

Presidents Report for April 24, 2016

We have thanked **Kevin Wagner** for all his hard work and HOURS of time spent as our Gala Coordinator, but GALA keeps giving us reasons to appreciate his service in this regard. Kevin has logged many hours dealing with GALA deadlines (and along with Adam) copy write issues. There has been a change in the number of hoops a Chorus needs to jump through to get on stage at GALA and Kevin has REALLY stepped up, in dealing with all of this. The Board extends its sincere gratitude for all you are doing as our GALA representative Kevin!

I have begun writing a GRANT for our December Concert. Keys to successfully getting the Grant will be showing collaboration with other organizations and offering free and reduced access to our concerts to people outside our regular audience. In that vein, I (with the approval of our Production Committee Chair and Artistic Director) have arranged with the **Baltimore Gay Men's Chorus** to collaborate with them for our Winter Concert titled, **"A KITSCHY CHRISTMAS."** Tentative plans are for us to host a workshop with the BGMC in the fall, and they will perform at our Dec. 4 Concert with us. Their AD will conduct a combined number, as will ours. The BGMC will also do a three song set of their own within the concert.

I have spoken to **Marlene Kanuck** (our Capital Area School for the Arts contact), and 704 to help us promote free access to our concerts. I will need the Board to approve offering 50 Free tickets to CASA, and 50 Free tickets to 704 Patrons for our Halloween event. We will also need to offer free admission to any students 21 and under. I do not see this cutting into our regular ticket sales for Christmas. The Free tickets should be good at either the Harrisburg OR the Mechanicsburg Winter Concert performances. Hopefully we will get some CASA students to show up, but we have offered them free access in the past with no takers. We get many folks outside our regular audience at 704, so it is a way to promote and increase our audience without hurting tickets sales. I am open to other suggestions as to how to make these accommodations for a successful grant. Please have ideas ready at the meeting. The Grant deadline is less than a month away.

I would also like a vote to approve a **stipend/per-diem for Adam at GALA**. I am proposing at least a \$100. Amount to help Adam pay for food while at Gala. I will give highest regard's to our Treasurers opinion on whether we have the money to spare (or possibly more?) for this.

With Five solid Votes in Favor, our **new Logo** has been selected. We will make plans to change over to this logo ASAP. We need to vote on which of the revisions to the Logo we like best. I will ask Adam to send his recommendations to the Board. Thank You **Doug Wentz** for organizing and following through with all the information gathering and distribution you did on this selection process.

Thanks also to Doug for his reaching out to the Pride Committee for this summer's events. Lizzie Beaumont, Betty Whitecastle, and Aaron Menzer are scheduled to perform at Harrisburg Pride on July 30. We will represent and promote the Chorus as far as live performance at Pride. **Bob Nease and Doug Wentz (Our Pride Committee co-chairs)** are in charge of setting up the HGMC Pride booth and scheduling Chorus members to attend the booth during the day.

The HGMC has also been invited to sing the **National Anthem at the Pride Sponsored Senators Game** on **Friday, August 5th**. The AD and Production Chair have agreed to this commitment and we are schedule to perform the National Anthem. We will most likely review the Anthem during our Gala rehearsals.

I have a family reunion in Massachusetts that conflicts with Lancaster Pride. I will see if any of the other small group ensembles would like to perform there at rehearsal on Monday.

Any ideas for replacement Board Members? I have put inquires in to the local LGBT Chamber of Commerce, but that did not garner any results last year, and I don't anticipate a different result this year.

I would also like to thank **Terry Karanen** for his many dedicated years of service in running so many consecutive SUCCESSFUL Annual Campaigns for The HGMC. The Thank you Reception that Terry hosted with 704 was a lovely event, the Patrons who attended were very appreciative.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Mitchell