



Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus Artistic Director

Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus, now celebrating its 37th season of *gay men building community through music*, is seeking its new Artistic Director. The new Artistic Director will take the reins August 1, 2018 for the start of our 38th season.

Artistic Director Dr. Ben Riggs will leave during his sixth season leading this highly respected chorus. Dr. Riggs' final concert will be our holiday concert *TCGMC's Gay Holiday Spectacular: Around the World* in December. Interim Artistic Leadership has been selected for the remainder of Season 37.

Based in the artistically rich Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area, TCGMC is among the country's most respected men's choruses and is one of the largest choruses in GALA, the international Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses, of which it is a member. TCGMC continually strives to live its core values of courage, authenticity, joy, respect and accountability.

TCGMC is an integral part of the Twin Cities' cultural scene with its rich choral tradition, including collaborations with Minnesota Orchestra, Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, VocalEssence, Ballet of the Dolls, James Sewell Ballet, Minnesota BoyChoir, Cantus, and entertainers Harvey Fierstein, Ann Hampton Callaway, Michael Feinstein, Holly Near, Margaret Cho and Matt Alber. In 2016, the Chorus premiered its most-recent commission, *Two Boys Kissing* (music and lyrics by Joshua Shank based on the young adult novel *Two Boys Kissing* by David Levithan), which the Chorus performed in Minneapolis in June and at the GALA Choruses' Festival in Denver, Colorado in July, 2016. Additionally, TCGMC has premiered over 30 commissions from composers such as Michael Shaieb, Steven Paulus and Craig Carnahan and has performed at ACDA, the Grand Ole Opry, and international GALA festivals in Montreal, Tampa, Denver, Miami, Seattle, San Jose, and Minneapolis (which TCGMC hosted in 1986). TCGMC will welcome GALA Festival back to Minneapolis in the summer of 2020.

True to its mission, “Gay men building community through music,” TCGMC regularly undertakes outreach performances throughout Minnesota and the Upper Midwest, in addition to its regular season concert series – which boasts one of the largest season subscriber bases of any GALA chorus.

The Artistic Director’s Position and Duties and Responsibilities

The Artistic Director position is full time. Salary will be commensurate based on experience. TCGMC offers a benefits package that includes health and disability insurance and a retirement plan.

The following are the primary duties and responsibilities of the Artistic Director:

1. Performance Functions:

- Oversee the artistic health and growth of the Chorus in accordance with the Chorus’s mission, vision, operating budget, and strategic plan;
- Organize an annual performance schedule including subscription concerts, outreach performances, and tours;
- Design each concert performance including theme development and integration of guest artists, ensembles, soloists, instrumentalists, and visual elements;
- Research music and programming to bring to the Chorus performance material that is both challenging and appropriate to the artistic goals of the organization;
- Audition prospective new members;
- Audition, select, and coach soloists and smaller groups of singers;
- Conduct the Chorus in all performances and regular weekly and special ad-hoc rehearsals;
- Oversee the arrangement of music;
- Oversee the technical and production elements of performances, including sets, costumes and attire for all performances.

2. Administrative Functions:

- Work with the Executive Director and the Board to establish an operating plan and budget to execute the artistic vision;
- Attend Board meetings and provide a monthly report to the Board.

- Serve as principal liaison between the Board of Directors and the artistic staff;
- Assist the Executive Director with appeals to financial donors;
- In partnership with the Executive Director, participate in the LGBT and larger community activities to develop networks and identify opportunities to further the mission;
- Supervise and evaluate part-time music staff;
- Select and supervise section leaders;
- Oversee and maintain the music library;
- Administer TCGMC's commissioning guidelines including the selection of composer/lyricist, assisting with contract negotiations, and managing the process to performance;
- Participate effectively in meetings of the Board of Directors, committees as requested, season and budgeting planning and other activities as necessary to support the execution of the artistic vision;
- Maintain office hours appropriate to accomplish the job responsibilities.

3. Communication and Partnership Functions:

- Work with the Executive Director to ensure a consistent and appropriate public image in all internal and external communications;
- Seek input from and collaborate with singing membership to implement the artistic vision of the Chorus;
- Broaden the involvement of the Chorus in the community by serving as a spokesperson and liaison on behalf of the Chorus; and
- Maintain healthy communication with staff, membership, Board and community members.
- Foster a respectful, inclusive and highly collaborative community of singing members.

4. Outreach Functions:

- Seek opportunities for the Chorus to perform outside of scheduled concerts;
- Manage communication, logistics, and planning details for outreach performances;
- Develop an outreach concert repertoire consistent with the artistic vision and the Chorus's mission; and
- Conduct the Chorus in all outreach concerts.

5. Recording Functions:

- Schedule new recordings as part of the artistic vision;
- Develop recording content;
- Organize recording operations and design; and
- Oversee the licensing of music for performances and recordings

6. Professional Development Functions:

- Participate in professional choral organizations, such as GALA Choruses, American Choral Director's Association, etc.
- Develop and maintain relationships with professional colleagues by participating in and conducting workshops, clinics, conventions and festivals, etc.; and
- Other activities to nurture continued skill enhancement.

Qualifications

Minimum of a Master's Degree in Music or equivalent experience is required; high level of training and experience in choral conducting in the community setting; expertise in vocal technique, languages, and choral diction; and experience in orchestral conducting preferred.

Application Materials

Applications must be post-marked by January 31, 2018 to be considered. To apply for the Artistic Director position, TCGMC requests:

- A letter of introduction;
- Curriculum vitae;
- Samples of programming for previous concerts;
- Samples of recordings of previous concerts, video preferred;
- A proposed program for TCGMC's Holiday, Spring, and Pride concerts, each of which contains 70-90 minutes of music; and
- Other materials that may support your application, including musical compositions or arrangements, etc.

Complete materials should be sent by the due date to:

Jeff Heine, Executive Director
Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus
528 Hennepin Avenue Suite 307
Minneapolis, MN 55403

Application materials may also be sent to Executive Director Jeff Heine via DropBox or other cloud services. Please send a link with materials to jheine@tcgmc.org.

Additional information about TCGMC is available at <http://www.tcgmc.org>.
Questions and requests should be addressed by email only to jheine@tcgmc.org.

Our Timeframe for Selection:

January 31, 2018: Applications Due

Late February, 2018: First round interviews by Skype

Early April, 2018: Final round interviews & auditions in Minneapolis

Late April, 2018: Hiring Announcement

May – June 2018: Finalize our 38th Season

August 1, 2018: Our new Artistic Director's First Day