



PROSPECTIVE MEMBER 2016-17



2016-17

ORLANDO GAY CHORUS

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Welcome, future member!

Dear Prospective Member of the Orlando Gay Chorus,

Let me be the first to say welcome to OGC! For over 25 years the Orlando Gay Chorus has continuously inspired our community through excellence in musical entertainment. We achieve this in several ways:



James A. Rode- Artistic Director

- **Performances.** You've probably been to, or heard about, one of our five yearly productions. OGC presents two mainstage performances annually, a holiday show in December and a spring show in May. Our cabaret series Features three shows: "Uncut", our 18 and up adult revue; "Love is", our Valentine's Day show; and "A Lotta Night Music", our Broadway and classical performance. Each of our performances caters to different styles and interests from our concert goers.
- **Outreaches.** OGC supports local non-profit and LGBTQ organizations by lending our chorus, ensembles, or soloists for different events. We perform annually at Come Out with Pride, Orlando Fringe Festival, and the Orlando AIDS Vigil just to name a few. Serving other with our art is a major part of OGC and what we do.
- **Public Support.** Our members are great supporters of local arts organizations, LGBTQ groups and charities. Group outings to performances or volunteering time for others is a frequent occurrence each season.

Not all members of OGC are singing members. We also have our "5th section" of support members who make magic happen behind the scenes, in addition to our non-singing dance members. No matter what role anyone holds, we all share a common love of performance.

If you are seeking a great group to perform with or to become more involved with the LGBTQ community of Central Florida, please consider joining OGC. 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



Auditioning for the Orlando Gay Chorus

When to Audition

Wednesday, January 4, 2017: Auditions

First United Church of Christ (4605 Curry Ford Rd, Orlando 32812) from 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

*****Please contact Membership@orlandogaychorus.org to schedule an audition timeslot!*****

What do I need to prepare for my audition and what can I expect?

Prepare a 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.

What does the audition consist of?

The word “audition” sounds a little scary but there’s no need to be nervous! We’re not looking for the next Streisand or Sinatra, just solid voices to add to our sections. The auditions will consist of the following;

- Sing your prepared selection so we can hear your voice at its best.
- Vocalize. We will run some exercises with you to test your vocal range and quality.
- Musicianship. We will test your ability to read music or follow. Sightreading is not required to be a member of OGC, but it helps when we are choosing who to accept!
- We will chat and get to know you!

Note: Please don't be intimidated by our artistic staff. Everyone wants you to do well!

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 member you'll be welcomed at the first rehearsal (January 11, 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.

Membership Overview

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 January 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, 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. If you have not participated in either of the past two concert seasons, you will have to re-audition with the artistic staff.

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 literally would be no OGC if there was no Support Section. These amazing people perform the following:

- *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 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: _____

Woodwind: _____ Strings: _____

Percussion: _____ Electronic: _____

AVAILABILITY

Rehearsals are held every Wednesday from 7-10pm. Additionally, all members **MUST** attend the following dates of Tech Week: Friday May 12 (Tech Rehearsal), Saturday May 13 (Performance), Sunday May 14 (Performance). Outreach performances are optional, but encouraged.

Comments regarding your availability:

Signature _____ Date _____