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June 14, 2015
Symphony Hall

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Craig Coogan, Executive Director
Chad Weirick, Principal Accompanist and Assistant Music Director
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Harold Arlen, Rodgers and Hammerstein, Kander and Ebb, Stephen Sondheim - just thinking of the wonderful music created by these iconic American composers makes me break into a big smile! Today we are going to take a tour through some of the best American Music Theater and Pop has to offer - everything from show tunes to Madonna - and later this week we will take that music to the Middle East to share with the people of Israel and Turkey!

Sometimes it is the tune that hits you and makes you smile. Sometimes, though, it is the words and the story. In 1978 Gretchen Cryer and Nancy Ford put their heads together and came up with *I’m Getting My Act Together and Taking It on the Road*. In the show, when manager Joe Epstein returns from a trip and finds his star Heather Jones on stage at a nightclub singing her own songs about the emancipation of women, all kinds of questions are asked about what it means to find the person you really are rather that the person society thinks you should be. It is a question many of us struggle with today.

We are ecstatic to have with us today the wonderful Laura Benanti! The Tony Award winning actress seems to be everywhere lately. Seen last year on the NBC broadcast of *The Sound of Music Live*, she returns to Broadway this fall in the revival of *She Loves Me!* This fall look for her on CBS’s *Supergirl*, one of the most anticipated new shows. A few weeks ago she hosted the Drama Desk Awards and today she is here in Symphony Hall with the Boston Gay Men’s Chorus!

Sit back, enjoy your friends and enjoy the glorious music. I promise you this - you will leave with a smile on your face!

Reuben Reynolds, Music Director

---

Reuben M. Reynolds III has been the Music Director of the BGMC since 1997. After earning undergraduate degrees in both economics and music, Mr. Reynolds received his Master of Music degree from Louisiana State University where he was teaching assistant to Metropolitan Opera soprano Martina Arroyo, and was on the conducting staff of the Baton Rouge Lyric Opera. In Kansas City, Mr. Reynolds served as Music Director of the Heartland Men’s Chorus from 1989 to 1998 and was also Conductor of the Philharmonia of Kansas City and the Kansas City Civic Opera Theatre. In the summer of 1994, Mr. Reynolds made his European debut conducting the Bohuslav Martinu Philharmonic Orchestra and the Beethoven Chamber Orchestra of Ostrava, Czech Republic. He returned to the Czech Republic to conduct the West Bohemia Symphony Orchestra in 1995. Reuben spent the summer of 1998 in St. Petersburg, Russia, conducting the Hermitage Camerata in the Catherine the Great Theatre. Mr. Reynolds has commissioned more than 20 major pieces and hundreds of arrangements in his career. The Boston Globe describes his conducting as “expert and idiomatic.”
Welcome! We’re so happy to have you at today’s performance and we are thrilled to return to Symphony Hall - it’s a glorious space.

Music reflects and expresses our emotions. It is part of the fabric of our lives from infancy to old age. Whether we’re being lulled to sleep as babies or serenaded with a romantic interlude or having a solemn remembrance of a loved one, music expresses feelings in ways that transcend barriers and cultural divides. It’s natural then to use music in bridging differences and creating social change. The BGMC does that in incredible ways here in Boston and in the weeks to come during our historic Middle East Tour. But first, music that makes us SMILE!

Your support makes our work possible. We create musical experiences to inspire change, build community and celebrate difference. Talk to your friends about us. Bring them to an event. Follow us on Twitter. Like us on Facebook. We’re even on Instagram! Download our app. Make sure you are on the mailing list and the email list. Volunteer. Audition. And, of course, donations are always welcome. Individual contributions fill the gap between institutional giving and ticket sales, which is less than half of BGMC’s income.

We are able to make an impact in the community thanks to the talents of hundreds of singers and volunteers. We especially thank our foundation and corporate sponsors for their ongoing support: Bank of America, Jet Blue and IVF New England.

Thank you for being part of the BGMC family - now Smile!

