The Chorus: The Twin Cities Gay Men’s Chorus (TCGMC) is Minnesota’s largest LGBT non-profit arts and cultural organization. The Chorus provides a safe and welcoming environment for gay men to gather in fulfillment of its mission. Our mission statement is gay Men Building Community Through Music.

Strategic Vision: The Twin Cities Gay Men’s Chorus will transform the lives of individuals and the community by providing musical programming that is exceptional, entertaining, educational and essential. We see a world that celebrates equality and inclusion, inspired to action by the LGBT choral movement.

As one of Minnesota’s most prominent LGBT arts organizations, TCGMC fulfills its mission by providing a safe haven for artistic expression among gay men and by inspiring social interaction through its regular concert season and outreach performances. In addition to being both an ambassador and a safe space for the LGBT community, the Chorus also changes lives through the performance of significant music.

Our 36th Season: TCGMC’s Gay Holiday Spectacular: Around the World, Dr. Ben Riggs’ final concert as Artistic Director (December 8-10, 2017); Rise Up!, with special guests Twin Cities Women’s Choir and Guest Artistic Director Jane Ramseyer-Miller (March 23 and 24, 2018); and QUEEN, with Guest Artistic Director Jerry Rubino, who also fulfilled his existing duties as OutLoud! Director (June 15-16, 2018). We were fortunate to have two talented local artistic leaders step in during the transition period between Dr. Riggs departure and the hiring of our new Artistic Director, Dr. Gerald Gurss, who joined the Chorus in August of 2018.
Our Core Values:

We live these values when creating our art, building our community and advocating for justice and acceptance.

We apply them generously to our audience, our sponsors, our community and each other.

**Courage**
- We challenge ourselves to continually grow beyond our current capabilities.
- We confidently share our message to others, even when and where it’s not easily accepted or popular.
- We take action to ensure long-term success, even when it’s difficult and requires us to change.

**Authenticity**
- We embrace the uniqueness that different cultures, ideas and people bring, knowing that together we are richer and stronger.
- We communicate with honesty and transparency.
- Our actions align with who we are and what we say.

**Joy**
- We provide fun, uplifting and memorable experiences.
- We inspire a sense of pride in who we are and what we do.
- We encourage hope for a better future.

**Respect**
- We show care and compassion.
- We listen and learn.
- We cooperate and collaborate toward our common goals.

**Accountability**
- We follow through on the commitments we make.
- We responsibly steward the resources we are given.
- We act ethically – always striving to do what’s right.

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**Dr. Ben Riggs left TCGMC at the end of December, 2017 when his husband made a career change and the couple moved to Berkeley, California. While TCGMC went through a national search for a new Artistic Director, the Chorus was fortunate to have strong and talented Artistic Leadership finish out our 37th season.**

**Jane Ramseyer-Miller, Artistic Director of One Voice Mixed Chorus and Artistic Director of GALA Choruses, joined TCGMC as Guest Artistic Director for our successful spring concert “Rise Up,” a concert that addressed social issues and marginalized communities. We welcomed special guests Twin Cities Women’s Choir and Steve Milloy, Artistic Director of Cincinnati Men’s Chorus, who conducted the work “Seven Last Words of the Unarmed.”**

**Jerry Rubino, OutLoud! Director and noted artistic leader within the Twin Cities, was our Guest Artistic Director for QUEEN, our Pride concert. The concert featured much of the music of Freddie Mercury and Queen, including a show stopping performance of “Bohemian Rhapsody.”**
Our spring concert *Rise Up!* featured the local premiere of “Seven Last Words of the Unarmed,” a choral work in 7 movements composed by Joel Thompson and first performed by the University of Michigan Men’s Glee Club in 2016. This powerful and controversial choral work was based on the final words of 7 black men who died at the hands of society’s authority figures. Steve Milloy, Artistic Director of Cincinnati Men’s Chorus conducted this special presentation with the members of TCGMC.
OutLoud! with their Director Jerry Rubino performed at the annual Golden Valley Pride celebration in June of 2018.

The Chamber Singers appeared in October 2017 to perform a new work composed by J. David Moore.

Sunday, December 10, 2017 was declared “Dr. Ben Riggs Day” by Mayor Betsy Hodges of the City of Minneapolis. Mayor Hodges appeared at the Sunday matinee performance on December 10 to present this special recognition to Dr. Riggs on his final performance with TCGMC.

Members of both Twin Cities Gay Men’s Chorus and One Voice Mixed Chorus were invited to sing “back up” for vocalist Demi Lovato, when she performed at Target Center on March 10, 2018. The guest performance was a welcome break for our singers in a most eventful season of transition!