



Friends of  
*Dorothy*

Reuben Reynolds, Music Director



# BOSTONIVF

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Dr. Samuel Pang is a board certified Reproductive Endocrinologist and the Medical Director of Boston IVF's Donor Egg & Gestational Carrier program.



He was the 2022 recipient of the *Arnold P. Gold Foundation Humanism in Medicine Award for Practicing Physicians*, by the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM), which honors a doctor that best demonstrates the ideals of compassionate and respectful care for a patient's physical and emotional well-being.

*Supporting the Boston Gay Men's Chorus for over 25 years*

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# Friends of *Dorothy*

**June 1-2, 2024**

*New England Conservatory's  
Jordan Hall*

**June 15, 2024**

*Groton Hill Music Center*

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**Reuben Reynolds**

*Music Director*

**Sarah Shoffner**

*Executive Director*

**Chad Weirick**

*Principal Accompanist  
Assistant Music Director*

**Kevin Wilson**

*Vocal Coach*

**Dr. LeWana Clark**

*American Sign  
Language Interpreter*

**Michelle Chassé**

*Director &  
Choreographer*

**Anne Dresbach**

*Lighting Designer*

**Courtney Furno**

*Stage Manager*


**Kate Foss**

*Bass*

**Jonathan Hess**

*Drums*

*The estimated duration of this show is 120 minutes, including one intermission.*

 *is gratefully acknowledged  
by Boston Gay Men's Chorus.*

**CSCA**  
CAMBRIDGE SCHOOL  
OF CULINARY ARTS



The only missing  
ingredient is...YOU!

A close-up photograph of a hand grating a piece of orange cheese on a metal grater. The background is slightly blurred, showing a kitchen setting.

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The CSCA logo is repeated in the bottom right corner, featuring the same whisk and colorful swirl as seen in the top left.

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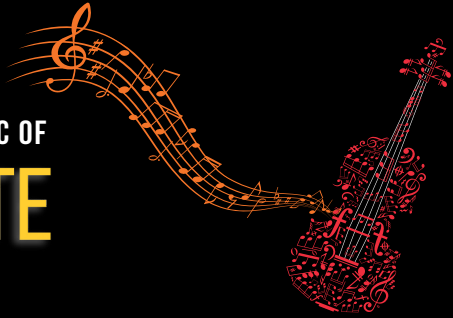


Working to **END online and offline bullying** in schools, workplaces and faith communities.

The Tyler Clementi Foundation, guided by the life and story of Tyler Clementi, promotes safe, inclusive, and respectful social environments in homes, schools, campuses, faith communities, and the digital world for vulnerable youth, especially LGBTQ+ youth like Tyler.

Through educational partnerships, research, public dialogues, and awareness programs, we foster empathetic, constructive discussions of respect and dignity for schools, workplaces and faith communities.

## IF YOU ARE MOVED BY THE MUSIC OF **TYLER'S SUITE**



← Please take our Upstander pledge today!  
<https://tylerclementi.org/upstander-pledge/>

### PROMOTE AN UPSTANDER CULTURE WHEREVER YOU ARE



#### Interrupt the bullying

- Say "That's disrespectful, please stop" or "You are being hurtful, we do not treat each other that way"
- Try to change the subject to distract the person that is doing the bullying
- Help the person being bullied walk away from the bullying or harassment



#### Report the bullying

- If you see something, say something. Reporting bullying is about safety, it's not snitching



#### Reach out to the person who is bullied

- Offer a kind word or gesture; let this person know that you care
- Invite this person to spend time with you, if they are feeling alone
- Say "Your life has value and is important, no matter how you feel at the moment, and no matter what others say or think"



THE TYLER CLEMENTI FOUNDATION



TYLER\_CLEMENTI\_FOUNDATION

## A letter from the Music Director



For a young gay musician growing up in the woods of South Georgia, there were not many role models out there. Then Elton John burst onto the scene, and I was hooked! He was wildly successful as a pop music performer, with more than 50 top-40 hits on the Billboard Hot 100, including nine number ones in both the UK and the US. To me, though, it was the wild part that hit home. Here was someone who was not afraid to be himself onstage and live his life on his own terms. I saw in Elton John a vision of the life I wanted to live—maybe with fewer pairs of glasses though!

