and James Morehead, Artistic Director present

CHICAGO GAY MEN’S CHORUS PRESENTS
HOLIDISCO

DIRECTOR/MUSICAL DIRECTOR JAMES MOREHEAD
BOOK WRITER ASHLEE HARDGRAVE
LIGHTING DESIGNER ERIK S BARRY  SOUND DESIGNER JOSH PRISCHING
CHOREOGRAPHERS NICO JOSHUA NEPOMUCENO, JANNEKE WAAL-FOWERS
PRODUCTION MANAGER BETH RICHARDS
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS KEVIN CORBETT

December 6, 2019 Athenaeum Theatre, Chicago
December 7, 2019 North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, Skokie
December 8, 2019 Beverly Arts Center, Chicago

This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency
This project is partially supported by a CityArts Grant from the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs & Special Events.
The MacArthur Fund for Culture, Equity, and the Arts at the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation
LETTER FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Bring on the bell-bottoms, the fros and lit up dance floors! This show is gonna make you boogie all the way home once you finish the hustle.

I came across a disco-themed holiday record (yes, it was an LP), several years ago, and this show idea came to fruition. The album contained only holiday classics, so this show expands on that initial concept. Tonight’s performance will offer holiday classics in a “discofied” version. You will also hear some disco favorites. Some of these have been parodied to match our holiday theme, others have not.

We round out the show with fun and playful sketch comedy scenes by Ashlee Hardgrave. After our holiday song victims have recovered in therapy, and the “housewives”/“reindeer” of the north pole have presented, we wrap the whole show up with Marge Whybother’s actual gift exchange.

Lastly, I want to thank Ashlee, Lil, Cody, Adam, Kevin, my production team, my choreographers, my family and my circle of confidants. I especially want to thank all the faithful singers, supporters and donors of the chorus. Your hard work on and off stage makes my job possible and enjoyable! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

We look forward to seeing your smiling faces, boisterous laughter and generous applause in the upcoming season! To many more years of wonderful shows!

Yours Truly,

James Morehead
Artistic Director

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ABOUT THE CHORUS

With more than 150 singing members, backed by a small army of volunteers, the CGMC family covers a diverse cross-section of the Chicago metropolitan area. Under the visionary guidance and inspired direction of Artistic Director James J. Morehead, CGMC delivers a distinctive brand of entertainment that keeps our audience coming back again and again. Our members log thousands of hours annually to accomplish an ambitious schedule of concert performances, benefits and charitable appearances.

We Entertain and Enlighten

CGMC delivers a unique entertainment experience found nowhere else in the city. We produce professional-quality shows that combine the best elements of musical theater, cabaret and traditional choral performance. But only CGMC can add that special “twist of gaiety” that can make each show fun, moving and memorable.

We Inspire Change

CGMC serves as ambassadors and provides a positive image to countless thousands every year. Sometimes the message to take action can be delivered more effectively through song than through speech.

We Build Community

CGMC is a safe haven from discrimination and judgment. As part of a larger community, when asked to help, CGMC heeds the call. We have sung at the Auditorium Theater honoring the victims of Sept. 11. We sing at smaller memorial services honoring local community leaders and for our own members. We're humbled to realize that CGMC’s presence can bring comfort and healing to those around us.

For more information, to join our mailing list or to find out how you can support Chicago Gay Men’s Chorus, visit cgmc.org.
## CAST OF CHARACTERS

**Group Leader** ................................................................. Andrew Werner (Friday)  
  Michael Kirby (Saturday/Sunday)

**Hard Candy** ................................................................. Richard McKinney (Friday)  
  John Bui (Saturday/Sunday)

**Two Front Teeth Tommy** .................................................. David Long (Friday)  
  Eric Beatty (Saturday/Sunday)

**Grandma** ........................................................................ Brad Held (Friday)  
  Ronald Bayer (Saturday/Sunday)

**Mommy** ............................................................................ Casey Campbell (Friday)  
  Andrew Belford (Saturday/Sunday)

**Simon** .............................................................................. Andy Clemmer  
  **Carl, the Pear Tree** .............................................................. Alan Bringman  
  **Survival Guide Solo** ............................................................. Jimi Nguyen (Friday)  
    Charles May (Saturday)  
    Chris Paulus (Sunday)

