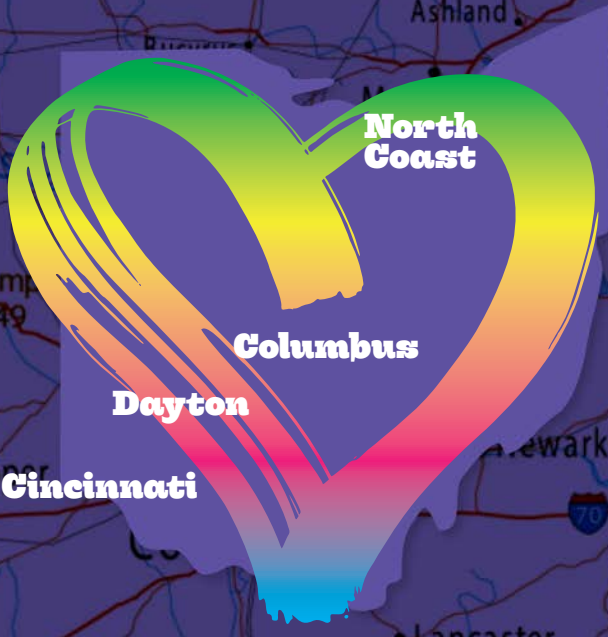


Heart OF Ohio

Gay Men's Choruses



March 22, 2025

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A Note from Our Director

Today's Heart of Ohio concert is significant. For the first time in history, the four TTBB GALA Choruses in Ohio are performing together onstage. Around 300 voices will be singing together and cheering each other on for a magical performance. In a time where so many Queers are feeling isolated, alone, and scared, we are finding the true importance of uniting our voices.

When Kathy, Rich, Spencer and I started to dream about this performance, we weren't sure how it would all happen. A lot of people, a lot of details, and a lot of questions if we would have excitement from all of our choruses. Then we were lucky enough to have our members see each other and interact at GALA Festival. I take a lot of PRIDE in CGMC and the amazing music that we create, but that PRIDE only expanded watching Ohio GALA groups perform. I was truly delighted to be able to call this state my home. The strength and resilience of our choral communities is created by the voices of stellar Midwesterners who know how to be kind, caring, and compassionate even when we are struggling. This knowledge that we have faced difficult circumstances before and come together helps me continue to want to fight for all of our community. People may knock our state, but it could be Ohio Queers against the world and I would be confident that we would overcome any obstacles in our path.

On top of my excitement for uniting the TTBB choruses, we are premiering our amazing youth ensemble today, The Columbus Queerscendos. These young voices are our future and we are so proud of them and their staff for bravely singing in front of a lot of people and being open and proud with their identities. Not to be forgotten, we have the incredible Nina West hosting today. Columbus (and Ohio) is so lucky to have such a talented and generous celebrity fostering community and being a role-model the world needs. Everytime that Nina performs with another GALA chorus, I get messages from their staff sharing how wonderful their experience was with our hometown Queen.

As you watch the concert today, I hope you are as impressed as I am with what every city has to offer. As unique as we are from one another, we are so united in the love we have for each other and our communities. Together, Cincinnati Men's Chorus, North Coast Men's Chorus, Dayton Gay Men's Chorus and the Columbus Gay Men's Chorus (+ The Columbus Queerscendos) are showing the world the amazing music we can create in the Heart of Ohio.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jared Brayton Bollenbacher". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jared Brayton Bollenbacher, MM, MSW, LICSW

THE COLUMBUS Queerscendos

PREMIERE PERFORMANCE

The Youth of Broadway

APRIL 25, 2025

7:00 p.m.

LIVINGSTON UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

As the curtains are drawn back, we find ourselves swept away in the vivid memories of our first encounters, the pure joy of watching or listening to our very first Broadway musical. For years, Broadway has blossomed into a beloved sanctuary, a warm haven where the queer community can genuinely feel at home. So join The Columbus Queerscendos for their premiere performance at 7 p.m. at Livingston United Methodist Sanctuary, where we will be celebrating and honoring the vibrant youth of Broadway through the years!



The Columbus Queerscendos

CGMC welcomes youth between the ages of 13 and 17, who have all levels of musical experience.

For more information and to sign up, please send an email with your name and contact information to youth@cgmc.com.

CGMC.com/queerscendos

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A Note from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Community is at the heart of everything we do. Tonight, as we bring together four incredible GALA choruses and premiere The Columbus Queerscendos, CGMC' youth ensemble, we are reminded that music is more than just notes and lyrics—it is a lifeline. It lifts us when we feel unheard, connects us when we feel alone, and gives us strength when the world feels unsteady. In a time when so many in our community face uncertainty, this concert is a testament to the power of standing together, raising our voices, and knowing that we are never alone.

This strength was also evident at our recent Forte Awards, where we honored Colleen Marshall and raised just under \$50,000 to support the work of CGMC. To everyone who attended, donated, or helped make the night possible—thank you. Your generosity ensures that we can continue creating spaces for queer voices to be heard and celebrated.

If tonight's performance moves you, I invite you to continue supporting us. Follow us on social media, share our mission, or consider making a gift to help sustain our work. Every voice matters, and every bit of support helps us keep singing for a brighter future.

Enjoy the concert!



Donovan Jones

Executive Director,
Columbus Gay Men's Chorus

To give a gift, visit cgmc.com/donate or use the QR codes to the right. Donations to CGMC go to our operating fund in support of our mission. We rely on your support each year.

Questions can be directed to cgmc@cgmc.com or 614-531-4272.