As much as he has been honored for his music, it is his involvement in the fight against AIDS that really makes him special. The Elton John AIDS Foundation has raised over \$656 million to fight HIV/AIDS since its inception. His annual AIDS Foundation Academy Awards Party is one of the highest-profile Oscar parties. Through it all, he continues to write music, including music for the stage—The Lion King, Aida, and Billy Elliot the Musical. His farewell tour, Farewell Yellow Brick Road, was the highest-grossing tour ever at the time!

Thanks for joining us as we take our own trip down the Yellow Brick Road—it's going to be quite a journey!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Reuben".

Reuben Reynolds

## A letter from the Executive Director



It is my joy to extend a heartfelt welcome to each of you joining us for “Friends of Dorothy”! This year has been quite a journey - from celebrating holidays with the grinch in “Green & Gleeful” to paying homage to important causes in “Melodies for a Movement”, and now embracing the joy of pride in “Friends of Dorothy” surrounded by our vibrant community.

Thank you for your incredible support this past year. Your dedication has helped us thrive, creating spaces where music brings people together and

voices rise in harmony against silence. As we come together this June to celebrate Pride, let's appreciate the strength of our community and the power of being true to ourselves.

In the spirit of Judy Garland, whose timeless portrayal of Dorothy taught us that there's no place like home, we gather here today surrounded by the community that makes BGMC what it is. For many of us, 'home' is not just a place - but a feeling of being truly seen, understood, and embraced. Each of you, by being here today, is affirming that feeling, showing the world that indeed, “there's no place like home.”

Remember what it truly means to be a ‘Friend of Dorothy’. It goes beyond mere camaraderie; it's a celebration of shared history, victories, and the journeys that lie ahead.

Thank you for being here, for being unapologetically yourselves, and for contributing to the vibrancy of our world.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah".

Sarah Shoffner

# Boston Gay Men's Chorus

The Boston Gay Men's Chorus is one of New England's largest and most successful community-based choruses. Founded in 1982, the 350+ voice ensemble is celebrated for its outstanding musicianship, creative programming, and groundbreaking community outreach. Under the dynamic leadership of Music Director Reuben Reynolds, the BGMC sings a wide spectrum of classical and popular music and creates social change by providing a positive, affirming image of the gay and lesbian community. The Chorus is heard live by more than 10,000 people each season and thousands more through recording, television, and internet broadcasts. CBS-WBZ named the Boston Gay Men's Chorus one of the "top 5" choruses in the city of Boston. *The Boston Business Journal* in 2018 and 2019 named BGMC one of the top 10 performing arts organizations in the city. BGMC is a Cultural Ambassador—being named the first LGBT chorus to perform in Poland in 2005, the Middle East in 2015 and in South Africa in June 2018.

## Purpose

To inspire.

## Mission

The Boston Gay Men's Chorus creates musical experiences to inspire change, build community, and celebrate difference.

## Core Values

We're a family with a tradition for excellence.

We provide a safe and welcoming community to be ourselves.

We make music that makes us and our audiences proud.

We operate with integrity.

We genuinely care for each other; bringing out the best of each other—we are our best as a group.

We change hearts and minds through our presence and our music.

We are from diverse backgrounds but have a shared passion for music.

We choose to give our time and talents—giving back more than we get.

We have fun!

# Biographies

## Reuben Reynolds



Reuben Reynolds has been the Music Director of the BGMC since December, 1997. After earning undergraduate degrees in both economics and music, Mr. Reynolds received his Masters

of Music degree from Louisiana State University. While there, he was teaching assistant to Metropolitan Opera soprano Martina Arroyo and was on the conducting staff of the Baton Rouge Lyric Opera. In Kansas City, He served as Music Director of the Heartland Men's Chorus from 1989 to 1998 and was also Conductor of the Philharmonia of Kansas City and the Kansas City Civic Opera Theatre. In the summer of 1994, Mr Reynolds made his European debut conducting the Bohuslav Martinu Philharmonic Orchestra and the Beethoven Chamber Orchestra in 1995. He spent the summer of 1998 in St. Petersburg, Russia, conducting the Hermitage Camerata in the Catherine the Great Theatre. Mr. Reynolds has commissioned more than 20 major pieces and hundreds of arrangements in his career. The *Boston Globe* describes his conducting as "expert and idiomatic."