Craig Coogan, Executive Director

Craig Coogan joined BGMC as Executive Director in October 2012. He is an expert in developing strategies and programs to help GLBTA and other nonprofit organizations achieve their operational and artistic goals. Craig brings experience in both the for-profit and non-profit arenas. He previously served as Executive Director for One Voice Mixed Chorus in St. Paul, Minnesota and was a founding board member and served for ten years as Treasurer of the acclaimed Women’s choral group Vox Femina Los Angeles. He has produced independent movies and several award-winning documentaries and acclaimed original plays. He is a graduate of Syracuse University.
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CHAD WEIRICK, Principal Accompanist & Assistant Music Director

A native of Rockford, Illinois, Chad graduated high school at the age of 15 and moved to New York City. There, he became the organist for Radio City Music Hall and rehearsal pianist for the Rockettes, a position that earned him a listing in “Ripley’s Believe It Or Not!” as the youngest musician to ever work full time on Broadway. He also was the pianist for various Broadway shows including “A Chorus Line”, “Shenandoah” and “The Act”. Subsequently he moved to Boston to attend the New England Conservatory of Music, where he received a Masters Degree in Composition under Malcolm Peyton. He also worked as music director for Marriott’s Great America theme park in Gurnee, Illinois.

Chad’s numerous choral arrangements have been performed and recorded not only by the BGMC, but many other choruses nationally and internationally. Currently he works in the choral department of Wellesley High School and is the Minister of Music at the First Congregational Church in Hanover, Massachusetts. In addition to his music credits, he is most proud of being a registered black belt in Tae Kwon Do. Chad thanks his partner David Slaga for his support, friendship and love.

Chad has been the Principal Accompanist & Assistant Music Director since 1993 and serves Assistant Choral Director and Accompanist at Wellesley High School.

LEWANA CLARK, American Sign Language Interpreter

LeWana Clark has a unique style of interpreting that incorporates not only the lyrics that are sung but also the tone and musical qualities of the melody. Since becoming nationally certified as an ASL/English Interpreter in 1979, she continues to provide ASL communication services for deaf, hard of hearing, and non-deaf consumers in Boston, across the Commonwealth, nationally and internationally. Although she spends most of her time working in court or in other legal settings, she’s also qualified to interpret in medical, mental health, governmental, educational and theatrical/performing arts settings.

Lewana has been the American Sign Language Interpreter for the BGMC since 1989.
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MICHELLE CHASSÉ, Stage Director & Choreographer

Michelle Chassé trained with the Boston Ballet School and Maestro Vincenzo Celli, and was on scholarship at the School of American Ballet. She graduated cum laude with a BFA in Dance Performance from the Boston Conservatory, where she was the first recipient of the prestigious Ruth Sandholm Ambrose Award, and later received the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award.

Chassé has choreographed numerous productions for the esteemed musical theater program at The Boston Conservatory. She directed and choreographed On the Town in October, 2014. She received nominations for Best Choreography for the Barnstormers Theatre production of Babes In Arms and the Central Square Theater original production of Car Talk: The Musical!!!; her work on Le Cabaret Grimm, featured in the 2012 New York Musical Theatre Festival, earned her an Honorable Mention at that festival’s awards ceremony. Chassé’s continued choreography and stage direction for such internationally acclaimed ensembles as Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops Orchestra and the Boston Gay Men’s Chorus have received numerous accolades from audiences and critics alike.
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The Boston Gay Men’s Chorus is one of New England’s largest and most successful community-based choruses. Founded in 1982, the 175-voice ensemble is celebrated for its outstanding musicianship, creative programming, and groundbreaking community outreach. Under the dynamic leadership of Music Director Reuben M. Reynolds III, the BGMC sings a wide spectrum of classical and popular music and creates social change by providing a positive, affirming image of the gay and lesbian community. The Chorus is heard live by more than 10,000 people each season and thousands more through recordings, television and internet broadcasts. CBS-WBZ recently named The Boston Gay Men’s Chorus one of the “top 5” choruses in the city of Boston. bgmc.org

PURPOSE
To inspire

MISSION
The Boston Gay Men’s Chorus creates musical experiences to inspire change, build community and celebrate difference.