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Chuck Cohen (he/him/his)

David Donofrio (he/him/his)

Matthew Fox (he/him/his)

Allen Proctor (he/him/his)

John Sullivan (he/him/his)

Bill Wright (he/him/his)

ARTISTIC TEAM

Artistic Director:

Jared Brayton Bollenbacher,
MM, MSW, LICSW (he/him/his)

Illuminati/Assistant Director:

Jordan Saul (she/her/hers)

**The Columbus Queerscendos
Assistant Director:**

Gabriel Gonzales (he/they)

Principal Accompanist:

Nathan Hamm (he/him/his)

Illuminati Accompanist:

Matthew P. Downing (he/him/his)

**The Columbus Queerscendos
Accompanist:**

Eliza van Kan (she/her/hers)

Production Manager:

Bruce Reedy (he/him/his)

Assistant Production Manager:

Michael Buck (he/him/his)

Lighting Designer:

Shelly Riggs (she/her/hers)

Choreographer:

Alex Dennie (she/her/hers)

STAFF

Executive Director:

Donovan Jones, MA, MPH
(he/him/his)

Director of Administration:

Lana Moy (she/her/hers)

SUPPORT TEAM

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Keshia Caldwell (she/her/hers)

Social Media Lead:

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Website/Graphic Design:

Alan Jazak/Formation Studio
(he/him/his)

Heart of Ohio Production Team

Production Manager	Bruce Reedy (he/him/his)
Assistant Production Manager	Michael Buck (he/him/his)
Lighting Designer	Shelly Riggs (she/her/hers)
Choreographer	Alex Dennie (she/her/hers)
String Arranger	Alex Burgoyne (he/him/his)
Videographer	Jason Bockis (he/him/his)
Assistant Videographer	Andy Wolf (he/him/his)
ASL Interpreters	Gloria Pappaterra (she/her/hers) Alli Kisker (she/her/hers)

INSTRUMENTALISTS

Drums	Seth Alexander (he, him, his)
Bass	Matt Paetsch (he, him, his)
Violins	Devin Copfer (she, her, hers) Liz Fisher (she, her, hers)

SPECIAL THANKS

Bruce Reedy
Livingston United Methodist Church
CAPA
Neal Coryell
Trinity Lutheran Church
Terry Hennessy
Meredith Mitchell
Covenant Presbyterian Church
Kelly Ganley



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Grantee Spotlight: **OHIO DESIGNER CRAFTSMEN**

Guest artist Michael Kline presents a demonstration at the 2023 Functional Ceramics Workshop. Held at the Wayne Center for the Arts, this annual event is presented by Ohio Designer Craftsmen. Image credit: Matt Neff

Investing state and federal dollars, the Ohio Arts Council funds and supports quality arts experiences for all Ohioans to strengthen communities culturally, educationally, and economically.

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NINA WEST (he/him)

NINA WEST – an actor, singer/songwriter, producer, author, host, and activist who won the title of Miss Congeniality on the 11th season of *RuPaul's Drag Race* and featured on *RuPaul's Drag Race: All Stars 9*

Nina West rose to international acclaim in 2019 on season 11 of VH1's hit show *RuPaul's Drag Race*, placing sixth and receiving the coveted title of Miss Congeniality. She returned to the show in 2021 as a guest and was anointed "America's Sweetheart" by RuPaul. Nina made history at the 71st Primetime Emmy Awards in September 2019 as the first person to walk the carpet in full drag, in support of her season; that year, *RuPaul's Drag Race* won five Primetime Emmy Awards, including Best Reality Competition Show

In the world of music, Nina has released three EPs: *John Goodman*, a musical comedy EP, which reached no. 2 on the Billboard Comedy

Charts; *Drag Is Magic*, a children's music album, which reached no. 9 on the Billboard Children's Charts; and *The West Christmas Ever*, featuring Disney legend Jim Cummings, which debuted at no. 5 on the Billboard Comedy Charts. She has also released a handful of singles along the way including acclaimed Halloween favorites *Slayer* featuring Taran Killam and *Lisa Frankenstein* featuring Bobby Moynihan.

And Nina is no stranger to the worlds of television and film, having partnered with **Nickelodeon** and *Blue's Clues* for a series of Pride videos—*Blue's Clues Pride Parade Sing-Along* and *The Meaning of Pride*. She also has voiced characters on animated shows including *Baby Shark's Big Show* (NICK JR), *The Bravest Knight* (HULU), Bobby Moynihan's *Loafy* (COMEDY CENTRAL), and the voice of "Mom" for the animated short *Coaster*, which was shortlisted for a 2020 Academy Award. Other credits include *RuPaul's Secret Celebrity Drag Race*, *Dragging the Classics: The Brady Bunch* for Paramount+ where she portrayed Alice, the Neil Patrick Harris/David Burtka reality show *Drag Me To Dinner* (HULU), the Lady Camden documentary *Lady Like*, and her feature film debut as drag legend Divine in 2022's Emmy-winning *Weird: The Al Yankovic Story*. Nina is also one of the subjects of the 2017 documentary *Kings, Queens, and In-Betweens*.

Nina has proudly partnered with **Disney**, hosting the Disney+ special in 2020 *This Is Me: Pride Celebration Spectacular*, a celebration of the LGBTQ+ community with Disney classics reinterpreted by LGBTQ+ artists like Hayley Kiyoko, Todrick Hall, and Alex Newell. During this pride special, she had the distinct honor of performing with Kermit the Frog where they sang "Rainbow Connection." She returned again in 2021 for the *Say It With Pride: Disney+ Celebrates Pride 365* special, performing with the legendary composer and pianist Alan Menken.

But the stage is where Nina feels most at home. For two seasons (2021-2023), Nina toured the nation as Edna Turnblad in the 20th anniversary Broadway production of *Hairspray*. Other favorite stage credits include the regional premiers of *Buyer and Cellar* (Alex Moore) and *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Betty Bumbake), both for CATCO, as well as Disney's *The Little Mermaid*, where she portrayed her favorite villain, Ursula. Most recently, she just wrapped a production of *Into The Woods*, portraying The Witch. As a touring artist, she has proudly written, produced, and performed shows for Provincetown, GayDays, and toured with Broadway icon and legend **Seth Rudetsky**.

Nina's used all of the skills that she acquired over her career to become a highly sought-after host for events and shows across the globe. Her event hosting has taken her to **Comic-Con**, where in 2022, she cohosted the **HerUniverse Fashion Show** with her super hypiefriend, **Ashley Eckstein**. She is also a favorite at **D23 Expo**, where she has hosted **Mousequerade** and a very special 30th anniversary celebration of *The Muppet Christmas Carol* that included an all-star panel of guests including **Brian Henson**, **Dave Goelz**, **Paul Williams**, **Polly Smith**, and the **Muppets**, among other panels and events. Nina has also hosted events for **Disney Vacation Club** and **Disney Cruiseline**, **Proctor and Gamble**, **Paramount**, among others. In 2024, Nina had the distinct honor of hosting the 74th Annual **ACE Eddie Awards**, honoring the best in television and film editing for the year, where she performed the original piece, *Editor! The Musical*.