## Sarah Shoffner



Sarah Shoffner joined BGMC as Executive Director in September 2022. She has expertise in developing strategies and programs to help arts and other non-profit organizations achieve

their operational and artistic goals. Shoffner served most recently as Boston Ballet's Benefactors' Circle Development Officer. Previously, she served as BGMC's Engagement Manager for six years, where she modernized the organization's development systems, including ticketing processes, and launched the Ovation Society (BGMC's donor loyalty program). In addition to the leadership roles Shoffner has held in non-profit arts organizations, she holds a Masters of Science in Arts Administration from Boston University and two degrees from the University of South Florida in Business Management and Dance Studies.

## Chad Weirick



Chad Weirick has been the Principal Accompanist and Assistant Music Director of the BGMC since 1993. He works at Wellesley High School as Assistant Choral Director and Accompanist, and

at the First Congregational Church of Hanover. He received a Master's Degree in Composition from the New England Conservatory of Music under Malcolm Peyton. Mr. Weirick graduated high school in Rockford, Illinois, at the age of 15 and moved to New York City. There, he was organist for Radio City Music Hall and rehearsal pianist for the Rockettes, earning him a listing in *Ripley's Believe It Or Not!* As the youngest musician to ever work full time on Broadway. He also was the pianist for Broadway shows including *A Chorus Line*, *Shenandoah*, and *The Act*. His numerous choral arrangements, published by Alfred Music and Tresona Publishing, have been performed and recorded by the BGMC and other choruses nationally and internationally. He is an avid runner, and privileged to run the Boston Marathon for many years in support of the BGMC. He thanks his partner David Slaga for his support, friendship and love.

## Dr. LeWana Clark



Dr. LeWana Clark has been the American Sign Language interpreter for the BGMC since 1989. She graduated from Gallaudet University in Washington D.C. with a doctorate in sign

language interpreting and translation with specializations in pedagogy and research. Dr. Clark creates a unique interpretation that incorporates not only the lyrics that are sung but also the tone and the musical qualities of the melody. In her day job, she provides communication access services for deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind, and non-deaf consumers in Boston, across the Commonwealth, nationally, and internationally. Although she spends most of her time working in court or in other legal settings, she is also qualified to interpret in medical, mental health, governmental, educational and theatrical/performing arts settings.

## Kevin Wilson



Kevin Wilson is a renowned clinician, adjudicator, and lecturer with a passion for vocal education. With over 20 years of extensive study in anatomy, physiology, historical pedagogies,

voice and speech, and acting, Kevin aims to help students and teachers develop a deep physical and emotional connection with their voice. He is currently serving as the director of Vocal Pedagogy and an Associate Professor of Voice at the Boston Conservatory. Kevin's academic journey includes a Master of Music in Vocal Pedagogy and a Bachelor of Music in Voice, along with additional studies in voice anatomy and physiology.

## Anne Dresbach



Anne Dresbach has been the lighting designer for the BGMC since 2014. Originally from California, she relocated to Boston to pursue her education at Emerson College, where she

obtained a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Design and Technology. Dresbach's expertise extends across various sectors of the entertainment industry, including dance, opera, musicals, plays, and corporate events. Her impressive portfolio includes collaborations with esteemed organizations such as Continuum Dance Project, Luminarium Dance, Celebrity Series Boston, Deborah Mason School of Dance, Ipswich Moving Company, Navarasa Dance Theater, City of Somerville's ArtBeat dance performances, From the Top, New England Conservatory, Boston Children's Chorus, and VDA.

## Michelle Chassé



Michelle Chassé trained with the Boston Ballet School and Maestro Vincenzo Celli and was on scholarship at the School of American Ballet. She graduated cum laude with a B.F.A. in dance from

The Boston Conservatory, where she was the first recipient of the prestigious Ruth Sandholm Ambrose Award and later received the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award. Chassé has worked with renowned figures from the ballet, concert dance, and Broadway world. She has choreographed and directed numerous productions, receiving critical acclaim for shows like *Candide* and *A Chorus Line*. Her work has been recognized and honored at events like the New York Musical Theatre Festival and Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival. Additionally, Chassé has received accolades for her work with ensembles like the Boston Pops Orchestra and the Boston Gay Men's Chorus.

