CIRCLE OF LIFE
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.

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- 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
CIRCLE OF LIFE

March 19 & 20, 2016
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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What a journey we have been on this year. In the Middle East we experienced so much love and so much hate. We met wonderful, glorious people and made many, many friends. We had experiences that changed us and, hopefully, we left a part of ourselves behind! The concerts were fantastic — the people even better!

Making the trip with us was Joshua Shank, a young composer from Austin, Texas. Josh wrote a wonderful work for us last year called peace, based on words from members of the chorus. It is about what makes us be at peace and we sang it at every concert on the tour. It amazed me that even the most rowdy, raucous crowds would sit very still and listen to every word. When we got home Josh wrote three more movements based on experiences we had on the tour. It is music of joy and happiness, but mostly of optimism. You are capable of anything — just get started!

In the first half of the concert we watch a life unfold, from birth to old age, chronicled in that most modern form of communication — the tweet! The very essence of tweeting is brevity, so today we will tell the story of a life in 15 tweets of less than 140 characters each. Each tweet is a vignette in a life unfolding — one moment in the circle of life!

Thank you for joining us today! It was a joy to tell our stories on the other side of the world and it is a joy to tell them to you today!

Reubin 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.”
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Spring is an exciting time of year! Buds on trees, flowers pushing through the ground, and birds chirping around us are reminders that it’s a period of rebirth. The long dark winter (which thankfully wasn’t too long or too bad this year) goes in the rear view mirror and we look to the future.

The music in today’s program represents this rite. The East coast premiere of #twitterleider looks at life from birth to old age in a series of tweets. Our experience as the first LGBT chorus to tour the Middle East is captured and expressed with optimism, hope and joy through Joshua Shank’s incredible piece capable of anything. Introducing new music is one of the most important ways that the Boston Gay Men’s Chorus tells our stories and connects our experiences on stage - whether it is here in Boston at Jordan Hall, in a place of worship in the suburbs, at a Kibbutz in Ein Gedi, Israel or on a stage in front of 5,000 in Istanbul, Turkey - with you, our audience.

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, jetBlue, and IVF New England.

Thank you for being part of the BGMC family!

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.*
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, the Boston Gay Men’s Chorus, and others have received numerous accolades from audiences and critics alike.
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!
WE’RE IN TUNE WITH YOUR EFFORTS.

JetBlue proudly supports the Boston Gay Men’s Chorus.

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Tenor 1
Jay Baer
Michael Barber
Christopher Barberesi
Bruce G. Barrett
Andy Chau
Scott Desrosiers
Adam Kirk Edgerton
Nicholas Everage
Courtney Furno†
Fred Isom
Peter Kokoszka
Anthony Lawson
Michael Lombroso
Andrew Martinez
Brian Murphy
Christopher Murray
Tien Nguyen
Christopher Nuss
Michael Nuss
Benjamin J. Peavey
L. Dean Pender
Jake Pitochelli
Eric Rezsynak*
Harold Rudolph
Anand Sitaram*
Tyler Wansley

Tenor 2
Jonathan Bardwell
Keith Bell
Michael Cabrera
Bill Casey
William Cattey
Brett Masami Chin
Thomas J. Choiniski
Paul Consoli
Sean Crookes
Guy R. Croteau†
Bryan Daley
Marcel D’Anjou
Guy DeAngelis
Earl E. Dimaculangan
Luigi Du
Kongxiang Duan
William Ford
Jim Freiman-Polli

Johnny Gall
Garrett Garborcauskas
John Paul Horn
Joseph Hunt
Alex Kapitan
Paul Joseph Keaney
Scott LaFlamme
Michael J. Leclerc*
Jackson Lee
Raheem Lee
Edward J. LeMay
Taylor Lindsey
Christopher Ludwig
Kilian Melloy
Michael M. Mikowski
Christopher Mistretta
Luke T. Murphy
Kai Lund Nesset
Joel Nosek
Dan O’Shea
Nicholas Panagiotou
Victor Ramos
Tim Rogers
Peter Roy
Kevin Schattenkirk
Thomas Sheehan III
Bill Spera
Douglas St. Lawrence
David Stockton
David F. Story
Stephen Trumble
Demetrius Tuck
Henry Coleman Wilder

Baritone
Dana Albertelli
Charles R. Anderson, Jr.
Jim Anderson
Richard Babson
John N. Beaudreau
Izzy Berdan
Bryan Bishop
Brian Blancke
Richard Boon Jr.
Tyler Brewer
Jim Buckley
Richard Buckley