Charity is a major part of who Nina West is, and in 2012, she created **The Nina West Foundation**, which is housed at The Columbus Foundation. Throughout her career, she has worked to amplify and uplift

LGBTQIA+ voices, issues surrounding mental health, and healthcare access—and with the help of people in her hometown of Columbus, Ohio and around the world, raised over \$3 million dollars for various organizations. She has partnered with incredible organizations like **The Trevor Project, Family Equality, Bring Change 2 Mind, Kids Mental Health Foundation, Planned Parenthood, Kaleidoscope Youth Center, Sage, The Ali Fornay Center, Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS**, and many more. One of her favorite projects to date was partnering with the queen of country music, **Dolly Parton** for the “Kindness is Queen” campaign to raise money for both the **Nina West Foundation** and **Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library** in 2020.

In 2022, Nina’s first children’s book ***The You Kind of Kind*** was published to critical acclaim. It was illustrated by her friend, artist **Hayden Evans**.

In May 2024, Nina received an honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts from Columbus College of Art and Design. Andrew is a graduate of Denison University.

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CINCINNATI MEN'S CHORUS



Spencer Zembrodt

Artistic Director, Cincinnati Men's Chorus

Spencer Zembrodt is a dynamic conductor, composer, and educator, currently serving as the Artistic Director of the Cincinnati Men's Chorus. He is a passionate community builder and advocate for the arts and LGBTQ+ rights in Cincinnati and beyond.

As an active performer, Spencer has played with notable groups, including the Springfield Symphony Orchestra, the Cincinnati Boychoir, and in numerous musical theatre productions. Alongside his performing endeavors, Spencer helps train the next generation of musicians as a

piano teacher. His passion for teaching has also extended to appearances as a guest faculty member at the Universal Artists Festival and guest conductor of the Southeast Indiana Youth Orchestra.

Spencer has an extensive musical background, having held positions as Assistant Conductor for the Shippensburg Symphony Festival and the Orchard Park Symphony Orchestra. His compositions and arrangements have been performed by high school, university, community, and professional ensembles. Spencer holds bachelor's and master's degrees in music from the University of Louisville and the State University of New York at Fredonia, respectively.



Mark Johnson *Assistant Conductor, Cincinnati Men's Chorus*

Mark Johnson is a musician by vocation and avocation. He serves as a musician for Gaines United Methodist Church in Madisonville, where he was the minister of music for many years. As an avocation, Mark has sung with the Cincinnati Men's Chorus since its inaugural season and been in one of its small ensembles every year since then.

Mark was in the first class to graduate from Cincinnati's School for the Creative and Performing Arts, where he appeared in musicals and operettas. He then attended Butler University, where he sang and received a bachelor of arts in arts administration. He has sung in the May Festival Chorus. With CMC and its small ensembles, Mark has performed with

the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, the Cincinnati Pops and the May Festival Chorus. He also has appeared with CMC and its small ensembles in Berea, Ky.; Columbus; Dayton; Cleveland; Lexington, Ky.; London, Ohio; Louisville; and Indianapolis, as well as at choral music festivals in Chicago; Denver; Miami; Minneapolis; Montreal; Muncie, Ind.; and San Jose, Calif. plus the World Choir Games held here in Cincinnati.

Mark also serves as the leader of CMC's first tenor section and is a former CMC president and board member. He works as a store construction/remodeling supervisor for Kroger. He is honored to take the podium as CMC's assistant conductor.



Dasom Kwon *Principal Pianist, Cincinnati Men's Chorus*

Dr. Dasom Kwon, a native of South Korea, is a sought after pianist and collaborator. She earned her Doctor of Musical Arts degree from The Ohio State University, where she served as a Graduate Teaching Associate, receiving three consecutive Graduate Teaching Associate awards in recognition of her exceptional teaching and performances. Previously, Dr. Kwon completed dual master's degrees in piano performance and collaborative piano at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, where she was honored with the Graduate Assistantship Scholarship and the Artman Straub Scholarship.

Dr. Kwon currently works at Xavier University and Northern Kentucky University as a collaborative pianist. She has previously worked as a pianist and opera coach for the Indianapolis Opera Company; and at the Interlochen Arts Camp, inspiring emerging artists and fostering a love for music. She is delighted to serve as the pianist for the Cincinnati Men's Chorus.



Jeffrey Johnson 

Interpreter for the Deaf, Cincinnati Men's Chorus

Jeffrey Johnson brings the music of Cincinnati Men's Chorus to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing through American Sign Language and has been working as an interpreter since 1989. A nationally certified interpreter, Jeffrey holds a Bachelor of Science in Special Education-Interpreting from The University of Cincinnati and completed the TDF Interpreting for The Theatre program in NYC. He retired from HCESC as a full-time educational interpreter and currently works as a freelance interpreter.

Jeffrey's true passion is interpreting for Theatre, Music and Arts, which he has done for the past 25+ years. A few of his favorite shows: *Hair*; *RENT*; *Tick, Tick... Boom!*; *Avenue Q*; *Angels In America*; and *Corpus Christi*. He is excited to continue working with the Cincinnati Men's Chorus. Jeffrey would like to dedicate each performance to the memory of Alan Champion and Ruth Rowan, interpreters, colleagues, friends. \/, /

CLEVELAND, OHIO
NORTH COAST MEN'S CHORUS



Richard Cole

Artistic Director, North Coast Men's Chorus

Richard Cole has served as the Artistic Director for the North Coast Men's Chorus since the second half of the 1997/98 season. He joined the chorus as a singer in 1989 and got actively involved from the beginning by serving on the Board for several years. In addition to the full chorus, Rich also directs The Coastliners, NCMC's small ensemble. Rich was the Chair for the wildly successful Band and Choral events for the 2014 Gay Games hosted in Cleveland. In 2015, Rich was the recipient of an LGBT Heritage Day award by the City of Cleveland for his contributions to entertainment in the city.

NCMC has flourished under his leadership and guidance. In addition to annual increases in attendance at our concerts and growth in membership, his enthusiasm, energy and creativity have been the driving force responsible for bringing guest artists in to perform with the chorus, including Brian Stokes Mitchell, Michael Feinstein, Maureen McGovern, Leslie Jordan, Armistead Maupin and Bernadette Peters.

Rich graduated from Bowling Green State University in 1981 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in music education and frequently arranges and/or transcribes pieces of music for the Chorus.



Robert Day

Principal Accompanist, North Coast Men's Chorus

Robert Day began his tenure as NCMC's Principal Accompanist in the June 2000 "Touching Hearts, Changing Lives" concerts. Since then, he has accompanied the chorus in all concerts, NCMC benefits, at six GALA Chorus Festivals, and on their five CDs.