CORE VALUES
• We’re a family with a tradition of excellence
• We provide a safe and welcoming community to be ourselves
• We make music that makes us and our audiences proud
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Michael Nuss
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Kevin D. Rice
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Anand Sitaram

**Tenor 2**
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Keith Bell
Andrew James Birr
David M. Brillhart
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Brett Masami Chin
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**Marcel D’Anjou**
Lucas De BuenosAires
Alverson de Souza
Guy DeAngelis
Earl E. Dimaculangan
Joseph Feinstein
William Ford
Jim Freiman-Polli
Alex Kapitan
Paul Joseph Keaney
Michael J. Leclerc*
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Dana Albertelli
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John N. Beaudreau
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- Paul Carreiro
- Richard Cavallaro
- Paul Cernota
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- Jerry Day
- Ross W. Dekle
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- Thomas Dudley
- Neil E. Dugas
- Robert G. Finkenaur
- Charles Fortunato
- Joel E. Friedman
- Thomas Galluzzo
- Samuel Glyd
- Ken Golner
- Ali R. Halloumi
- David W. Ham
- Joseph Andrew Hanak
- David Hinterman
- Dennis J. Hoare-Travaglini*
- Bryan Hughes*
- Steve Jewett
- Jermaine Joynes
- George Alexander King Jr.
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- Dan Mooney
- Jeff Morrissey
- Russell Ormiston
- Steve Oyangen
- Cameron M.E. Pierce
- Sean P. Riley
- Roland W. Roy
- David Shaffer†
- James Simpson
- Ian Stewart
- Rob Stone
- John Strumwasser
- Jansen Tiongson
- Andrew S. Wilkins

* denotes section representative
† denotes musical section representative

### 5th Section

- Matthew Doherty
- Daniel J. Duffy
- Elliot J. Katz
- Robert L. “Rab” Sherman
- Michael W. Tobey

### In Memoriam

- Daniel-John Aylward
- Harry Baldwin
- Joseph Bevins
- Herb Bourne
- Everette Brewer
- Phil Briggs
- Gregory Brown
- Richard Brummet
- John Bryant
- Richard Coe
- Laurence E.D. Collopy
- Eric Cossart-D’Espies
- Ryan F. Curtis
- Gerry R. Dagesse
- Wayne Drake
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- Neil Gray
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- Toby Hall
- Alan Hartwell
- John Patrick Hynes
- Steve Isherwood
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- Ronald D. Lacombe
- Fred Lange
- John LaPorta
- Andrew LoBao
- Roy Lundin
- Gerry Marquis
- Chris Mahoney
- Bruce McCarthy
- Kevin McKenna
- David Messier
- Rod Meth
- Joe Molloy
- Richard Moore
- Raymond Nadeau
- David Panella
- Greg Pearce
- Joseph Pels
- Daniel Eaton Pentlarge
- Bud Perry
- Larry Poitras
- Sandy Reder
- Dominick Roca
- Kevin Rogers
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Chad Weirick, *Principal Accompanist and Assistant Music Director*
LeWana Clark, *American Sign Language Interpreter*
Jonathan Hess, *Percussion*
Mark Pucci, *Bass*
Lighting Designed by Anne Dresbach, Dresbach Designs

**ACT I**

**Brotherhood of Man**
Frank Loesser, Arr. Chad Weirick
from *How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying*

