

Interim Artistic Director Report

Meeting of the Board of Directors for Harrisburg Gay Men's Chorus

June 6, 7pm EST on Zoom

Since the Last Board Meeting

As I have reported for the past 5 months, I have been working with an individual every morning over FaceTime to help him match pitch so he can join the chorus. He successfully auditioned and joined us for Pride retreat on May 7. I am continuing to work with him on Pride music for Voices United. It remains unseen if he will be ready to join us on June 17. I also auditioned another singer who successfully auditioned but is very rusty. Both of these new members will need continued attention from section leaders and their sections. With 15 mins per day of individualized attention, the difference between December 2022 and May 7 is radical. We have a few newer (and long-standing!) members who also struggle to stay on their part. I firmly believe if we continue to invest in people and focus on the long game, all of our members can grow musically and continue to improve in their own ways.

We are welcoming a substitute pianist, Max Mitchell, to stand in for Tracy during the month of June while she sorts out medical issues. I am grateful to Yvonne DuVal at the UU for this recommendation. Max had to step in early and did a marvelous job.

The library project is underway. Steve Keefer and I spent several hours in the library identifying music that has yet to be scanned, music that was moldy, and pulling legally questionable arrangements. Some of the unscanned music was handed over to Paul Foltz to divvy up with Rose Sprout for scanning. I will continue this project while I am here and hope to have completed the General Music and Holidays by my departure on June 19. Depending on how quickly this is achieved, I will continue migrating the digital library from Groupanizer to Chorus Connection through June/July. My goal is to scan and upload SATB and collections during my final week of July. I will ask Production about the SSAA music in our possession.

For Voices United, Tracy is expected to lead on Mon July 10 and 17. I will be present for July 24 rehearsal and Voices United. This will be my final appearance with you and I wish you the best of luck in finding a stellar permanent AD.

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Lynne Smith, Interim Artistic Director