# Celebrating Pride and Progress

As we gather for the Friends of Dorothy concert, we celebrate not only the music that has brought us together but also the spirit of Pride that unites us. This month, we honor the remarkable journey of the LGBTQ+ community and the milestones we've achieved since the founding of the Boston Gay Men's Chorus.

BGMC was founded in 1982, at a time when being openly gay was fraught with challenges and risks. Yet, our founders had the courage to create a space where we could express our identities through the power of music. Over the decades, we have seen profound changes in society and significant strides toward equality and acceptance.

**1987:** The first National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, amplifying our voices on a national stage.

**1993:** "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" was enacted, allowing gays and lesbians to serve in the military if they remained closeted. It was a step forward but also a reminder of the work still needed.

**2004:** Massachusetts became the first U.S. state to legalize same-sex marriage. BGMC performed for the marriages of the plaintiff couples at Arlington Street Church after the decision took effect.

**2011:** The repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" allowed LGBTQ+ individuals to serve openly in the military.

**2015:** The Supreme Court ruling in *Obergefell v. Hodges* legalized same-sex marriage nationwide, affirming our right to love and marry whom we choose.







The term “Friend of Dorothy” has its roots in a time when LGBTQ+ individuals had to communicate in coded language to avoid persecution. During the mid-20th century, being openly gay could result in severe consequences, including loss of employment, social ostracization, and even imprisonment. This was especially true for those serving in the military, where homosexuality was strictly prohibited.

The origin of the phrase “Friend of Dorothy” has been a topic of debate. According to one letter from 2001 in the Los Angeles Times, the source is Dorothy Parker (1893-1967), a witty member of the Algonquin Round Table, who frequently invited gay men to fashionable soirées during the 1920s and 1930s. However, the explanation more commonly believed today is that the source is Dorothy Gale, the lead character played by actress Judy Garland in *The Wizard of Oz* (1939). Garland, a beloved icon in the LGBTQ+ community, embodied a sense of hope and resilience that resonated deeply with gay men. Her portrayal of Dorothy, with her quest to find a place where she belonged, symbolized the LGBTQ+ community’s own journey for acceptance and belonging.

In the military, where secrecy was paramount, the phrase allowed LGBTQ+ service members to connect and support each other without revealing their identities. It was a lifeline in an environment that demanded conformity and punished difference.

Today, we no longer have to live in secrecy. We proudly celebrate our identities and the vibrant personalities of the LGBTQ+ community. Our concerts, like the “Friends of Dorothy”, serve as a testament to our resilience, creativity, and the joy that comes from living authentically.

This month, we stand together to celebrate everything Pride represents: love, equality, diversity, and the ongoing fight for justice. Today’s concert is a tribute to those who paved the way, to those who continue to fight, and to the future we are building together.

Join us in a month of celebrations, filled with music, joy, and the unwavering spirit of Pride. Let us honor our past, celebrate our present, and look forward to a future where everyone can be their true selves without fear or discrimination.

Happy Pride!

# Field Guide → Boston

Go on. Get out there.



## A NEW WAY TO EXPERIENCE THIS PLACE WE CALL HOME

We've put together tips, tricks and information from people who live here: our reporters, your neighbors and the occasional historian, economist or expert. With our guides, you'll be exploring in no time.

wbur

[wbur.org/fieldguide](https://wbur.org/fieldguide)





## At This Evening's Performance:

### Cast & Soloists:

Written In The Stars.....	Lavell Blackwell, Matt Moura <i>Kristian Mitchell, Josh Levine - understudy</i>
The Gods Love Nubia.....	Nick Everage <i>Ryder Nguyen - understudy</i>
The Last Song.....	Paul Consoli
Rocket Man.....	Kyle Cabral <i>Andrew Doucette - understudy</i>
Glinda.....	Alain Bouchard <i>Marc Ruiz - understudy</i>
Scarecrow.....	Curtis Creekmore <i>Paul Gabrys - understudy</i>
Tin Man.....	Sean Hennessey <i>Lucas Pepin - understudy</i>
Lion.....	Gary Thies <i>Dillon Maloney - understudy</i>
The Wizard and I.....	Andrew Secker <i>Jake McVey - understudy</i>
For Good.....	Michael Barber, James Lobo <i>Adilson Gonzales, Nick Cloutier - understudy</i>
No Bad News.....	Gary Jackson <i>Don Daniel Ocaj - understudy</i>