**I Love To Sing-A**
Harold Arlen, Arr. Chad Weirick

**Hit the Road To Dreamland**
Harold Arlen, Arr. Chad Weirick

**I Love A Parade**
Harold Arlen, Arr. Chad Weirick

**That Smile** from *It’s Only Life*
Andy Chau, Christopher Covill, Sean Crookes, Spencer Lewis, soloists

**I’m Getting My Act Together and Taking It on the Road**
Nancy Ford, music;
Gretchen Cryer, lyrics; Arr. Chad Weirick

**Put In A Package and Sold**

**Old Friend**

**Natural High**

**Peace**
Joshua Shank

*World Premiere of BGMC Commission*

**You’ll Never Walk Alone** from *Carousel*
Oscar Hammerstein II, lyrics; Arr. Chad Weirick

**The Sound of Music** from *The Sound of Music*
Oscar Hammerstein II, lyrics; Arr. Chad Weirick

**I’m Glad I’m Not Young Anymore** from *Gigi*
Frederick Lowe, music;
Alan Jay Lerner, lyrics

**Inappropriate Medley**
Laura Benanti, soloist

**Cabaret** from *Cabaret*
John Kander, music; Fred Ebb, lyrics

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ACT II

On Top of the World  
Daniel Reynolds, Benjamin McKee, Daniel Sermon, Alexander Grant, Arr. Chad Weirick

Ghosttown  
Evan Bogart, Madonna Ciccone, Sean Douglas, Jason Evigan, Arr. Chad Weirick

Living for Love  
Madonna L. Ciccone, Tobias Gad, Maureen Anne McDonald, Thomas Wesley Pentz, Arielle, Arr. Chad Weirick

I Have Dreamed from The King and I  
Laura Benanti, soloist  
Oscar Hammerstein II, lyrics; Arr. Alex Rybeck

I Could Have Danced All Night from My Fair Lady  
Laura Benanti, soloist  
Frederick Lowe, music; Alan Jay Lerner, lyrics

A Quiet Thing from Flora the Red Menace  
Laura Benanti, soloist  
John Kander, music; Fred Ebb, Lyrics

Our Time from Merrily We Roll Along  
Stephen Sondheim, Arr. Chad Weirick

Children Will Listen from Into the Woods  
Stephen Sondheim, Arr. Chad Weirick

Sunday from Sunday in the Park with George  
Stephen Sondheim, Arr. Chad Weirick

Climb Every Mountain from The Sound of Music  
Laura Benanti, soloist  
Oscar Hammerstein II, lyrics, Arr. Chad Weirick

Brotherhood of Man & I Love a Parade Dancers

Izzy Berdan  
Joseph Germanos  
Kelvin Powell

Tyler Brewer  
Gerald B. James  
Rafael Quintanar

Bill Casey  
Jermaine Joynes  
Carl Seglem

Christopher Covill  
Michael Lombo, Dance Captain  
Douglas St. Lawrence

Kyle Crand  
Nicholas Panagiotou

Cabaret Dancers

Izzy Berdan  
Kyle Crand  
Rafael Quintanar

Tyler Brewer  
Joseph Germanos  
Nicholas Panagiotou

Bill Casey  
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Tony Award-winner LAURA BENANTI can be seen this fall in the upcoming CBS Action Drama, *Supergirl*. In 2014, she joined the cast of ABC’s hit series *Nashville* guest-starring as songbird Sadie Stone. Laura also appeared in recurring roles on CBS’s *The Good Wife* and HBO’s *Nurse Jackie*.

In addition to television work and her critically acclaimed performance as Elsa Schrader in NBC’s *The Sound of Music LIVE*, Ms. Benanti is a highly celebrated, four time Tony Award-nominated stage actress who took Broadway by storm at the age of 18.

She received a Drama Desk award, Outer Critics Circle Award and a Tony Award Nomination for her starring role in the Broadway production of *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown* for Lincoln Center where she also starred in the Broadway production of *Sarah Ruhl’s In the Next Room or The Vibrator Play*. Ms. Benanti earned the 2008 Tony Award for Outstanding Featured Actress in a Musical, a Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Award for her revelatory portrayal of Gypsy Rose Lee in *Gypsy* opposite Patti LuPone and directed by Arthur Laurents. Other Broadway roles include *The Wedding Singer*, *Nine*, starring Antonio Banderas, her Tony, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle nominated performances of *Cinderella* in Stephen Sondheim’s *Into the Woods* and her sultry performance in *Swing!* Laura made her Broadway debut as Maria in *The Sound of Music* opposite Richard Chamberlain.

