Reproductive Options for Gay Men, Lesbians, and Transgender People

Samuel C. Pang, MD  
Board Certified Reproductive Endocrinologist

Dr. Pang is a pioneer in helping gay men, lesbians and transgender people become parents.

His expertise includes:

• Reproductive options for gay men  
  (Dr. Pang is one of the first physicians in the world to provide IVF using donor eggs and gestational carriers for male couples.)

• Reciprocal IVF for lesbian couples

• Reproductive and fertility preservation options for transgender men and women

Dr. Pang is a longtime supporter of GLBT community organizations, including: Fenway Health, GLAD, HRC, Mass Equality, Maine Equality, PFLAG, and Boston Gay Men’s Chorus.

To schedule a consultation with Dr. Pang call 800.858.4832  
www.GayIVF.com
Boston Gay Men’s Chorus

HO HO HO

December 13, 19, 20, 21, 2015
New England Conservatory’s Jordan Hall

Reuben M. Reynolds III, Music Director
Craig Coogan, Executive Director
Chad Weirick, Principal Accompanist and Assistant Music Director
LeWana Clark, American Sign Language Interpreter
Brian C. Griffin, Customer Service Manager
Clive Grainger, Stage Manager
Jessica Going, Rehearsal Manager

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Congratulations on another outstanding performance.

Scott Squillace, Esq. is proud to announce his new book:


For more information on the book or to order, please visit: www.WhetherToWed.com
What are your holiday memories and traditions? Joy, love, traditions, fun and frivolity, great friends and family—this season seems to move us and inspire us more than any other time of the year. It is the perfect time to gather together all those we hold dear to remember holidays past, look forward to future holidays and rejoice in the present.

_Loving, Tender, Present_ is a brand new work celebrating someone very special to us all—our mothers. The story starts with a young mother and her son, then moves to tell us of her story as her son now has a son of his own, and concludes by telling us about her as a grandmother with her entire family. It is the story of a woman who fiercely protects and guides those she loves.

And what would a holiday concert be without the fun and frivolity part of the evening! In 1982, the hilarious review that parodies Broadway musicals, _Forbidden Broadway_, opened in New York City and has been playing all over the world ever since. The show’s brilliant creator, Gerard Alessandri, has written his twisted take on three traditional Holiday Songs—just for the BGMC. You will never again see the color pink and not think of this number!

Celebrating the Holidays together as family builds wonderful memories and traditions that will live on forever in the lives of those we love. Thank you for joining us. We are so glad to have you as part of our family!

Reuben Reynolds

Reuben Reynolds, Music Director

P.S. Mark your calendars now for Joshua Shank’s brilliant new piece based on our travels in the Middle East, premiering at our _Circle of Life_ concerts on March 19 and 20, 2016. It just may be the most stunning concert we have ever done!

_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.”_
Happy Holidays

Celebrate the spirit of the season.

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The giving of gifts at this time of year is a time-honored part of many religious traditions. From small "Secret Santa" or “Yankee Swap” items to large romantic gestures—the exchange of gifts is part of our culture. It’s certainly a big part of our concerts. The nearly 200 men you see on stage today will be giving you the gifts of music and laughter as well as imparting holiday spirit. You, the members of our beloved audience who sit in Jordan Hall, give back your appreciation, enjoyment, and applause. Together we make a magical experience unlike any other. Thank you giving us that gift this December! And it’s not just at this time of the year that you help us.

We create musical experiences to inspire change, build community, and celebrate difference. Your support makes our important work possible. Talk to your friends about us. Bring them to a chorus event. Follow us on Twitter and Instagram. Like us on Facebook. Download our app. Make sure you are on the mailing list and the email list. Audition. And, of course, donations are always welcome. Individual contributions fill the gap between corporate giving and ticket sales, which constitute 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—enjoy the show and may 2016 bring you great happiness!

Craig Coogan, Executive Director

Craig Coogan joined the 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 treasurer for ten years of the acclaimed Women’s choral group Vox Femina Los Angeles. A graduate of Syracuse University, he has produced independent films, award-winning documentaries, and acclaimed original plays.
Wishing you a successful season!

Michael E. Capuano
8th District, Massachusetts
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.*
make the yuletide gay.

season’s greetings from

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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.