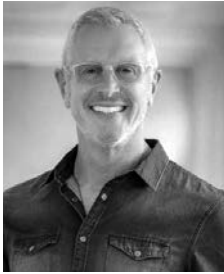
A native Clevelander, Bob holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Otterbein University, and a Master of Music degree in Organ Performance from The Ohio State University. Bob is retired from 30 years of public school teaching in choral music, but still serves as Organist at The Church of the Saviour in Cleveland Heights.



Doug Braun

ASL Interpreter, North Coast Men's Chorus

Doug Braun has been part of the NCMC since its beginning. Braun graduated from Oberlin College and received his sign language training at Cleveland State University. Braun earned his Master's Degree in Social Work in 1991. He provides in-home counseling for Cleveland elders. A ham radio operator for twenty years, he volunteers with the Amateur Radio Emergency Services.



Gregory Daniels

Choreographer, North Coast Men's Chorus

Gregory Daniels has been the head of the Dance Program at Baldwin Wallace University for 14 years. As a professional dancer, Greg has performed in regional theaters from coast to coast, in national and international tours of Broadway shows and, for nine years in the *Radio City Christmas Spectacular* in NYC. He teaches master classes across the country. His choreographic credits include *Anything Goes*, starring Tony Award nominated Dee Hoty; the world premiere of a new musical, *My Own Song* (Flatrock Playhouse, NC), starring Clint Holmes; and *Putting it Together* (Syracuse Stage), starring Tony Award winners Lillias White and

Chuck Cooper. Other shows, to name a few, include *Cabaret*, *Les Miserables*, *The Secret Garden* and *Forever Plaid* (Idaho Shakespeare Festival and Great Lakes Theater), *Dreamgirls* and *Smokey Joe's Cafe* (Cain Park), and the regional premiere of *Spring Awakening*, *Carrie: the musical* and *Once* (Beck Center for the Arts). Greg also had the rare honor of creating an original number for the World Famous Rockettes at New York's famed Radio City Music Hall for the Commerce Bank WOW Awards. For Baldwin Wallace University, he has choreographed such shows as *Rent*, *La Bohème*, *Lizzie: The Musical*, *Follies*, *A Chorus Line*, the academic premiere of *Kinky Boots* and the first academic production of *Spring Awakening* that streamed around the world, including an encore weekend because of the demand. Awards include 2012 and 2014 Cleveland Critics Circle Award for Best Choreographer for the regional premiere of *Spring Awakening* and *Carrie*, and 2012 and 2014 Broadwayworld.com Cleveland Award for Best Choreography for *Sondheim on Sondheim*, *Carrie* and *Les Miserables*. He is a member of Actors' Equity Association and Stage Directors and Choreographers Union. Please visit gregorydaniels.net

DAYTON, OHIO

DAYTON GAY MEN'S CHORUS



Kathy Clark

Artistic Director, Dayton Gay Men's Chorus

After receiving a Bachelor's in Music Ed from Ohio University, and an MM from WSU, Kathy Clark went on to become the Vocal Music Director at Centerville HS for 26 years. While there, she taught a diverse music curriculum and worked with a wide variety of vocal groups who have traveled all over the country. Kathy has been seen in many productions around Dayton including The Human Race production of *Baby, Beehive*, and *Macabaret*, as well as Dayton Opera productions of *Carmen*, *La Boheme*, and *The Pirates of Penzance*. Kathy has performed her cabaret show to sell out audiences from which 2 live recordings have been produced, along with an album of original songs, entitled "You Are

My Friend." Kathy has worked along side great song stylists like Margaret Whiting, Julie Wilson, and Sally Mays to name a few.



Raymonde Rougier

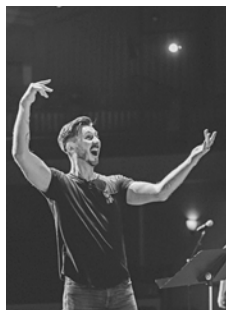
Accompanist, Dayton Gay Men's Chorus

Raymonde Rougier graduated from Eastern Kentucky University; came home and taught music in the Kettering Schools for 30 years. She retired in 2000. Since retiring, she has filled her time with all sorts of musical activities in the Dayton area. She accompanied the Dayton Liederkrantz chorus for 18 years, has played for several area high school choirs and high school musical productions. She has played piano and organ in church and directed choirs in Beavercreek for 25 years. She accumulated almost 5000 hours of volunteer time for the City of Kettering volunteer program, directing the Kettering Senior Show Choir and the Joyful Musicians for the Lathrem Center in Kettering. She accumulated over 5000 hours at

Woodland Altars and the Southern Ohio Outdoor Ministries program, directing a summer musical for teenagers for 26 years. She currently serves in an adjunct pianist position at Wright State University. She is part of two Halls of Fame for the Kettering Schools: the general hall of fame and the inaugural 2021 Performing Arts Hall of Fame. She has accompanied the DGMC for 20 years and loves every minute of it.

COLUMBUS, OHIO

COLUMBUS GAY MEN'S CHORUS



Jared Brayton Bollenbacher, MM, MSW, LICSW (he/him/his) ***Artistic Director***

After leaving his dairy farm upbringing in his home state of Indiana, Brayton received a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from The Ohio State University in 2006 and a Bachelor of Arts in sexualities studies in 2007, completing a thesis on How Gay Male Bias Influences the Gender Performance of Drag Queens in and out of Drag. After spending six amazing years in Columbus, Brayton completed his Master of Social Work at the University of Washington in Seattle in 2010, and received his Licensed Independent Clinical Social Work credentials in 2014.

After graduating in 2010, Brayton spent six years as the artistic director of Diverse Harmony, the nation's first queer straight alliance youth chorus, and Diverse Harmony's small a cappella ensemble Spectrum. Brayton left Seattle in 2017 to become the artistic director of Reveille Men's Chorus and Desert Voices Chorus in Tucson, AZ. Brayton completed his Master of Choral Conducting in 2020 from the University of Arizona. In 2022, Brayton spent six months as interim with NYCGMC in order to get the organization back on their feet during a difficult time. Brayton is very focused on community choral organizations. In 2019 he served on the board of the Arizona ACDA and is currently in his fourth year on the board for GALA Choruses and serves as the committee chair for the Member and Education and Networking committee. Brayton is also currently serving as an adjunct professor in the School of Social Work at The Ohio State University. Brayton is honored and thankful to be in Columbus with CGMC as their artistic director. Being able to lead the innovative, resilient gem of GALA Choruses in the heart of the Midwest is a dream come true – especially as CGMC has been selected to perform at the Ohio Music Education Association conference in Columbus in 2024. Brayton loves that the chorus continues raising voices and changing lives and is excited for what the future holds!



