

MEDIA ADVISORY

Artistic Director Jane Ramseyer Miller
Executive Director Christopher Taykalo

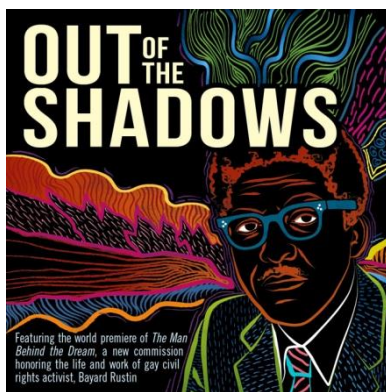
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August 17, 2016

One Voice Mixed Chorus Announces Its Blockbuster New 2016-2017 Season!

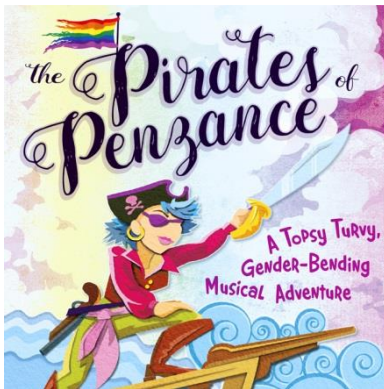
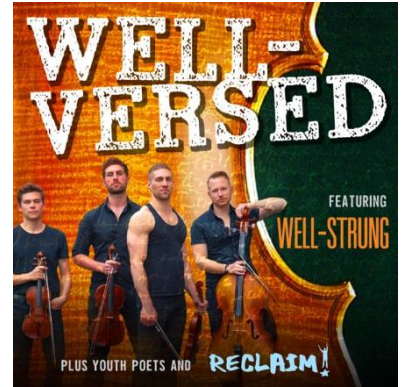
It is the Year of Music in St. Paul, so this season One Voice Mixed Chorus is honored to live our mission by celebrating the vibrant, exciting and one-of-a-kind arts community here in the Capital City! This year, we will perform both of our marquee concerts at the Ordway Concert Hall and next summer, we will mount an epic, outdoor production of Gilbert & Sullivan's *The Pirates of Penzance* - with a special gender-bent twist - on Raspberry Island in downtown St. Paul! **"It is world-class arts institutions like One Voice Mixed Chorus that contribute to the unique and amazing community that we're celebrating here in Saint Paul during the Year of Music,"** says Mayor Chris Coleman. **"They've been a fantastic presence in the new Ordway Concert Hall, and I'm excited to see the creativity that will be unleashed on Raspberry Island this summer with *Pirates of Penzance*."**



Celebrate MLK Weekend 2017 with *Out of the Shadows*, a concert honoring the work of African-American artists and activists. The concert also features **the world premiere of One Voice's largest commission ever, *The Man Behind the Dream***, a new choral work by Cincinnati composer Steve Milloy. This commission honors the life and work of openly gay civil rights activist **Bayard Rustin**, a mentor to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and organizer of the 1963 March on Washington, who was pushed to the margins of the movement due to his sexuality. ***The Man Behind the Dream* is a multi-movement piece set for chorus, spoken word, soloists and band, and is narrated by incomparable Twin Cities actors, T. Mychal Rambo and Aimee K. Bryant.** The

concert premieres on Friday, January 13 with a free daytime concert for LGBTQ youth and St. Paul choir students, followed by shows on Saturday, January 14 and Sunday, January 15 concerts at the Ordway Concert Hall in Downtown St. Paul. Featured composers include Ysaye Barnwell, Rosephanye Powell, Sam Cooke, and Billy Strayhorn. The concert also features student performers from the Central High School Concert Choir.

On Saturday, March 18, One Voice returns to the Ordway for *Well-Versed*, a celebration of LGBTQ youth and an evening of choral music, strings and poetry with **New York's hottest string quartet, Well-Strung**. Inspired by the poetry of local LGBTQ youth, *Well-Versed* also features the premiere of a three-movement composition for One Voice and Well-Strung sponsored by the American Composer's Forum with text **by poetry slam champion, Sierra DeMulder, and music by composer George Maurer**. Youth poets from RECLAIM, a local community organization offering support to queer and trans youth, are featured as spoken word artists. This concert also premieres with a Friday afternoon performance on March 17 for LGBTQ youth and St. Paul choir students.