**Dasher** ............................................................................... John Gordon  
  **Dancer** ............................................................................... Kevin Swerdlow  
  **Prancer** ................................................................................. Ryan Smith  
  **Vixen** .................................................................................... Aaron Kornick  
  **Comet** .................................................................................. Jim Hennessey  
  **Cupid** ................................................................................... Bradley Lambie  
  **Donner** ............................................................................... Tim Ryan  
  **Blitzen** ................................................................................ Eric Zupancic  
  **Rudolph** ............................................................................... Brian Khan  
  **Elves** ................................................................................... Andrew Belford, Dalton Isaac, Dave Lee, Chris Paulus  
  **Heavenly Angel Quartet** ........................................................... Khara Williams, Reggie Owens, Michael McGraw, Alexis Rangel  
  **Comfort Ye Solo** .................................................................. Joey Fontanetta  
  **He Shall Feed His Flock Duet** .................................................. Joey Fontanetta, Chad Baus  
  **Mary** .................................................................................... Brandon Davidson  
  **Joseph** ................................................................................ Tim Ryan  
  **Sheep/Shepherd** ................................................................... Brian Dove, Sean Dunavant, Brian Greenfield, Phil Joseph, Patrick Keefe, EJ Ladlad, Jimi Nguyen, Chris Paulus  
  **Marge Whybother** ................................................................ Michael Malandra (Friday)  
    Leslie Star (Saturday/Sunday)

**Nephew Junior** .................................................................... Sean Mallory  
  **O Christmas Tree Solo** .......................................................... Patrick Keefe (Friday)  
    Michael Elder (Saturday)  
    Carl Moss (Sunday)

**Roving Cowboy** .................................................................. Leslie Star (Friday)  
  **Christmas Prayer Solo** .......................................................... James Hernandez (Friday)  
    Michael Spiering (Saturday)  
    Nico Nepomuceno (Sunday)

## THE BAND

Bass: Mark Berls; Drums: John Agno; Piano: Ken McMullen

## ASL INTERPRETERS

Peyton Hicks, Jillian Rose, Scar Young, Rachel Zielinski - Students;  
CJ Speakman - Professional Interpreter
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ACT ONE

Christmas Inferno ................................................................. parodied by Micah McCain
  Dancers: Chris Chen, Brian Dove, Sean Dunavant, Joey Fontanetta,
  Brian Greenfield, Phil Joseph, Patrick Keefe, EJ Ladlad, Michael McGraw,
  Jimi Nguyen, Chris Paulus, Khara Williams.
  Choreography by Janneke Waal-Fowers

Jolly Old Saint Nicholas ...................................................... James Lord Pierpont (1822-1893)
  arr. by J. Morehead

Winter Wonderland ............................................................... parodied by Ashlee Hardgrave
  Dancers: Lamar Allen, Andrew Belford, Brandon Davidson, Octavio Lara, David Long,
  Michael Malandra, Greg Marquis, Carl Moss, Nico Nepomuceno, Jeremy Steward,
  Jeremy Treadwell, Marco Vianello.
  Choreography by Nico Joshua Nepomuceno

  Scene 1: Support Group

Kwanzaa Kontinuo (2019) ..................................................... J. Morehead (b. 1980-)

Deck the Disco Halls .......................................................... arr. by J. Morehead

Do You Remember? ............................................................ parodied by M. McCain
  Dancers: Lamar Allen, Andrew Belford, Brandon Davidson, Michael Malandra, Greg Marquis,
  Carl Moss, Jeremy Steward, Marco Vianello.
  Choreography by Nico Joshua Nepomuceno

Survival Guide to Your Inlaws ............................................. parodied by M. McCain
  Soloists: Jimi Nguyen (Friday), Charles May (Saturday), Chris Paulus (Sunday).

  Scene 2: The Real Reindeer of the North Pole

Heaven Must Be Missing an Angel ........................................ Frederick Perren/Kenneth St. Lewis

Disco Messiah ................................................................. George F. Handel (1685-1759)
  Soloists: Joey Fontanetta, Chad Baus
  arr. by J. Morehead

Ring My Bell ................................................................. Frederick Knight (b. 1944-)
  Choreography by Nico Joshua Nepomuceno
  arr. by J. Morehead

INTERMISSION
ACT TWO

Dancing Queen ............................................................ Benny Andersson and Björn Alvaes
arr. by David Maddux

Dancers: Alex Arsenijevic, Ronald Bayer, Isaac Benson-White, John Bui, Casey Campbell,
Ruben Castro, Fred Kaminski, Jr., Brian Khan, Brad Lambie, Rico Marante, Richard McKinney,
Elio Reyes, Jason Roth, Arvin Rustia, Eddie Vargas, Andrew Werner.
Choreography by Nico Joshua Nepomuceno

Ladies Night ..................................... George Brown, Robert Bell, Ronald Bell, James Taylor, Earl Toon,
Dennis Thomas, Calyses Smith, Meekael Muhammed
Featuring: Josephina de Light (Friday only), Ambrosia Du Jour, Lady Razor Burn, Anita Gift,
La Thirst Noel, The House of De Law, Minnie Maxx Cara Wong, Golda Leaks Incontinence,
Frosty B**** Precious Metals, and Ivona Tequila Temptation.