Jordan Saul (she/her/hers)
Illuminati/Assistant Director

Conductor, educator and mezzo-soprano Jordan Saul demonstrates compassionate rigor and social relevance in teaching and engaged programming in performance. As a conductor, Saul emphasizes musical and personal skill building through programming by prioritizing historically underrepresented voices. An advocate of new music, Saul develops performance opportunities for student composers, and magnifies works by women and women of color. Collaborating with artists of diverse media and experience provides rich opportunity for meaningful, lasting impact. Saul has produced programs with the Spelman Glee club, composer B. E. Boykin, former papal organist Sandor Kadar, the band Delta Rae,

Project Runway All-Stars alumna Valerie Mayen, and many community and business partners. She teaches clinics, master classes and honor choirs throughout the United States.

As a mezzo-soprano, Saul has been privileged to sing under the batons of Alan Gilbert, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Daniel Barenboim, Gustavo Dudamel, Esa-Pekka Solonen and Simon Rattle. Such musical perspectives honed in Saul the unwavering belief that pathways to mountaintop musical experiences ought not be reserved for a few, but made accessible to larger communities of people.

At The Ohio State University, she serves as professor of practice for Choral Music Education, conducts the Women's Glee Club, Lab Choir, and advises student organizations and student teachers. Prior to joining the Ohio State School of Music faculty, she was associate director of choral activities and professor of music education at the Conservatory of Music at Baldwin Wallace University. Saul holds degrees from the University of Arizona and Westminster Choir College.



Nathan Hamm (he/him/his)
Principal Accompanist

Nathan Hamm enjoys being the principal accompanist for CGMC for over 20 years. He received the Bachelor of Music for Piano Performance at The Ohio State University in 1995. Since then the main practice of his trade has been as a choir accompanist. He has worked with The Dublin Singers, The Delaware Chorus, and high school choral programs of Westland, Westerville, Olentangy and Central Crossing high schools. He's been enjoying positions as church pianist for the North Unitarian Universalist Congregation, and currently at the First Unitarian Universalist Church, where along with services, he has performed several chamber music and solo recitals.



Gabriel Gonzales (he/they)
The Columbus Queerscendos/Assistant Director


Gabriel Gonzales serves as the Assistant Artistic Director for CGMC's new Youth Ensemble. Gabriel (he/they) was born and raised in Xenia, Ohio. He moved to Columbus to attend The Ohio State University, where he pursued a degree in music education with a focus in voice. Additionally, he serves as an elementary school teacher in Hilliard Schools. His CGMC journey began as our Choral Intern in January 2021, where he also became a singing member, and this season also joined our auditioned ensemble, Vox.



Eliza van Kan (she/her/hers)
The Columbus Queerscendos Accompanist


Eliza van Kan is honored to accompany CGMC's Youth Ensemble. She received the Bachelor of Science in Music Education from Towson University, Maryland, and a Master of Music in Music Education from the University of Florida. In her home state, Maryland, she has collaborated with instrumental soloists, choirs, and community theater productions around Baltimore. After moving to Japan in 2017, she taught K-8 music at international schools in Tokyo and performed with the Tokyo International Players as a pianist, music director, and occasional cast member. Now back in the U.S., she teaches elementary music in central Ohio and accompanies the Allegretto and Vivace choirs of the Columbus Children's Choir.



Gloria Pappaterra (she/her/hers) 
ASL Interpreter

Hello! I am Gloria Pappaterra and I am a staff interpreter for Heritage Interpreting. I am Dayton born and bred, and live with my mom and my sister and our sweet Jack Russell terrier Rio. When I'm not working, you'll catch me listening to an audiobook or walking around outside.



Alli Kisker (she, they, them) 
ASL Interpreter

Alli Kisker is an American Sign Language Interpreter originally from Lancaster, Ohio. She serves as the ASL interpreter for Deaf Faculty at Ohio University. In her free time, Alli enjoys traveling, attending and interpreting music festivals, spending time with family, and being outdoors.



Bruce Reedy (he/him/his)
Production Manager

Bruce Reedy is a sound design technician. He has produced sound and video for the Short North Stage, MadLab Theater, and for CGMC for many years. Other credits include set design, lighting design, videography, video editing and productions for The 48 Hour Film Project. Bruce served on the production team and as the technical director for the GCMC performance of the locally written musical essay *FINDING OZ* performed at the Gala international Music Festival in Denver.



Shelly Riggs (she/her/hers)
Set and Lighting Designer

Shelly Riggs is a retired educator with 34 years of experience teaching high school and middle school theatre and science. She graduated twice from The Ohio State University, earning her Bachelor of Science in science education and her Master of Arts in theatre education. Shelly has been with CGMC for just over a year, singing lower Tenor 1. In her free time, she loves kayaking, hiking, reading, Crossfit, and hanging out with her rescue pup. In retirement she hopes to continue to pursue theatrical and musical endeavors, and continue to fight for lived and legal equality for all people.

CGMC STAFF



Donovan Jones (he/him/his)
Executive Director

Donovan Jones is a non-profit leader whose career spans the arts administration, public health and LGBTQ+ communities. He is proud to be serving as Executive Director for the Columbus Gay Men's Chorus, a role to which he brings over a decade of experience in government and non-profit leadership. Donovan graduated from the University of California, Riverside with a Master's Degree in Musicology, followed by a Master's Degree in Global Public Health from New York University. Previously, he served as the New York City Director of Jurisdictional H.I.V. Testing Initiatives and designed a coalition that strengthened ties between the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the New York community in all five boroughs, as well as the Hepatitis C Program Manager in Seattle/King County where he ran their Hepatitis C

Treatment and Surveillance programs. He previously sang with the NYC Gay Men's Chorus (where he served on the Board as Treasurer and Chair), with the Philadelphia Gay Men's Chorus and with the Columbus Gay Men's Chorus and Illuminati.



Lana Moy (she/her/hers)
Director of Administration

Lana is thrilled to have joined the Columbus Gay Men's Chorus in December of 2022. She brings a decade of experience in producing and performing live entertainment with the award winning troupe she founded. Though she won't be joining the chorus onstage, she will be tending to everything behind the scenes in support of this amazing organization.