On Pride Weekend 2017, get ready for a performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Pirates of Penzance* that's sure to be unlike anything the Twin Cities has ever seen! Set outside on Raspberry Island in downtown St. Paul, One Voice's *Pirates* is a topsy-turvy, gender-bending musical adventure for the whole family, featuring a lesbian pirate king and her swarthy crew of sailors arriving by speedboat, an uproarious appearance from the Major General's "daughters," and so much more! Featured soloists include One Voice singers along with guest artists from among the Twin Cities' best musical theater actors. **Ben Krywosz, artistic director for Nautilus Theater, serves as artistic consultant, and Gary Briggles as stage director, with musical direction by Jane**

Ramseyer Miller. We hope you'll join us on the banks of Mississippi River, in your best pirate costume, for a weekend of dancing and frivolity, plus a live band and plenty of sing-along opportunities for the audience. The show is free and open to the public.

But that's not at all! This November 18-20, we'll once again take our show on the road. This year, *Hand in Hand*, our fall outreach tour, is headed to the Iron Range with stops in Ely, Mountain Iron and Duluth. **We'll be joined by special guests, The Imuka Singers, a chorus hailing from Tanzania**, who also build bridges between communities and creates social change by combining traditional folk music of East Africa with rare singing techniques and electrifying choreography. Admission to our tour concerts is free, though free-will donations are welcome. We are also expanding **Out in Our Schools**, our music and anti-bullying education program, with youth concerts in both January and March 2017. Finally, July 2017 brings the return of our annual fundraiser, *Showtune Showdown!* Part silent auction, part game show and part sing-along, our new summer tradition pits three TC choruses against each other in an epic battle for Broadway trivia supremacy! Building on the smashing success of last year's show, we plan on making it even bigger, bolder and somehow even more fun!

Tickets for our Ordway concerts go on sale Monday, August 22. To purchase, please visit <http://www.onevoicemn.org/performances/get-tickets/> or call the Ordway Box Office at 651-224-4222. To learn more about One Voice Mixed Chorus, please email us at info@onevoicemn.org, call our office at 651-298-1954, or visit our website at <http://www.onevoicemn.org>.



2016-2017 Season Calendar:

Fall Outreach Tour: Hand in Hand

November 18, 2016 • 7:00pm: Vermilion Community College Fine Arts Theater in Ely, MN

November 19, 2016 • 7:00pm: Messiah Lutheran Church in Mt. Iron, MN

November 20, 2016 • 2:30pm: Duluth Congregational Church in Duluth, MN

Tickets: Free

More: <http://www.onevoicemn.org/community-impact/community-engagement/>

Out of the Shadows

January 14, 2017 • 2:00pm

January 15, 2017 • 3:00pm

The Ordway Concert Hall

345 Washington St, Saint Paul, MN 55102

Tickets: <http://onevoicemn.org/performances/get-tickets/> or 651-224-4222

Well-Versed

March 18, 2017 • 7:30pm

The Ordway Concert Hall

345 Washington St, Saint Paul, MN 55102

Tickets: <http://onevoicemn.org/performances/get-tickets/> or 651-224-4222

The Pirates of Penzance

June 22, 2017 • 7:30pm (Preview)

June 24, 2017 • 3:30pm

June 25, 2017 • 2:00pm & 5:30pm

Raspberry Island

Saint Paul, MN 55107

Tickets: Free and open to the public!

Showtune Showdown

July 2017

(Date and Venue TBA)

For nearly 30 years, One Voice Mixed Chorus, Minnesota's own LGBTQ and straight allies community chorus and the largest LGBTQ mixed chorus in North America, has been known for its commitment to artistic excellence, its diverse repertoire, its wicked sense of humor and a strong commitment to community engagement. Our talented and diverse group of 125 singing members span the ages of 17 and 77, and our "Fifth Section" boasts more than 50 non-singing volunteers. Together, they dedicate their time and energy to the One Voice mission: "Building community and creating social change by raising our voices in song." In the last few years, One Voice is proud to have performed for thousands of people in the Twin Cities, Greater Minnesota and beyond!