Andrew Cardamone
Henry H. Carrey
Rick Chason
Galvin Chow
Thomas L. Collins, III*
Bruce Cramer
Kyle Crand
Curtis Creekmore
Eric Crumrine*
Tim Dreher
Stephen M. Earheart
Jeffrey Fatchaline
Joshua Foster
Matthew Fox
Joseph Germanos
Bradley Harder
Ken Hirschkind
John Paul Hogan
Robert S. Hubbard
Matthew Hughes
Alan H. Ingram
James Lesui
James Patrick Lobo
Peter Logue
Magdiel Lorenzo
Keith March Mistler
Michael McKinstry
William Murphy III
William Neely
Steven Olsen
Rafael Peruzzo
Jay Philomena
Daniel Pollak
Michael Quinlan
Michael Quinn
Rafael Quintanar
Ron Riso
Carl Seglem
Hunter Shirley
Arianna Smith
Robert Spiegel
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## Chorus

**Bass**
- John Abbott
- Jason Barrera
- Timothy J. Blank
- Eric Bullen
- Jeff Candiello
- Paul Carreiro
- Simon Choong
- John Clinkscale
- Chuck Conley
- Stephen M. Conner
- Mark Daggett
- Ross W. Dekle
- Paul J. DeLorey
- Thomas Dudley
- Neil E. Dugas
- Norman Flynn
- Charles Fortunato
- Emil Frank
- Joel E. Friedman
- Thomas Galluzzo
- James Glavin
- James Griffin
- Sean Hennessy
- Dennis J. Hoare-Travaglini*  
- Bryan Hughes*
- Steve Jewett
- Jermaine Joynes
- George Alexander King Jr.
- Jacob Lee Leatherberry
- Matthew Thomas Lorello
- Wayne Malloy Jr.
- Dan Mooney
- James Newman
- Russell Ormiston
- Steve Oyangen
- Timothy B. Powell-Flatt
- Yusheng Qin
- Peter A. Ray
- Sean P. Riley
- David Shaffer†
- Rob Stone
- John Strumwasser
- Michael Sullivan
- Jansen Tiongson
- Andrew S. Wilkins

* denotes section representative
† denotes musical section representative

**In Memoriam**

- Daniel-John Aylward
- Harry Baldwin
- Joseph Bevins
- Herb Bourne
- Everett 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
- Dan Gage
- Rick Goodwin
- Jim Gordon
- John Graves
- Neil Gray
- Roland Green
- Toby Hall
- Alan Hartwell
- John Patrick Hynes
- Steve Isherwood
- Mickey Kasper
- 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
- Corey Smith
- Randy Smith
- Robert Sweeney
- Daniel Jay Staub
- Michael Thornton
- John Van Etten
- David Varner
- Mark Wayne
- Bill Williamson
WE’RE TOTALLY OVER WINTER TOO, YOU GUYS. COME LAUGH IT OFF!

Tammy Pescatelli

Adam Ray

Nikki Glaser

Richard Lewis

Alonzo Bodden

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Reuben M. Reynolds III, *Music Director*

Michelle Chassé, *Stage Director and Choreographer*
Chad Weirick, *Principal Accompanist and Assistant Music Director*
  John Bumstead, *Cello*
  Matthew Doherty, *Flute*
  Diane Heffner, *Clarinet*
  Jonathan Hess, *Percussion*
  Oana Lacatus-Daptardar, *Violin*
  Mark Pucci, *Bass*
  Tom Choinski, *Projections*
Lighting Designed by Anne Desbach

Unwritten
Natasha Bedingfield, Danielle Brisebois, Wayne Rodrigues;
Arr. Kathleen McGuire

#twitterlieder
15 Tweets in 3 Acts

**Act 1 — Youth**
James Eakin, III, Music; Charles Anthony Silvestri, Lyrics

1. Birthday!  
   *Benjamin Zavisza*, soloist
2. Schoolyard
3. OMG!   
   *Andrew Martinez*, soloist
4. Scholars
5. Rise of Sun

**The New World** from *Songs for a New World*
Jason Robert Brown, Arr. ME Howarth

*Michael Barber, Andrew Martinez, Christopher Murray, William Neely, Nicholas Panagiotou*, soloists