### Dancers:

Tom Armstrong, Tyler Brewer, Adam Corcoran, Evan Crothers, Matt Finn,  
Kevin Kearley, Michael Lombo (dance captain), Tyler Normile,  
Todd Rinehart and Bradford Robinson

# Friends of *Dorothy*

Crocodile Rock..... Elton John & Bernie Taupin  
arr. Tim Sarsany

Elton Medley..... Elton John & Bernie Taupin  
arr. by Dave Volpe

*Don't Go Breaking My Heart*  
*I Guess That's Why They Call it The Blues*  
*Someone Saved My Life Tonight*

Aida Medley..... Elton John & Tim Rice  
arr. Steve Milloy

*Every Story is a Love Story*  
*Written in the Stars*  
*The Gods Love Nubia*

Bennie and the Jets/ Your Song..... Music by Elton John  
Lyrics by Bernie Taupin

The Last Song..... Music by Elton John  
Lyrics by Bernie Taupin

Candle in the Wind..... Elton John & Bernie Taupin  
arr. Chad Weirick

Rocket Man..... Elton John & Bernie Taupin  
arr. Tim Sarsany

Goodbye Yellow Brick Road/I'm Still Standing..... Elton John & Bernie Taupin  
arr. Dave Volpe

*Intermission*

<b>Follow the Yellow Brick Road/Ease on Down the Road.....</b>	Music and Lyrics by Harold Arlent & E.Y. Harburg Music and Lyrics by Charlie Smalls arr. Paul Saccone
<b>Wizard of Oz Medley.....</b>	Harold Arlen arr. Chad Weirick
<b>The Wizard and I from <i>Wicked</i>.....</b>	Music and Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz arr. Dave Volpe
<b>For Good from <i>Wicked</i>.....</b>	Music and Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz
<b>Defying Gravity from <i>Wicked</i>.....</b>	Words and Music by Stephen Schwartz arr. Mac Huff
<b>Home.....</b>	Written by Charlie Smalls arr. Sharon Udoh
<b>No Bad News.....</b>	Music and Lyrics by Charlie Smalls arr. Dave Volpe
<b>Somewhere Over The Rainbow.....</b>	arr. Chad Weirick
<b>A Brand New Day.....</b>	Music and Lyrics by Luther Vandross arr. Dave Volpe

# Chorus

## Tenor 1

Jonier Amaral Antunes  
Ethan Anglemeyer  
Ivan Arreguin-Toft  
Michael Barber  
Alain Bouchard  
Jeremy Franz Brendle  
Eric Brophy  
Kyle Cabral  
Evan Crothers  
Giuseppe Delisi  
Andrew Doucette  
Luke Drnach  
Nicholas Everage  
Matthew Finn  
Adilson Gonzalez Morales  
Kyle Hawk  
Gary Jackson  
Gerald B. James  
Brian Kisiel  
Devan Lalas  
Michael Lombo  
Matt Magrath  
Kristian Mitchell  
Ryder Nguyen  
Corey Niswender  
Christopher Nuss  
Kevin D. Rice  
Joel Richardson  
Bradford Robinson  
Christopher Routh  
Andrew D. Secker  
Anand Sitaram  
Kevin Sroufe  
Ian Stephenson  
Marc Story  
Alfonso Timoneda  
Alexander M. Viaggio

## Tenor 2

Mikey Ando  
Erik Bailey  
Nathanael Beisiegel  
Keith Bell  
Lavell Blackwell  
Frederick Brown  
Michael Cabrera  
Andrew Capron  
William Cattey  
Jason Cavallari  
Thomas J. Choinski  
Paul Consoli  
Adam Corcoran  
David Cruikshank  
Marcel D'Anjou  
Lucas De BuenosAires  
Guy DeAngelis  
Courtney Furno  
Thomas Gruenthal  
Charles Kelliher  
Jacob Labonte  
Stephen Lajoie  
Michael J. Leclerc  
Christopher Ludwig  
Leni Lunderman  
Lars Lundgren  
Michael Melfi  
Anthony Merolla  
Matthew Moura  
Joel Nosek  
Don Daniel Oca  
Jevon Jurray Oliver  
Cecilio Orta  
Allen William Richards, Jr.  
Todd Rinehart  
T.J. Sheehan  
Eric Shoen  
Tyler Simonds  
Eric Tam  
Nicolas Trodella  
Jeff Wetherford III