In 2016, Laura will return to the stage in a revival of the musical *She Loves Me*.

---

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Peace

I was at peace when I left a bad job.
I was at peace when I looked in your eyes.
I was at peace when I didn’t feel guilty
I was at peace only when I wasn’t sober.
I was at peace when I was in nature.
I was at peace when I beheld the stars.
I was at peace when I crossed the Charles and the view is the one thing that never gets old.
I was at peace when I finished college.
I was at peace when I stood up for what was right.
I was at peace when I got sober the second time.
I was at peace when you were born.
I was at peace when I first held our baby girl.
I was at peace when I saw myself through my son’s eyes.
I was at peace when the nurse told me he’s breathing on his own.
I was at peace when I kissed him for the first time.
I was at peace when I held my son’s hand in the incubator before he died.
I was at peace when I could finally let go.
I was at peace when I had faith.
I was at peace after fasting and prayer
I was at peace when I felt God’s answer.
I was at peace when I chanted the Torah.
I was at peace when I prayed to Jesus.
I was at peace when I chanted the Quran.
I was at peace when I learned my truth.
I was at peace when I told my mom that I was an atheist.
I was at peace when she told me she loved me.
I was at peace when she passed as I sang to her.
I was at peace when I finished her eulogy.
I was at peace when I finally let go.

I was at peace when I found others like me.
I was at peace when they helped me to see.
I was at peace when I realized it wasn’t my fault.
When I looked in the mirror and finally liked who I saw.
I was at peace.
I was at peace when I didn’t burn dinner and you asked for seconds.
I was at peace when we watched movies together.
I was at peace when I realized how much my family loves you.
I was at peace when I heard your laugh.
I was at peace when you read aloud to me every night.
I was at peace even though we had that fight.
I was at peace when I slept in your arms.
I was at peace when I woke up next to you.
I was at peace when I knew he could never hit me again.
I was at peace when I found the courage to walk away.
I was at peace when you decided not to leave.
I was at peace when you asked me to stay.
I was at peace when I let go of the past.
I was at peace when I forgave myself.
I was at peace when I realized I mattered.
I was at peace when realized I didn’t have to be anything more that who I am.
I was at peace when I realized we are all more alike than dif’frent.
I was at peace.
Crescendo is the annual gala and fundraiser that raises vital funds for the BGMC. It was held on May 9, 2015 at the W Hotel. Please thank the following businesses and individuals for supporting the Chorus. When you patronize them, please mention how much you appreciate their support of the BGMC.

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Resolve to join the fight against cancer

Begin 2015 by supporting Dana-Farber Cancer Institute through a planned gift that will help you reach your financial goals.

Dana-Farber is proud to be recognized again as a 2014 Leader in LGBT Healthcare Equality by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation.

LEARN MORE
Alice Tobin Zaff, Assistant Vice President, Gift Planning
800-535-5577 • alice_zaff@dfci.harvard.edu
Dana-Farber.org/BGMC

Dana-Farber patient Meg (left) and her wife, Carla

Congratulations to the BGMC on another successful show!
CHORUS AMERICA - Opening night performance
Wednesday, June 18, 2015, at 7:30pm
Old South Church

MIDDLE EAST TOUR
June 19 - 29, 2015
Follow the adventure on social media
Facebook Twitter Instagram #BGMCTour

OUTSIDE THE BOX
Friday, June 17, 2016, at 6:00pm
Park Street Stage on the Boston Common

HOLIDAY
Sunday, December 13, 2015, at 3:00pm
Saturday, December 19, 2015, at 8:00pm
Sunday, December 20, 2015, at 8:00pm
Monday, December 21, 2015 at 8:00pm
New England Conservatory’s Jordan Hall

CABARET
Friday, February 19, 2016, at 8:00pm
Saturday, February 20, 2016, at 5:00pm & 8:00pm
Sunday, February 21, 2016, at 3:00pm
Club Café

