders for our CD's. Tickets will be mailed free of shipping charges.						ORDER TOTAL	
Ship to name:							
Ship to address:							
Ship to city, state & zip:							
We welcome MasterCard, Visa, American Express and Discover. Personal checks are also accepted.							
Credit card number:					Expiration date:		
Signature:							
Mail this form with your payment to: Manchester Performing Arts Association P. O. Box 6251 Manchester, NH 03108-6251							



Manchester Performing Arts Association

Post Office Box 6251
Manchester, New Hampshire 03108-6251
A Non-Profit Organization

NHGMCC Upcoming Performances

Home For The Holidays - Winter Concert Series

12/3/2004	Friday	7:30pm	Manchester, NH	Unitarian Universalist Church
12/4/2004	Saturday	7:30pm	Nashua, NH	Unitarian Universalist Church
12/11/2004	Saturday	7:30pm	Portsmouth, NH	Christ Episcopal Church
12/12/2004	Sunday	4:00pm	Manchester, NH	Unitarian Universalist Church

NC-17 - Spring Concert Series

5/6/2005	Friday	7:30pm	Manchester, NH	Unitarian Universalist Church
5/7/2005	Saturday	7:30pm	Nashua, NH	Unitarian Universalist Church
5/14/2005	Saturday	7:30pm	Portsmouth, NH	Christ Episcopal Church
5/15/2005	Sunday	4:00pm	Manchester, NH	Unitarian Universalist Church

See inside for ticket order form or visit www.nhgmc.com to purchase online.