**Act II — Middle Age**
James Eakin, III, Music; Charles Anthony Silvestri, Lyrics

6. The Big Night   
   *Nicholas Panagiotou*, soloist
7. Selfie   
   *Michael Barber, Christopher Murray*, soloists
8. Busy
9. Merry-Go-Round   
   *Christopher Barberesi, Curtis Creekmore*, soloists
10. People of Light
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Boston’s acclaimed classical chorus for members, friends, and allies of the LGBT community

2015-16 SEASON

A Concert for Marriage Equality
Featuring musical celebrations and Mozart’s Requiem for those who never saw this day
Sunday, Nov. 15, 2015 at 3pm, Sanders Theatre, Cambridge

The Voices of Children
Sunday, Mar. 13, 2016 at 3pm, Sanders Theatre, Cambridge
Featuring Howard Frazin’s The Voice of Isaac

We Are Here
World premiere of a work by award-winning composer Eric Banks on the life and vision of slain Ugandan LGBT activist David Kato Kisule
Sunday, May 22, 2016 at 3pm, Church of the Covenant, Boston

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit coroallegro.org
capable of anything

Joshua Shank

1. peace

for the men of the BGMC

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 I 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.

2. joy

for Jason

The Dead Sea.
Sand and salt and mud and
Hills in ev’ry direction.
But those aren’t hills
You are in one of the deepest places on Earth.
A giant pit
You can only go up from there.

There, at one of the lowest places in the world,
My brothers and I floated effortlessly’
Giddy from weightlessness,
Momentarily boys again.

A place like that can teach you if you let it.

At a beach you tend to notice
Just how different everyone is.
Fat,
Thin,
Tall,
Short,
Hairy,
Smooth,
Young,
Old,
Arab,
Israeli,
And every beautiful and unique shade in between.

For a place with such a lifeless name, it is very much alive.
Laughing and splashing and smiling and floating in every language imaginable.
A muddy Pentecost bobbing in the brine.

But that’s just it.

Everyone floats in the Dead Sea.
3. justice

*for Matt Baume*


Standing outside a massive church.
Tourists, and cameras, and sunlight, and noise.
There was a British man next to us, asking about a “judge named SCOTUS.”
And then, thousands of miles away from our home, we knew.
What followed changed some of our lives forever.
Some of us it changed very little, and some it may never change at all.
But that day, that clear morning on the steps of the Sancta Sophia,
We heard what had happened and then walked into a church dedicated
To the thing that had just descended on our home:
Holy Wisdom.

Marriage is sacred to those who make it so.
Two people finding a life that could not be found alone,
Rising from our most profound hopes and aspirations
To something greater than they once were.
Not just a “him” and a “him” or a “her” and a “her”.
The highest ideals of fidelity, devotion, accord, sacrifice, and family.
The embodiment of a love that may endure even past death.
Our hope was not to be condemned to live in loneliness,
Excluded from one of civilization’s oldest gifts.
Equal dignity in the eyes of the law.
Not just for them, but for us, and for all.
It is so ordered.

4. tomorrow

*for Reuben and Bill*

We’re capable of justice, as fierce as it needs to be.
It may take a little patience, but ev’ry tree it starts with a seed.
Justice should always be done, though the heavens they may fall for some.
Hearts and minds they change one by one.
And before you knew you could win it, it’s won.

We’re capable of joy, it makes life worth living,
Sometimes it’s not a choice, sometimes it takes forgiving.
You’ll find a truth to live in. Fam’lies can be chosen or given.
They may say that it’s not allowed,
but before you thought you’d find it, It’s found.

You’re capable of peace. It comes from within.
Ev’ry storm one day will cease, but you have to ride out the winds.
The search for peace can sometimes come with pain.
But flowers don’t grow without a little rain.
I swear, you’re not alone, You’re not the only one.
And because you tried to begin it, it’s begun.

You’re capable of tomorrow. Maybe you knew it all along.
Through the heartache and sorrow. Through the right and through the wrong,
Just go forward and face your day.
Bring this song with you in you own way.
Your future’s vast. You can be anyone.
And before you thought you could do it, it’s done!
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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Boston Symphony Orchestra
Boston Wine Expo
The Brattle Theatre
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Somerville
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Craig Coogan
Mark Cortale Productions
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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.

CRESCENDO
Saturday, May 7, 2016 at 7:00pm
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POPopular
Friday, June 3, 2016, at 8:00pm
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