SPRING
Saturday, March 19, 2016, at 8:00pm
Sunday, March 20, 2016, at 3:00pm
New England Conservatory’s Jordan Hall

PRIDE
Thursday, June 9, 2016, at 8:00pm
Friday, June 10, 2016, at 8:00pm
Sunday, June 12, 2016, at 8:00pm
New England Conservatory’s Jordan Hall

GALA FESTIVAL
July 3 - 7, 2016
Denver, Colorado

AUDITIONS
Ready to move from the shower to the stage? BGMC membership is by audition and prior choral singing experience and elementary music reading skill is helpful but not required. Auditions maintain a relaxed atmosphere and is a lot of fun. It includes singing a familiar song, sight singing, an assessment of musical skills, and an informational interview. No prepared piece is necessary. Go to bgmc.org to sign up for the September auditions.

In addition to concerts, the BGMC produces great and fun events that provide additional funds for the organization. Visit bgmc.org for more information.
Fenway Health is your one-stop provider for your health care needs. Our staff is sensitive to each patient’s needs and we have a long history of caring for our neighborhood, the LGBT community and people living with HIV/AIDS.

PROVIDING THE SERVICES YOU NEED

- Medical care
- Behavioral health care
- Dental care for adults & children
- Eye care for adults & children
- Women’s health
- Transgender health
- Complementary therapies, including massage, nutrition and chiropractic
- Pharmacy
- Family & parenting services, including alternative insemination and obstetrics.
- Dermatology
The generosity of individuals, corporate sponsors and foundations provide nearly half of the BGMC’s annual revenue.

Gifts may be made however is most convenient for you:

- Online at bgmc.org
- Text GIVEBGMC to 41411
- Call 617-542-SING
- Donation envelopes upon request
- Mail to 95 Berkeley Street, Suite 410, Boston, MA 02116

Recurring pledges from your credit card can be easily set by contacting the office or visiting bgmc.org.

If you work for a company that matches employee gifts to cultural organizations, please send in your matching gift form or call the Chorus office at 617-542-7464. To see if your company matches, ask your HR department or visit the website matchinggift.com.

The following list represents cumulative gifts between May 15, 2014 to May 15, 2015. In the event of an error or omission, please contact the office.

Planned Gifts

Scott J. Batey & Stephen M. Conley
Frederick J. Baumer Living Trust
Christopher Chouinard
Craig B. Coogan Living Trust
Stanton Kilpatrick
Alan H. Ingram
Edward J. LeMay Trust
Albert D. Lovata
Andrew Maggiore
Barry and James Mapstone-Knamm
Reuben M. Reynolds III
Robert L. ”Rab” Sherman
James Mitchell Slayton
Scott E. Squillace

Endowment Funds

The Paul and Edith Babson Foundation
Bequest of John Bryant
Bequest of Wayne P. Drake

Please contact us if you have included the BGMC in your estate plans so that we may add you to this list.

Diva: $5,000 and up

The Paul and Edith Babson Foundation
Bank of America
Robert K. Duby
IVF New England
JetBlue
Massachusetts Cultural Council

Edward J. LeMay
Andrew and Samuel Pang
R.M. Reynolds Jr.
In Memory of Gerry Dagesse
David Shaffer and Jason Barrera
Too Fabulous for Words
### Executive Producer: $2,500 and up

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### Producer: $1,000 to $2,499

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Did you know?

Only about half of the costs of putting on the show are covered by ticket sales?

Ways to Donate to BGMC

Proud to be the new sponsors of the 2014 Championship team.
bassrunners.bgmc.org

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Andy Chau

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Margery Fallon

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Paul V. Hillson

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and William J. Hoare, III

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Special Thanks

We especially thank and acknowledge the following for their contributions to the Chorus and this production.

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Luciano Silva
Rachel Zeiderman

Archives housed at Northesatern University, Giordana Mecagni Archivist

Production Lighting services provided by Gottke Enterprises Inc.

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