REBECCA SHANNON BUTLER, Costume Designer

Rebecca Shannon Butler holds a BFA in Fashion Design from the Massachusetts College of Art and Design. During the school year, Becky manages the Costume Shop at the Boston Conservatory. Costume design credits include Actors’ Shakespeare Project’s Cymbeline and The Merry Wives of Windsor; Commonwealth Shakespeare’s galas, Une Soirée à Paris, Cinema Italiano, Vintage Vegas, and Midsummer Night’s Dream; Intermezzo Chamber Opera Series’ Rocket’s Red Blare, The Diva Monologues, The Prodigal Son, and Anne Hutchinson; and the Boston Conservatory’s Hair, Coolsville, and Reflections. She has done freelance costume work with Odyssey Opera, Opera Boston, SpeakEasy Stage Company, Commonwealth Shakespeare, the New England Conservatory, Opera Louisiane, and the Flying Karamazov Brothers, amongst others. Rebecca was also a founding member of the Industrial Stitchers Guild, and has created garments and textile art for organizations in Boston and beyond.
LGBTQ Catholics and Allies

Liturgy every Sunday at 5 pm
St. Stephen’s
419 Shawmut Avenue
South End, Boston
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. In June 2015 BGMC became the first GLBT chorus to tour the Middle East. 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
• We operate with integrity
• We genuinely care for each other; bringing out the best of each other - we are at our best as a group
• We change hearts and minds through our presence and our music
• We are from diverse backgrounds but have a shared passion for music
• We choose to give our time and talents - giving back more than we get
• We have fun!
JetBlue proudly supports the Boston Gay Men’s Chorus.

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* denotes section representative  
† denotes musical section representative

**In Memoriam**

| Daniel-John Aylward | Roland Green |         |         |
| Harry Baldwin       | Toby Hall    |         |         |
| Joseph Bevins       | Alan Hartwell|         |         |
| Herb Bourne         | John Patrick Hynes |         |         |
| Everette Brewer     | Steve Isherwood |         |         |
| Phil Briggs         | Mickey Kasper |         |         |
| Gregory Brown       | Ronald D. Lacombe |         |         |
| Richard Brummet     | Fred Lange   |         |         |
| John Bryant         | John LaPorta |         |         |
| Richard Coe         | Andrew LoBao |         |         |
| Laurence E.D. Collopy| Roy Lundin   |         |         |
| Eric Cossart-D'Espies | Gerry Marquis |         |         |
| Ryan F. Curtis      | Chris Mahoney|         |         |
| Gerry R. Dagesie    | Bruce McCarthy|        |         |
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Robert Shulz, Percussion
Costumes Designed by Rebecca Shannon Butler
Lighting Designed by Anne Dresbach, Dresbach Designs

ACT I

Almost Christmas from A Little Princess
Andrew Lippa; Arr. Mac Huff

Pat-a-pan
Traditional; Arr. Karl Jenkins
Son of Maria
Traditional; Arr. Karl Jenkins
In Dulci Jubilo
Traditional; Arr. Karl Jenkins

Nerli Variations
My lovely tapers of Chanukah, let me now kindle.
Let the lovely lights glow as songs of celebration we offer.

Amazing (What a Little Faith Can Do) Zina Goldrich, music; Marcy Heisler, lyrics
Benjamin Zavisza, Andrew Martinez, soloists

Loving, Tender, Present
Laura Karpman, music; Rebecca Walker, text
William Neely, Brian Balduzzi, soloists

Still, Still, Still
A Christmas Carol (Let Us All Be Merry)
Austrian Carol; Arr. Barlow Bradford
Barlow Bradford, music;
George Wither, lyrics; Arr. Chad Weirick

Intermission
Go Social
Take a selfie! Share your experience!

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ACT II

Forbidden Holiday
Snow
If I Were A Gentile

Bill Spera, soloist

Pink Christmas

inspired by Irving Berlin

inspired by Sheldon Harnick, Jerry Bock

inspired by Irving Berlin

See Amid the Winter’s Snow

Eugene Butler, music; S.K. Hill lyrics; adapted by M.E. Howarth and S.K. Hill

Text Me Merry Christmas

David Javerbaum, Adam Schlesinger; Arr. Alan Billingsley

Andy Chau, Curtis Creekmore, soloists

The Christmas Can-Can

Walter Chase

Make a Wish for Me on Christmas

Stephen Chatman, Tara Wohlberg

I’ll be Home for Christmas

Walter Kent, Buck Ram, music; Kim Gannon, lyrics

James Lobo, soloist

Santa Quodlibet

Arr. Chad Weirick

A Christmas medley that makes no sense.

Ho Ho Ho Dancers

Izzy Berdan

Michael Lombo, dance captain

Tyler Brewer

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We Are Here
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Sunday, May 22, 2016 at 3pm, Church of the Covenant, Boston

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit coroallegro.org
Scene 1. Loving - 1950s
We give thanks!