Hanukkah Disco ................................................................. Traditional Folk Songs
arr. by J. Morehead

Scene Three: Marge Whybother

O Christmas Tree ............................................................ Traditional German Carol
arr. by J. Morehead
Soloist: Patrick Keefe (Friday), Michael Elder (Saturday), Carl Moss (Sunday).

The Hustle .............................................................................. Van McCoy
arr. by J. Morehead

Featuring the dancers of HoliDisco

Happy Christmas Wrap (2019) ........................................................ by J. Morehead
Poem by Clement Clark Moore

Scene 4: The Gift Exchange

Christmas Prayer (as performed by Gloria Gaynor) ........................................ Oriolo Donald
Soloist: James Hernandez (Friday), Michael Spiering (Saturday), Nico Nepomuceno (Sunday).

CGMC .................................................................................. parodied by A. Hardgrave
Dancers: Rick Aiello, Ronald Bayer, Isaac Benson-White, Eric Bond, Alan Bringman, John Bui,
Casey Campbell, Freddie Kaminski, Brian Khan, Aaron Kornick, Brad Lambie, Rico Marante,
Richard McKinney, Arvin Rustia, Ryan Smith, Kevin Swerdlow, Billy Vitucci, Andrew Werner.
Choreography by Nico Joshua Nepomuceno.

Celebration ...... Ronald Bell, Dennis Thomas, Robert Bell, Earl Toon, George Brown, Claydes
Smith, Robert Mickens, James Taylor, Eumir Deodato
arr. by J. Morehead
Dancers: Chris Chen, Brian Dove, Sean Dunavant, Joey Fontanetta, Brian Greenfield, Phil
Choreography by Janneke Waal-Fowers
SPECIAL THANKS

Josh Prisching, CJ Speakman, Joe and Toula Spencer at RemodelingStation.com, Leslie Star, Billy Vitucci.

ASL interpreting services provided by students and faculty in Columbia College’s ASL Department.

CHICAGO GAY MEN’S CHORUS MEMBERS

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<th>BARITONE</th>
<th>Alexis J. Rangel</th>
<th>BASS</th>
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<td>Lamar Allen</td>
<td>Elio Reyes</td>
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<td>Corey Blake</td>
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<td>Michael Roman*</td>
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<td>Tom Myles</td>
<td>Cedric Thomas*</td>
<td>Jonathan Fitzpatrick*</td>
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<td>Nico Joshua Nepomuceno</td>
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<td>Spencer Gartner*</td>
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<td>Russell Potepa</td>
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<td>Paul Lorensen*</td>
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<td>Ed Pratt</td>
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<td>Stuart Morrical*</td>
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CHICAGO GAY MEN’S CHORUS MEMBERS cont.

Kyle O’Connor*
Larry Olson*
Todd Paulson*
Jeff Port*
Carl Stumpf*

TENOR 1
Andrew Levi Belford
Kavik Bressette
Timothy A Casey Jr
Nick Conner
Brian Dove
Sean Dunavant
Joey Fontanetta
James Hernandez
Dalton Isaac
Fred Kaminski, Jr.
Patrick Keefe
Zaq Lambert
David C Lee
Eliott Mason
Richard Marshall McKinney
Chris Paulus
Sup Suh
Andrea Wolpa
L.T. Cousineau*
Benjamin Dille*
Timothy Johnston*
Chris Perchatsch*
Ari Smolen*

TENOR 2
Richard L. Aiello, Jr.
Ryan Altizer
Chris Baer
Christopher Ballar-Mientus
Chad A. Baus
Eric Beatty
David Biele
Chris Blasone
Ryan Bober
Andrew Brawley
Alan Bringman
Chris Chen
Orion Elrod
Andy Erne
Alex Feldman
Jim Fitzgerald
Steve Geiermann
Don Gottesman
Jeff Heider
Bob Hogge
Kenneth D. Jones
Michael Jones
Zach C Kelchen
Brian Khan
Mitchell Kraemer
Octavio Lara
Eric Ledbetter
Justin Lens
Andrew Lindstad
A. Thomas Long
Roberto Lopez
Michael Malandra
Sean Mallory
Greg Marquis
Michael McGraw
Jimi Loc Nguyen
Reggie Owens
Tom Payne
Julio Quintana
Grady Schroeder
Michael Sheets
Ryan Smith
Matthew Staman
Leslie Star
Steven Trombley
Marco Vianello
Billy Vitucci
Andrew Werner
Sean M. Weston
Khara Williams
Jon Adams*
Michael J. Curran*
Scotty Fleetwood*
Rob Gellman*
Spencer Terry*
Jason Tylka*

*Denotes Leave of Absence

TRANSLATIONS

S’vivon

Sevivon, sov, sov, sov
hanukah, hu hag tov
hanukah, hu hag tov
Sevivon, sov, sov, sov!

hag simha hu la-am
Nes gadol hayah sham
Nes gadol hayah sham
hag simha hu la-am.