## Baritone

Marcus Allen Adams  
Jesse Allaway  
Charles R. Anderson, Jr.  
Jim Anderson  
Michael Appell  
Jordan Arruda  
Austin Batiste  
John N. Beaudreau  
Brian Blancke  
Kevin R. Bleye  
Jonathan Brett  
Tyler Brewer  
Peter Buschkopf  
Nick Cloutier  
Bruce Cramer  
Curtis Creekmore  
Eric Crumrine  
David Dyson  
Jason M. Fox  
David Friedler  
Paul Gabrys  
Frank Gallo  
Joseph Germanos  
Travis Hasley  
George Hinds  
Ken Hirschkind  
Allan Hodges  
Allan H. Ingram  
Kevin Kearley  
Ryan Leach  
Joshua Lennox  
James Patrick Lobo  
Alec Maccini  
Keith March Mistler  
Jacob McVey  
Tyler Normile  
Alfred O'Connell  
Jonathan Onufryk  
Jay Philomena  
Rafael Quintanar  
Charles Daniel Redmond  
Jack Renshaw  
Joseph Rios  
Ron Riso  
Matthew Rose  
Michael Rudowski  
Jim Slayton  
Nicholas Solimini  
Mateus Souza  
Gary Thies  
Benjamin Thompson  
Zachary Tripsas  
David Valdes  
Luis Valdez  
Robert Wainblat  
Tom Weisend  
Jason Williams  
Trevor Woodward

## Bass

Thomas Armstrong  
David Braunstein  
Alexander Brown  
Jimmie Bucci  
Andrew Bullecks  
Andrew Childs  
Simon Choong  
Richard Cincotta  
John Clinkscale  
Charles Conley  
Joshua Donovan  
Gregory Edwards  
Mark Gianino  
James Glavin

Ken Golner  
James Griffin  
David W. Ham  
Sean Hennessy  
Bradford Howard  
Tomer Illouz  
Zach Innis  
Steve Jewett  
Michael Lawrence  
Joshua Levine  
John Lin  
Dillon Maloney  
Ted Messemer  
Simone Montali

Christopher Murray  
Lucas Pepin  
Christopher Phillips  
Rocco Pigneri  
Hassan Ragy  
Rick Redmond  
Roland W. Roy  
Patrick Snyder  
Manabu Takasawa  
Kyle Trombley  
Jon Whitney  
Anthony Zambella

*Membership Services Co-Chair*

*Musical Section Representative*

*Section Representative*

## In Memoriam

*We remember and honor our brothers who have passed on. From our very beginning to today, we have lost many members too soon, including our founder Joseph Bevins. We lost our first member to AIDS in 1987. This started a continual stream of singing at memorial services. All those named are forever part of our chorus family. They are in our hearts and memories. An up to date list of passed BGMC members can be found at [bgmc.org/in-memoriam](http://bgmc.org/in-memoriam).*





# We Can't Do It Without You

The power of our voices will amplify the value of your gift many times over, helping to create a world that values its LGBTQ citizens.



Individual contributions fulfill our mission of creating musical experiences to inspire change, build community, and celebrate diversity.

Ticket sales cover less than half the cost of producing a concert. Your gifts allow BGMC to perform in great concert halls and theaters, serve our community, tour to new places, and support our singers.

Your donation is greatly appreciated.



The generosity of individuals, corporate sponsors, and foundations provides nearly half of the BGMC’s annual revenue. The Ovation Society recognizes those donors who have contributed \$500 or more (Sept. 1 to Aug 31), made a Planned Gift or given directly to our Endowment.

The Ovation Society is designed to give donors a front row seat to the impact of your investment, which makes this Chorus so extraordinary. Members receive a variety of benefits like: concierge ticketing service, invitations to special events throughout the year, and advance ticket sales.