FROM THE CGMC BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Joseph Olson (he/him/his)
Higher Baritone; President, Board of Directors

Joseph is honored to serve as President of the Board of Directors for CGMC. He is proud to be a BIPOC leader as well as becoming the FIRST Asian Board Chair during CGMC's 35th season! Born in the Philippines, Joseph's journey has taken him to live in Spain at age 10 and Germany at age 12 - where he graduated high school. He attended Department of Defense Education Activity schools from 3rd through 12th grade. In 1999, he moved to the U.S. for the first time as he relocated to Boulder, CO. Two weeks later, he embarked on a 20-year career with Starbucks Coffee Company. He worked his way up from Barista to General Store Manager (transferring from CO to CA, NY, & OH), developing leadership, management, & human resources savvy along the way. After a gap 'decade'

Joseph moved to San Francisco, CA to attend Academy of Art University where he earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting. He moved to Columbus, OH in 2014 with Seth Olson, his best friend since 2007 (and now husband). In 2020 they founded SOJO Real Estate Group which they co-own to this day. Their family was completed in December 2021 when Alleigh and Abby, their two strong and smart daughters (then ages 5 and 2) became their forever daughters! Joseph joined CGMC in January 2022, receiving the Newcomer Award after his first season. The next year, he was presented the Golden Pump Award - acknowledged for his portrayal of "Dal," a sassy server during CGMC's TALES OF OUR AGE shows. His leadership grew as he stepped in as Board Vice President in July 2023. A year later, he was unanimously voted on as President by 130+ CGMC members! Joseph is passionate about community, championing diversity and inclusivity, while ensuring CGMC continues to thrive as a safe space for voices to be raised and lives to be changed.



Grayson Feeman (he/she/they)
Higher Second Tenor; Membership Director, Board of Directors

Grayson Feeman is the newly welcomed Membership Director for the Columbus Gay Men's Chorus. As a young theater fan, they had an affinity for musical expression and building strong coalitions of friends. After graduating from The Ohio State University at the height of the pandemic in 2020, Grayson transitioned into a career in the nonprofit sector. Serving their community has been a lifelong passion, and the recent induction into their new role has been enriching for them. Grayson believes in the radical power of being unapologetically authentic, unabashedly queer, and unwaveringly optimistic, and hopes to instill queer joy across all of CGMC and its supporters.

GALA
CHORUSES

CGMC AND COLUMBUS ARE PROUD TO HOST!
LEADERSHIP FEBRUARY COLUMBUS
SYMPOSIUM 12-15, 2026 OHIO

GALA's Leadership Symposium offers an opportunity for leaders of GALA member choruses to meet one another, attend workshops, network, learn about ways to engage with schools in your community, and to pick up resources for building successful choruses. We'll share our success stories, learn from our collective mistakes, and have a great time in beautiful Columbus, Ohio! It's a fantastic opportunity to meet peers, and we'll have special intensive workshops for new GALA chorus ADs, new chorus board members, and chorus managers.

In addition to a full slate of workshops and seminars, there will be plenty of open-agenda time to discuss the particular issues with which your chorus might be struggling. We'll have round-table discussions, one-on-one consultations with GALA 411 Advisors, and social gatherings.





Tenor 1

Damon Babbage
James T. Brand
Larry Bennett
Thomas Hedger
Ransom Hudson*
Chris Janzen
M. Wesley Johnson#
Derek Nolte
Kamar Roland
Andrew Van Dyke
Ed Wooten

Tenor 2

Robert Agle
Jeromy Cannon
Dan Dery
Ryan Dittmer
Tim Doyle
Lincon Gold
Chip Grant
Roger Miller**
Dylan Neu
Logan Schafer-Bickett
Herbert Zeman

Baritone

Stephen Jibri Brown*
Michael Butler
Bryan Foltz
Chad Freeman
Nathan Hess
Michael Hoffman
Brian Honnell
Kevin Lucas
Bill Mudd
James Muhlenkamp
Keith Parker
Paul Perry
Bruce Preston
Garrett Spritzer#
James Wolfe
Colin Yousif-Kelley

Bass

Tony Brown
Tim Butz
Rick Chizmadia
Lonnie Clemmons
Matthew Hawkins
Michael Head
Joel Lam
Matt McFee*
George Sarofoon
Will Selnick
Mark Wert#

*Section Manager
#Section Leader

Brandon Bauer (he/him)
Shawn Belt (he/him)
Ryan Benson (he/him)
Peter Bobkowski (he/him)
Kevyn Breedon (he/him)
Donald Butchko (he/him)
Leonard Carle (he/him)
Patrick Carpenter (he/him)
Ted Daisher (he/him)
Ralph DiLudovico (he/him)
Sam Draper (he/him)
James A. Easterday (he/him)
Spencer Eaves (he/him)
Christopher Elkins (he/him)
Daniel Evans (he/him)
Don Ferencz (he/him)
Bryan K. Fetty (he/him)
Fallon William Forbush (he/him)
Tom Fortuna
Glenn Russell Gast (he/him)
Hunter Grimes (he/him)
Daniel J. Hill (he/him)
Brian Hopkins
Cory Ignecci (he/him)
Benjamin Johns (he/him)
Don King
Charlie Koenig (she/her)
Brandon Krapes (they/them)

Jeffrey Lamkin
Barry Lien (he/him)
Mark P. Malloy (he/him)
Earl Melvin
Todd Narvin (he/him)
Jacob Nash (he/him)
Chuck Nusbaum (he/him)
Steven R. Pastor
Ángel Placeres (he/him)
Fritz Polosky
Allen Ruffner (he/him)
Rob Schultz
Daniel Shroyer
Adam Smith (he/him)
CJ Smith (she/they)
Adam Stobinski
Guy Thellian (he/him)
Bruce Tillberg (he/him)
Cody Tudor (he/him)
Eric Alan Unhold
Randy Webb (he/him)
Jehlani Z. White (he/him)
Jonathan Williams (he/him)
Patrick Wilson
Steve Wojtas
Andrew Zupcsan (he/him)

Tenor 1

Craig Cousino
Kevin Craig
Marc Driscoll
Price Dunlap
Eddy Hooper
Mark Kennedy
Charles Lain
Wyatt Linder
Michael Shannon
Brad Sharp
Patrick Thoma
Michael Weaver
Gabriel Wysong

Tenor 2

Edward Brown-Kennedy
Landon Drumm
Andy Drummond
Matt Gillman
Chris Hennessey
Michael Heston
Aaron Horton
Drew Huggins
Michael Markeson
Rodney Player
Fred Poland
Kevin Snow
Tim Wilson

