

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation CP12-0326

Recognizing the Denver Gay Men's Chorus

WHEREAS, the Rocky Mountain Arts Association was formed in 1982 as the umbrella organization for the 170-member Denver Gay Men's Chorus (DGMC) and was the first arts program in Colorado to use the word "gay" in its name; and

WHEREAS, the chorus's mission is to build community through music and to use artistry to provide educational, cultural, and social enrichment for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) community and the people of Denver; and

WHEREAS, DGMC concerts are designed to help community members learn about overcoming homophobia and bullying, supporting their life-changing decisions to come out, and addressing issues relating to HIV prevention, the AIDS crisis, and equality issues; and

WHEREAS, to date the chorus has performed over 130 concerts and 1,400 compositions, commissioned 25 works, and performed numerous prestigious compositions such as Jean Berger's "Hope for Tomorrow" - a tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King - selected for inclusion in the National Black History Museum archives; and

WHEREAS, the volunteer singers have performed with several Grammy Award artists and at venues including the Names Project AIDS quilt unveiling ceremonies in Denver and the Atlanta Olympics Diversity Pavilion and today performs numerous concerts each year, including the annual GLBT June Pride concert, 10 community outreach events, the World AIDS Day concert, and Manhattan Middle School's Diversity Week, and

WHEREAS, the group participates in the Gay and Lesbian Association (GALA) of Choruses festivals and has performed with GALA in seven cities - Denver, Montreal, New York, San Jose, Seattle, Tampa, and Miami - and will host the association's return to Denver this July 2012 - welcoming over 6,500 singers and 96 separate choruses from across the nation.

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. That the Council hereby expresses its sincere appreciation to the Denver Gay Men's Chorus for its artistry and tireless work on behalf of the gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, and transgender community in Denver and wishes it well in hosting the 2012 GALA music festival to the City of Denver this July.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL April 30, 2012

PRESIDENT