We ran home as fast as we could from school, knowing that today was the day Mama took off work to make all our holiday treats! The kitchen smelled like Christmas—cinnamon and nutmeg mixed with the warmth of love. To do all this, Mama had stayed home from both her jobs. She had wrapped our presents too—a book for me and a magnifying glass for my sister—and placed them on our pillows to discover later that night. All of this was a sacrifice of love she made because it was so important to us—and to her. Nothing could stop Mama from making this day happen and we were filled with the spirit of the holidays.

Today is the shortest day of the year, the solstice. Tomorrow we begin the slow crawl back to the longest day. Slow down, she said, so we can appreciate the sweetness of life. That even in hard times, we believe we will shine again.

She watched over us. She gave us hope. She was all we had, we were all she had. She was enough.

Scene 2. Tender – 1980’s

When I grew up, I married a woman a lot like my mother -- strong, smart and so devoted to our children. Early on Christmas morning, they came bounding down the stairs! They couldn’t wait to start piling up their gifts in front of them and then tearing into the wrapping paper! I loved watching them do this while the house was filled with the same smells of the holiday treats I remembered so well. My son, who was now seven, tentatively came over to me and pulled out a picture of what he hoped would be under the tree. It wasn’t the train I had bought him. It was Barbie! Without warning, I lashed out at him! I told him he would never be a man if he played with dolls!

As I watched my son slipping away from me, my mother, now a grandmother, disappeared from the room and returned with a long, tapered box with a bow. . . we knew could only hold one thing.

She said, "Girls learn to care for others by playing with dolls. By feeding, bathing, clothing, soothing make believe children, they learn to care for the real ones. It is not just girls who will need to love selflessly, carefully, attentively. Boys will too. My grandson must also learn how to mother." And with these words she gave me permission to become the father I wanted to be. I put my son on my lap, kiss his head, help him unwrap his gift, my gift.


Was there ever a holiday I didn’t thank my mother and cry? Today, New Year’s Day, was no different. There was so much to thank her for. On this day, I held her hand as we watched my son, her Grandson, marry the man he chose, standing together with the beautiful daughter they had adopted a few years earlier, making my Mama become a Great-Grandmother. I was redeemed!

After the ceremony, at the reception, where they served my Mother’s wonderful holiday cookies, my son picked up his daughter and stepped toward the microphone. That was the moment when my Mama, too, finally began to cry. It was the first time in my life I had seen her tears, the first time she gave me the gift of her precious vulnerability. When she squeezed my hand, I wrapped my arms around her shoulders and held her close.

I thank my father, willing to grow along with me, willing to face his fears. He became the father I longed for. I thank my mother, who willed me into this life and stood by my side as I walked its path. And finally, I thank my grandmother, who gave me the strength to be, to love, to trust. . .who taught me that I am, just as I am.
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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In addition to concerts, the BGMC produces great and fun events that provide additional funds for the organization. Visit bgmc.org for more information.

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Sunday, January 31, 2016 3pm to 5pm
Calderwood Pavillion

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

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Marion and David Pollock
John Portlock
Athens Clay Pullias Jr. and Raymond V. Filburn Jr.
Michael Quinn
Susan Raisbeck
Judith Raup
Vincent and Nina Rauscher
Jason Rhen
Mark Rubenstein
J. Scott Rutan
Neil Savage
Philip A. Sbaratta and Brian J. Murphy
Nancy A. Scott
Robert Sennett
Janine L. Shahbaz
Gail Silva
James C. Simpson
Lisa Smith
Robin and Steve Smith
Claudia Sorsby
Jason Sproul
Tracy Staedter
Robert Sterling
Jaclyn Verrow
Richard Ward
Robert Ward
Kendall P. Watts and Robert Derry
Maida B. Williams
Melissa Wilton
Jacqueline Wood
The arts are for everyone

When community members support the arts, they help inspire and enrich everyone. Artistic diversity helps unite communities, creating shared experiences and inspiring excellence.

Bank of America is honored to be connected to Boston Gay Men’s Chorus and its dedication to bringing the arts to our community.

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Audiences last June gave Joshua Shank’s *Peace* a standing ovation at Symphony Hall. Be the first to experience his newest commission based on BGMC’s historic Middle East Tour.

**Saturday**  March 19, 2016 at 8pm  
**Sunday**  March 20, 2016 at 3pm

at NEC’s Jordan Hall