Baritone

Justin Alexander
Matthew Bone
John Carter
William Coleman
Tony Heston
Joe Law
Scott Main
Jeff McKinney
Hayden Oatney
Chris Perry
Jeffrey Sypeck
Brian Tombow
Garrett Wiedersprecher
Tony Wooten
Chuck Zimmerman

Bass

Daniel Brewer
A.J. Busé
Ray Gabbard
Jake Leiter
Jason Ross
Noah Sharp

ACT I



CINCINNATI MEN'S CHORUS

Color Out of Colorado Music and Lyrics by Dick Gallagher, Mark Waldrop
Arranged by Larry Moore

Soloists: Garrett Spritzer, Lincon Gold

All of Me Music and Lyrics by Kyle Pederson

Louder than Words Music and Lyrics by Jonathan Larson
Arranged by Steve Milloy



THE COLUMBUS QUEERSCENDOS - CGMC'S YOUTH ENSEMBLE

Popular Music and Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz
Arranged by Audrey Snyder

Soloist: Minaugh Sheets



NORTH COAST MEN'S CHORUS

Medley: Get Back–Revolution– Music and Lyrics by John Lennon & Paul McCartney
I Want To Hold Your Hand–
Back in the USSR Arranged by Kevin Robison

Hey Jude Music and Lyrics by John Lennon & Paul McCartney
Arranged by Kevin Robison

Soloist: Bryan K Fetty

Golden Slumbers/Carry That Weight Music and Lyrics by John Lennon & Paul McCartney
Arranged by Chad Weirick

Soloist: Cody Tudor

A Hard Day's Night Music and Lyrics by John Lennon & Paul McCartney
Arranged by Kevin Robison

Let It Be Music and Lyrics by John Lennon & Paul McCartney
Arranged by Chad Weirick

Intermission

CINCINNATI
MEN'S CHORUS

NORTH COAST
MEN'S CHORUS

DAYTON
GAY MEN'S
CHORUS

COLUMBUS GAY MEN'S CHORUS
THE COLUMBUS QUEERSCENDOS

March 22, 2024 | Riffe Center | Davidson Theatre

ACT 2



DAYTON GAY MEN'S CHORUS

- Mission Anthem* Music by Kathy Clark, Lyrics are the
Dayton Gay Men's Chorus Mission Statement
- What The World Needs Now* Music and Lyrics by Hal David, Burt Bacharach
Arranged by Kathy Clark
- I'm The Only One* Music and Lyrics by Melissa Etheridge
Arranged by Kathy Clark
- Put A Little Love in Your Heart/
Love Train* Music and Lyrics by Kenny Gamble, Leon Huff
Arranged by Greg Gilpin



COLUMBUS GAY MEN'S CHORUS

- They Don't Care About Us* Music and Lyrics by Michael Jackson
Arranged by Mike Bierschenk
- Many Moons* Music and Lyrics by Nathaniel Irvin III,
Charles Joseph II, and Janelle Monáe Robinson
Arranged by Pax Ressler
- Easy on Me* Music and Lyrics by Adele and Greg Kurstin
Arranged by Michelle Horsley
Soloist: Delaney-Rose Ramsey
- Move On* Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim
Arranged by Pax Ressler
- People Like Us* Music and Lyrics by
Meghan Katie, James Michael, Blair Daly
Arranged by Pax Ressler



CINCINNATI MEN'S CHORUS + DAYTON GAY MEN'S CHORUS + NORTH COAST MEN'S CHORUS + COLUMBUS GAY MEN'S CHORUS

- Sheridan Square* Music and Lyrics by Howard Ashman
Arranged by Chad Weirick
Soloist: Nina West



Tenor 1

Tim Allemang (he/him/his)
Aubrey Anderson (she/her/hers)
Chuck Aubrey (he/him/his)
Jan Avende (they/them/theirs)
Jenn Bailey (she/her/hers)
DJ Barks^V (he/him/his)
Steven Barros^V (he/him/his)
Bee Brunner (they/them/theirs)
Meagan Christie (she/her/hers)
Kimbra Clifford (she/her/hers)
Jenna Clum (she/they)
Mars Corvidae (they/them/theirs)
Alex Dennie (she/her/hers)
David Donofrio (he/him/his)
Molly Flanagan (she/her/hers)
Meryl Fowler (she/her/hers)
Connie Gadell-Newton (she/they)
Rebecca Glowinski (she/her/hers)
Eva Goubeaux (she/her/hers)
Jiwon Han^{SL} (she/her/hers)
Erica Harvey (she/her/hers)
Shanna Harvey (she/they)
Lyn Herron (she/her/hers)
Krystal Jackowiak-Mitchell (she/her/hers)
Becca Jacobs (she/her/hers)
Kelly Koolhoven (she/her/hers)
John Luidhardt (he/him/his)
Joey Lyons (they/them/theirs)
Rosemary Marston (she/her/hers)
Carolyn McClintock (she/her/hers)
Hayley Perrault^V (she/her/hers)

Chelsea Pratt^V (she/her/hers)
Delaney-Rose Ramsey (they/them/theirs)
Kevin Rapuano (he/him/his)
Shelly Riggs (she/her/hers)
Marie Rineveld (she/her/hers)
Chris Robbins^{SL} (she/her/hers)
Sarah Sizemore^V (they/them/theirs)
Allison Smith^V (she/her/hers)
Tessa Smith (she/her/hers)
Sarah Spalding^V (she/her/hers)
Abby Storms (they/them/theirs)
Elisabeth Tate (she/her/hers)
Erin Tatum (she/her/hers)
Becky Turner (she/her/hers)
Eliza van Kan (she/her/hers)
Jude Virostko (she/her/hers)
Jessica Waizmann (she/her/hers)
Susie Williams-Yeager (she/her/hers)
Ollie Woodruff (they/them/theirs)

Tenor 2

Christopher Ayoub (he/him/his)
Sean Boley^{SL, V} (he/him/his)
Adam Brenner (he/him/his)
Larry Collins (he/him/his)
Conor Day^V (he/him/his)
Matt Eisert (he/him/his)
Grayson Feeman (he/they/she)
Chriss Ferguson (he/him/his)
Gabriel Gonzales^V (he/they)
Chip Gue (he/him/his)
Terry Hennessy (he/him/his)
Hayden Hill (he/him/his)
Colton Hutton (he/him/his)
Bradley Ike (he/him/his)

