



# PROSPECTIVE MEMBER 2017-18



2017-18

ORLANDO GAY CHORUS

# Welcome, future member!

Dear Prospective Member,

Welcome to the Orlando Gay Chorus! I am excited to potentially welcome you to our dynamic organization. OGC has existed for over 27 years and in that time has been a vibrant part of the LGBT and artistic communities of Central Florida. We achieve this in several ways:

- **Performance.** OGC presents three main stage performances annually. Two of these take place downtown at The Plaza Live and one show travels outside of the city. In addition we produce three smaller cabaret style performances. These feature soloists from OGC along with our ensembles and guest performers. Each performance centers around a different theme and caters to different types of patrons.
- **Outreaches.** OGC lives its mission to "change hearts and minds" by being the public face of the gay community at different events. We sing at LGBT events such as Come Out with Pride and the Orlando AIDS Vigil and general community events such as Paws in the Park or Orlando City Soccer games. We sing publicly and proudly under the Orlando Gay Chorus title to show the community the strength and love of our LGBT peoples and allies.



As you consider joining Orlando Gay Chorus, don't forget there are a three forms of membership: singer, dancer or support. Our singers are most visible, but our "Footnotes" dance team is out front at each main stage and many outreaches. Our support section makes magic happen behind the scenes in finances, ticket sales, public relations and IT. If one sounds better than the other, just let our membership committee know what you prefer.

Thank you for considering membership in Orlando Gay Chorus. Whether you are seeking a great group to perform with or to become more involved with the LGBTQ community, you are welcome here. The experiences and memories to be made are priceless. Thank you and I look forward to meeting you in the future!

James A. Rode  
Artistic Director



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## Auditioning for the 2017-18 Season

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**Singer and Dancer Audition Dates:**

Wednesday, August 9, 2017 from 6:30pm – 9:00pm

Saturday, August 12, 2017 from 11:00am – 2:00pm

**Location:**

First United Church of Christ – 4605 Curry Ford Rd, Orlando, FL 32812

**Preparing for the audition:****Singers:**

- Prepare 16 measures (or about 30 seconds of music) that you feel shows off your voice well. This can be any style or genre of music; this should be something you are comfortable with and you feel represents you well. Ideally, you would provide sheet music for what you sing; we can play piano for accompaniment. We cannot provide you with sheet music or tracks.
- The audition will consist of:
  - Singing your prepared selection
  - Vocalizing (to test your range and quality)
  - Checking your musicianship (being able to sight-read and/or read music are not requirements for membership, but we like to get a feel for your general level of music ability)
  - A short chat to get to know you!

**Dancers:**

- Prepare about 30 seconds of choreography that you feel shows off your strongest dance style. This can be any style or genre that you feel comfortable in, and you feel represents you well.
- The audition will consist of:
  - Performing your prepared choreography
  - A short chat to get to know you!

Please contact [Membership@orlandogaychorus.org](mailto:Membership@orlandogaychorus.org) to schedule an audition timeslot.

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**When will I know the results of my audition?**

You'll be notified of the results after all of the auditions are complete. If you're accepted into Orlando Gay Chorus as either a singing or a dance-only member, you'll be welcomed at the first rehearsal (August 16, 2017) and introduced to your Section Leader and the entire chorus membership. If you are not selected as a singing member, we still encourage you to join our support staff – they attend our \_\_\_\_\_ rehearsals as well.

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## Membership Overview

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### Requirements for membership:

- **Age:** Membership in Orlando Gay Chorus is open to all persons age 18 or older. Minors age 16 or 17 can be accepted as members under special conditions.
- **Cost:** Singing and Support members pay annual Corporate Dues of \$80. Singing members pay an additional \$60 in Concert Performance Prep Fees for each concert in which they perform.
  - If you are joining as a new member in August 2017, you would pay \$80+\$60 (\$140 total) to join the chorus for this season. All dues and fees are non-refundable, but we do offer payment plans.
- **Wardrobe:** For major performances OGC provides vests and ties to its members. You are responsible for obtaining a white long-sleeved button-down dress shirt, black dress pants, black socks, and black closed-toed dress shoes for performance. For outreach performances, our “skittles” shirt costs \$15 but OGC provides our black “billboard” shirt for free. There is only a charge to replace this shirt.
- **Attendance:** Singers are expected to attend 80% of the rehearsals leading up to a major performance. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings from 7:00pm-10:00pm, held at First United Church of Christ (4605 Curry Ford Road, Orlando FL 32812).

### Are there limits to the number of singers?

The short answer is yes. OGC strives to maintain balance between each section in the chorus and can only take up to 150 singers on stage. Each season requires different voices, depending on what singers have retired, left the chorus, or moved away.

### May alumni return to sing with the Orlando Gay Chorus?

We love to welcome family back to OGC. However, if you have not participated in either of the two most recent main stage shows, you will have to re-audition.

### I'm not a singer, but can I join your support staff?

Yes! These men and women work tirelessly behind the scenes to make everything happen for OGC. There would be no OGC if there were no Support Section. Our support team:

- Handles and processes all financial transactions for the chorus
- Manages all facets of ticket sales and tracking
- Organizes and runs fundraising for Toys For Tots
- Completes all mail-out advertising to patrons
- Provides guest services at all concerts
- Organizes and runs all front-of-house activities at concerts and performances, including ushering, ticket sales, will Call, silent auction, and any merchandise sales

**ORLANDO GAY CHORUS MEMBER APPLICATION – Please complete and bring with you to the audition.**

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

**MUSICAL EXPERIENCE** (please check):

**Have you sung with a choral group in the past?**  YES  NO

If yes, where?  High School  College  Other GALA Chorus  Community Theatre

Other Non Professional Group  Other Professional Group  Professional Theatre

**If yes, what voice parts have you sung?**  Soprano  Alto  Tenor  Baritone  Bass

Do you read music?  YES  NO

**Do you play a musical instrument?**  YES  NO

If yes, check all that apply and name the instrument.

\_\_\_\_ Keyboards: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Brass: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Woodwinds: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Strings: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Percussion: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Electronic: \_\_\_\_\_

**AVAILABILITY**

Rehearsals are held every Wednesday from 7-10pm. Additionally, all members are REQUIRED to attend Tech Week: Friday December 8<sup>th</sup> (Tech Rehearsal), Saturday December 9<sup>th</sup> (Performance), Sunday December 10<sup>th</sup> (Performance). Outreach performances are optional, but encouraged.

Comments regarding your availability:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_