Dreidel, spin, spin, spin.
Hanukkah is a great holiday.
Hanukkah is a great holiday.
Dreidel, spin, spin, spin.

A joyous holiday for the nation.
A great miracle happened there.
A great miracle happened there.
A joyous holiday for the nation.
Sing with Pride

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James Morehead, Artistic Director
James is excited to celebrate the holidays with CGMC. He is also co-Artistic Director for VOX3, www.vox3.org, music director/assistant organist at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Evanston, Illinois. He is regularly featured as a pianist, collaborator and composer at Ravinia with acclaimed soprano Christina Kolayanides Chakos. James received his MM in Piano Performance and Music Theory from Roosevelt University and his BM from Duquesne University. As a Music Director, James has worked on See What I Wanna See in the Steppenwolf Garage series 2013 and has also done The WIZ (Jeff Nominated: Music Direction), bare (Jeff Nominated: Music Direction), Passing Strange (Jeff Nominated: Music Direction), Dessa Rose (Jeff Nominated: Music Direction), Jerry Springer- the Opera, AIDA, Trouble in Tahiti, The Rainbow Connection, the Mikado, The Impresario, Barber of Seville, The Old Maid and the Thief, Two Gentlemen of Verona, Sondheim in the Park, The Wandering Scholar, The Bear, The Way We War, Copacabana, Cupid and Psyche, and Promises, Promises among many others. He worked as a coach, accompanist and music director for the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University, where he has also served as Adjunct Professor of Music Theory/History and German Diction. Classically, James has performed at Ravinia, the Auditorium Theater, Chicago Cultural Center, Rockefeller Chapel, Chicago’s Gospel Fest 2012, and Harold Washington Theater among many others. He has collaborated and performed with the Juliani Ensemble, the Grande Prairie Choral Arts Singers, Anaphora, Lyric Opera Kids and ChiArts, and multiple times on WFMT. He has also appeared as a featured pianist at the 54 Below/Feinstein’s in NYC, the Rockwell in Los Angeles, the Green Mill, Mary’s Attic, the Tavern, Gentry on Halsted, Spin Nightclub, Davenport’s, the 410 Club, the Spot, the Casino and internationally.

Kevin Corbett, Director of Operations
Kevin's background is in theatre administration and audience services. In Chicago, he worked for The Music Conservatory at Roosevelt University as a Concert Coordinator and for TimeLine Theatre Company and American Theater Company. Kevin holds an MA in Performance Practices and Research from the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama. In London, Kevin was part of the FOH Team at the Donmar Warehouse and worked in several West End theatres.

Rose Olea, Grants & Development Manager
Rose brings over 20 years of work experience in a variety of industries and is passionately and actively involved in community organizations. Her past experience includes serving as Executive Director for a Chinese American museum, Director of an Orthopaedic medical society, Manager at a global IT Consulting organization, and raising over $300,000 in grants and corporate sponsorships for minority nonprofit organizations.

Rose is the longest running President for the Chicago Chapter of the National Association of Asian American Professionals (NAAAP) and was the first woman elected as Board Chair to the National Board in 2013. Rose established Asian American Group Leaders, a collaborative program that has brought together over 40 Asian Employee/Business Resource Groups to share best practices and collaborate on events in the Chicagoland area. She also established a Women in Leadership Program now recognized as a national program called Women in NAAAP.