The following list represents cumulative gifts received during our 2023-2024 season thus far (as of 5/6/2024). Gifts include all cash and in-kind donations, purchases of fundraising event tickets, and amounts paid for winning auction items. We’ve made every effort to accurately represent the gifts. In the event of an error or omission, please contact the development team so we can remedy it.

## Endowment

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Bequest of John Bryant  
 Bequest of Wayne P. Drake  
 Neil Dugas  
 Bequest of Barry and James Mapstone-Knamm  
 The Paul and Edith Babson Foundation

*Please contact us if you have included the BGMC in your estate plans so that we may add you to this list.*

## Planned Gifts

---

Jay Baer  
 Scott J. Batey & Stephen M. Conley  
 Frederick Baumer Living Trust  
 Edward & Caleb E. Broach  
 Christopher A. Chouinard  
 Craig B. Coogan Living Trust  
 David J. Friedler 2021 Revocable Trust  
 Darryl W. and John K. Ferguson  
 Revocable Living Trust of Jeremy Patrick Hayes  
 Ken Hirschkind  
 Alan H. Ingram  
 Stephen M. Kelley

Stanton Kilpatrick  
 Albert D. Lovata  
 Andrew Maggiore  
 John Moran  
 Edward J. LeMay Trust  
 Rick Redmond  
 Reuben M. Reynolds, III  
 David Rosenthal  
 Robert L. “Rab” Sherman  
 James Mitchell Slayton  
 Scott E. Squillance

## \$25,000 and up

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Anonymous (3)  
 Rebecca Casey  
 Neil Dugas ^

Massachusetts Cultural Council  
 Reuben Reynolds ^

## \$10,000-\$24,999

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Anonymous  
 Biogen Idec Foundation  
 Charles R. Anderson and William D. Cattey ^  
 Liberty Mutual Foundation ^

George R. Miller, III In memory of Fred Fuge  
 Paul and Edith Babson Foundation  
 TJ Sheehan

^Thank you to our donors who have been financially supporting the organization for 10 or more years

# Manzi

Appraisers & Restoration



## **APPRAISALS**

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Scan Me



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**\$5,000-\$9,999**

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Tyler Brewer and Tyler Cumella  
 Thomas J. Choinski and Stephen L. Jewett ^  
 Charles R. Conley ^  
 Paul Consoli ^  
 Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation ^  
 Nicholas Everage ^

Ken Hirschkind ^  
 Alfred, Nathaniel and  
 Edward O'Connell ^  
 Samuel C. Pang, M.D. and  
 Andrew S. Pang ^  
 Monika Wirtz

**\$2,500-\$4,999**

---

Anonymous (3)  
 Nathanael Beisiegel  
 Improv Asylum/Laugh Boston  
 The Harvey C. Lewis Family  
 John Moran and Michael Wood ^  
 Christopher Nuss and Mo Hameed ^  
 Rick Redmond  
 Elbert Ruff ^

The parents of Oliver, Nicholas and  
 Alexander Slayton ^  
 The Susan A. and Donald P. Babson  
 Charitable Foundation  
 The Newbury Boston  
 United Health Group

**\$1,000-\$2,499**

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Anonymous (5)  
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We share our heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for your unwavering support and dedication to the BGMC. Your commitment to the Ovation Society has played a pivotal role in our continued success and growth.

As valued members, your contributions have not only helped us achieve our goals but have also enabled us to create memorable performances, a lasting impact in the community, and transformed lives through the power of music. Your passion and generosity have been the driving force behind our ability to provide exceptional experiences and opportunities for all.

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Boston Gay Men's Chorus gratefully acknowledges the following distinguished foundation, government, and corporate supporters for their generous commitments to support our full range of artistic and educational activities.



# Bill Casey Fund

Bill Casey passed away early in the morning of December 10, 2021. He was a vital and beloved member of the Chorus since 1997. As Executive Producer his creativity was seen in every main stage show BGMC performed. Bill conceived, produced and music directed the annual cabaret and provided vocal training to generations of BGMCers as well as students at Boston Conservatory. He was a mentor, a friend, an artist. He is missed. The Bill Casey Fund was established in 2021 by his husband Reuben Reynolds and his mother Becky Casey to honor the legacy of Bill Casey and his commitment to the Boston Gay Men's Chorus. The fund provides scholarship support and continues to advance our musical excellence. The following donors have joined Reuben and Becky in continuing Bill's legacy.