Kou Jacobs (they/them/theirs)
David Jenkins (he/him/his)
Kyle Krygielski (he/him/his)
Michael Luy (he/him/his)
Mindy Marfurt (she/her/hers)
Mitch Mathias (he/him/his)
Linda McClintock (she/her/hers)
Joshua McKinney (he/him/his)
Alex McVay (he/him/his)
Mark Mitchell (he/him/his)
Ken Moon (he/him/his)
Nick Navaratnam^{SL, V} (he/him/his)
Richard Newcome (he/him/his)
Joel Pantuso-Iwaskewycz (they/he/she/xe)
Sydney Pickett (she/they)
Evan Rye (he/him/his)
Brody Shoemaker (he/him/his)
Deborah Swayne (she/her/hers)
Casey Wood^V (he/him/his)
Benjamin Wright (he/him/his)
Jared Young^V (he/him/his)

Baritone

Deon Alexander^V (he/him/his)
Alex Almeida (he/him/his)
Khalid Bates (he/him/his)
Mike Bierschenk^V (he/him/his)
Justin Blaylock^{SL, V} (he/him/his)
Michael Boggs (he/him/his)
Archie Brennick (he/him/his)
Jared Brown (he/him/his)
Jesse Burns (he/him/his)
Gale Callaghan (he/him/his)
Neal Coryell (he/him/his)
Mark Crist (he/him/his)
Jesse Cunningham^V (he/him/his)

Martin Dean^{SL} (he/him/his)
Amir Feinberg (they/them/theirs)
Christos Fouras (he/him/his)
Matthew Fox (he/him/his)
Noah Friedman (he/him/his)
Ray Guida (he/him/his)
AJ Harvey (she/they)
Luke Kollin (he/him/his)
Eli Leslie (he/they)
Brandon Lopez Weltz (he/him/his)
Joseph Metcalf (they/them/theirs)
Joseph Olson (he/him/his)
Seth Olson (he/him/his)
Brian Reynolds^V (he/him/his)
Michael Schecter (he/him/his)
Jered Shaffer^V (he/him/his)
Ty Shahan (he/him/his)
James D. Smith (he/him/his)
Bill Wright (he/him/his)
River Yocum (he/him/his)

Bass

Dean Allemang (he/him/his)
Robert Bohman^{SL}
(they/them/theirs)
Kris Boyd (he/him/his)
Craig Brandenburg^V (he/him/his)
Matthew Connors (he/him/his)
Juni DeYoung (they/them/theirs)
Steve Frye (he/him/his)
David Hayes^V (he/him/his)
Lucas Hess^{SL, V} (he/him/his)
Jack Hughes^V (he/him/his)
Monty Hujar (he/him/his)
Scott Kustis (he/him/his)
Jay Mantle (he/they)
Will McFarland (they/them/theirs)

Evan Mitchell (he/him/his)
Quinton Oliver (he/him/his)
Sloane Perrault^V (she/her/hers)
Robert Pickard (he/him/his)
William Ryan (he/him/his)
Tyree Sanders (he/they)
Geoff Smith^V (he/him/his)
John Sullivan (he/him/his)
Jason Tatterson (he/him/his)
Clark Tieman (he/him/his)
Dalton Tom (he/him/his)
Matt Vant (he/him/his)
Zachary Vaughan (he/him/his)
Petr Vorobev (he/him/his)

V - Vox

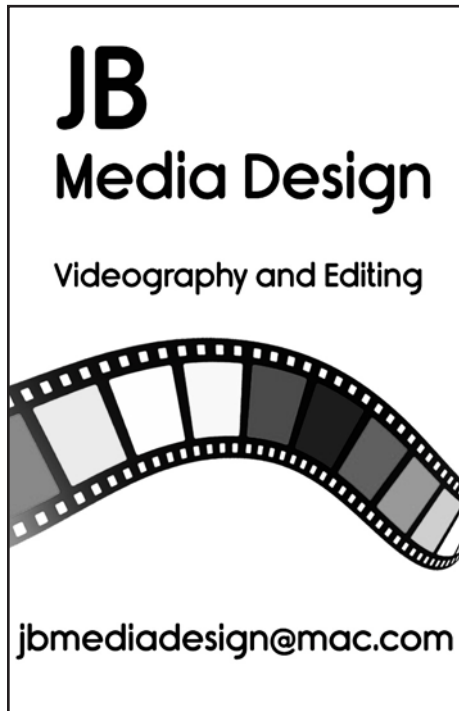
SL - Section Manager

The Columbus Queerscendos

Meg Y. (she/her)
Lexi Stoots (she/her/hers)
Minaugh Sheets (she/her/hers)
Skye Sampsel (they/them)
Lilyanna Smith (he/she)

5th Section

Lana Moy (she/her/hers)
Shelly Haynes (she/her/hers)
Tom Gilotte, Sr. (he/him/his)
Meredith Mendoza-Gillotte
(she/her/ella)
Greg Christie (he/him/his)
Samuel Richards (he/him/his)
Joel Pantuso-Iwaskewycz (any)





CGMC Choral Conducting Intern Program

At CGMC, we are dedicated to helping new musicians find experience in their choral careers. In 2022, we started our choral conducting intern program where we bring in a University student to sing with the chorus for a concert cycle and teach the singers a song. At the performance, the intern gets to conduct the song in front of our audience. During the time, the student gets an archival conducting video from the concert, weekly rehearsal video footage and feedback from our Artistic Director, and priceless time on the podium.

If you are a music student interested in this program, please contact brayton@cgmc.com

CGMC choral conducting interns Adelaide Kawakami and Christopher Ford.



Hannah Botkin-Doty Esq.

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Want to join our amazing family and sing with us for *35-n-Thrivin'*? We would love to have you!



Performance Date: June 28 & 29 | Riffe Center Davidson Theatre

Sunday, March 30
6-9 p.m. / Ohio Theatre

Sign-ups can be found
at SignUpGenius.com

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Barbara Wooldridge
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Benjamin Wright
Bill Blackhall
Bill Ruffner

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James Ferguson
James Smith
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Jason Tatterson
Jay Mantle
Jean Callum
Jeanene Goodman
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Karen Ladina

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Kevin Barrett

Kimbra Clifford

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Leslie Waizmann

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Lowell Headley

Luke Hess

Manjari Edwards

Marivale Suson

Mark Beach

Mark Pohlman and
Doug O'Neal

Mark Yerman

Mary McGavick

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Meagan Christie

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