She has served as Chairwoman to the Chicago Chapter of the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum and served on various committees for the Association Forum and Nonprofit Technology Network. She was recognized in 2012 for her contributions to the Asian Community by the National Federation of Filipino American Association's Circle of Empowered Women in the Midwest and received the Filipino American Hall of Fame Award in 2017.
Erik S Barry, Lighting Designer
Erik S Barry is thrilled to be designing for the Gay Men’s Chorus again! He has designed lights around Chicago for the past two years. His designs have been seen at Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Porchlight Music Theatre, Dead Writers Theatre, 16th Street Theatre, Bailiwick Chicago and The Museum of Contemporary Art. He received his Masters of Fine Arts degree at the University of Wisconsin - Madison campus. He has designed over 60 productions in his career. Highlights include *The Rocky Horror Show* with The University of Wisconsin Madison, as well as *Fiddler on the Roof, Chicago*, and *Forever Plaid* with the Summer Theatre in Meredith Village. He dedicates this and every performance to the memories of Mom and Dad, and reminds Sara, Karen and Iris that he owes it all to them. www.eriksbarry.com

Josh Prisching, Sound Designer
Josh Prisching is pleased to be working with CGMC again! After graduating he wanted to pursue his combined passions of theater and film and landed his first gig as the sound engineer for a small film called “Love, Blood, Kryptonite” and recently was the light board technician for the ABC network series “Betrayal”. In his theater life he has designed for Chicago Folks Operetta, Proud Kate Theater Project, Open Door Repertory, Momenta Dance Academy, Proviso High School, Transcendences Dance Studios, Greenhouse theater, Underscore theatre, and Julian Middle School.

Beth Richards, Production Manager
Beth Richards is happy to be doing her third show with CGMC. She is a founding member of the ShowParty! theatre collective as a writer, performer, designer, and teacher since 2012. Her solo show, *Welcome to My Living Room* was produced by The Right Brain Project (2012). Beth has also worked extensively as an electrician, carpenter, and in stage management since 2005. Favorite Credits include: *NYE1, Science Fair, Never*
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BIOGRAPHIES

Look Away (ShowParty); Tea Partier in Alice (Upended Productions ‘14&’18); Vulcan Narrator in Klingon Christmas Carol (Commedia Beauregard), ASM for The Masrayana (Rasaka) and teaching for the VA Thespian Conference since 2015. She is a graduate of Antioch College.

Nico Joshua Nepomuceno, Choreographer
Nico holds a Bachelor’s degree in Musical Theatre with the class of 2010 from North Central College in Naperville, Illinois. Past dance/stage credits include Pippin, Cats, The King and I, Singin’ in the Rain, Jesus Chris Superstar, West Side Story, and Anything Goes. He has proudly been singing with the chorus since the Spring 2012 show: That 80s Show. Now an active member of the chorus and community, Nico also serves as a member of the Performance Committee.

Janneke Waal-Fowers, Choreographer
Janneke holds a B.A. in Dance Education and Choreography. She worked as a dance teacher and choreographer for theatre, television and fashion shows both in her native country of the Netherlands as in Bozeman, MT where she was a founding member of Montana Theatre Works, After receiving her M.A. in Art & Culture she moved to Chicago 17 years ago and is currently is the Site Manager at Mayslake Peabody Estate. CGMC has given her the opportunity to stay connected to her first love, choreography and she has been fortunate enough to choreograph over 25 CGMC shows. Thank you to Jimmy, all dancers, and her husband Jeff for their support.

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The **Legacy Circle** of the Chicago Gay Men’s Chorus is a group of unique individuals, through their visionary philanthropy, have made a commitment to ensure the future of the Chorus’ mission by remembering the Chorus in their estate plans.

**MEMBERS**
- Marty Brown*
- Larry Burke +
- Roberto López*
- George Luebking
- Merry Mary +
- Rick Marzec*
- Greg Marquis*
- Bruce Messick*
- Tom Myles*
- Walter Renfftlen
- Leslie Star*
- Matthew Wertman +

*Founding Member  + Deceased

Planned giving is a present decision to make a future gift to the Chicago Gay Men’s Chorus. You can become a member of the Legacy Circle by stating your intention to make a gift to the Chorus in your estate plans or bequest. We can provide you with information on planned giving techniques and how to name CGMC as a beneficiary in your estate plans. For more information please contact Kevin Corbett, Director of Operations, at kevincorbett@cgmc.org or calling 773-296-0541.
Step onto the risers and become a part of Chicago Gay Men’s Chorus - a community of artists, volunteer members, donors and music lovers who have joined together to support Chicago’s Most Colorful Chorus, a voice of the LGBT community since 1983.

Chicago Gay Men’s Chorus gratefully acknowledges the generous annual gifts of the following individuals, foundations and corporations. For more information about the ways you can support CGMC, including Planned Giving options, visit our website at cgmc.org, or contact Director of Operations, Kevin Corbett at kevincorbett@cgmc.org or call 773.296.0541.

Donors listed for combined individual contributions received 7/1/18 through 11/15/19. CGMC’s fiscal year runs 7/1 through 6/30. Recognizing our supporters is important to us; if you believe there is an error or omission, please contact us immediately.

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