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*To make a tax-deductible gift in Bill's honor visit [bgmc.org/BillCasey](http://bgmc.org/BillCasey).*



# MAP Fund

The Member Assistance Program (MAP) provides financial support to singing members who need help with dues, retreat fees and performance wardrobe costs. This is a restricted fund. The following donors for the 2023-2024 season have enabled every member who requested support to receive it.

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## Equity—Access— Belonging

BGMC tells stories of the LGBTQ+ experience to better the world around us by uplifting voices from all backgrounds. BGMC is committed to being a safe space where all people, regardless of race, class, gender, ability and intersections beyond can feel a sense of Equity, Access and Belonging. BGMC continually recognizes the importance of underrepresented communities, voices and intersectional ties within and beyond our community.

## Land Acknowledgement

BGMC Acknowledges that our office, rehearsal and performance spaces reside on the ancestral and unceded lands of the Massachusetts Tribe from whom the Colony, Province and Commonwealth of Massachusetts have taken their name. We pay respect to the ancestral bloodline of the Massachusetts Tribe and their descendants who still inhabit the land to this day. We honor and respect the many native peoples who are connected to this land, past, present and future, including the Nipmuc and Wampanoag peoples.

# Boston Gay Men's Chorus Staff

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## Reuben Reynolds

*Music Director*

### Executive

*Administrative Assistant*

## Sarah Shoffner

*Executive Director*

Eleni Stratigos

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*Videographers*

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Susan Ryan Vollmar,

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*Assistant Music Director*

*American Sign Language Interpreter*

*Director & Choreographer*

*Vocal Coach*

*Composer-in-Residence*

*Stage Manager*

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*Costume Designer*

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# Need to Know: *Boston Gay Men's Chorus Guide*

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## For the Enjoyment of All

**Latecomers** and patrons who leave the hall will be seated only after the completion of a work.

**Silence** all cellphones and other electronic devices throughout the performance.

**Photography**, sound recording, or videotaping of performances is strictly prohibited.

**Masks** are optional and encouraged. Singers and musicians on stage today are fully vaccinated and boosted against COVID-19. BGMC members have each tested negative today before arriving at the hall.

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## Accessibility

Jordan Hall

**Restrooms** with accessible stalls are located to the left and to the right of the concert hall.

**Accessible platform seats** are available for Jordan Hall concerts and can be arranged at point of sale. For assigned seated concerts, patrons requiring assistance should contact the BGMC Box Office in advance of your visit by emailing [info@bgmc.org](mailto:info@bgmc.org).

**Large-Print** versions of the program are available by request (with 24+ hours notice). Please call or email the box office to request a program.

**American Sign Language (ASL)** is a natural language that serves as the predominant sign language of Deaf and Hard of Hearing communities. The Boston Gay Men's Chorus began providing American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation at its concerts in the 1980's. The ASL interpretation continues to be a powerful and visual commitment of our organization to welcome all. Both Deaf and non-deaf audience members rave about LeWana Clark's interpretation of songs and the value that she contributes to the concert going experience.

---

## For Your Safety

**Fire Exits** indicated by a red light and the sign nearest to the seat you occupy are the shortest routes to the street. In the event of fire or other emergency, do not run - walk to that exit.

If **evacuation is needed**, follow the instructions given to you by the House Manager and Usher Staff.

**Automated external defibrillators (AEDS)** and **First aid kits** are available if needed during an emergency.

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## Box Office

**Order Tickets** online at [bgmc.org](http://bgmc.org) or call 617-542-SING (7464).

The BGMC Box Office is open 12pm - 5pm Monday through Friday, available by phone or email at 617-542-7464 or [info@bgmc.org](mailto:info@bgmc.org). Our Mobile Box Office is open one hour before concert time on performance evenings.

**Can't make it to the concert?** Tickets are non-refundable but you can donate your tickets back to BGMC for a tax-deduction. That allows the Chorus to resell the tickets and for your seats to be used.

Email customer relations at [info@bgmc.org](mailto:info@bgmc.org) prior to show time to donate your tickets. The office is unable to respond to every email on performance days. The IRS requires the request be in writing and occur prior to show time to be eligible for donation.



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