

Resolution Commemorating the 40th Anniversary of Chicago Gay Men's Chorus

WHEREAS, Chicago Gay Men's Chorus has been an integral part of Chicago's cultural and LGBTQIA+ communities since 1983, entertaining audiences across the continent with innovative musical programming exploring everything from love to politics.

WHEREAS, Chicago Gay Men's Chorus formed during a time when identifying as gay carried significant risks including being fired, evicted, or otherwise discriminated against, and provided a place where many men made the transition to coming out in a safe and welcoming environment.

WHEREAS, Chicago Gay Men's Chorus formed during the HIV/AIDS epidemic, bringing attention to the community's rights and inequities.

WHEREAS, Chicago Gay Men's Chorus proudly sang "America the Beautiful" for the Illinois Marriage Equality Act bill-signing ceremony and was inducted in the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame in 2001.

WHEREAS, Chicago Gay Men's Chorus mission is to create musical experiences to entertain and enlighten, inspire change, and build community. Chicago Gay Men's Chorus delights audiences, and explores issues relevant to LGBTQIA+ people and their allies - enlivening Chicago's cultural landscape and creating a better community for all.

WHEREAS, Chicago Gay Men's Chorus revolves around the core ideas of community, music, and advocacy, and is an expression of identity, an emblem of LGBTQIA+ history, and a look into a community of people that connect through song.

WHEREAS, Chicago Gay Men's Chorus proudly represents Chicago at performances across North America, including Montreal, New York, Denver, Miami, Los Angeles, and New Orleans, and has brought entertainment from across the U.S. and Europe to perform here in Chicago.

WHEREAS, Chicago Gay Men's Chorus is the largest LGBTQIA+ arts organization in the Midwest, and one of the largest volunteer choruses in the Chicago area.

WHEREAS, Chicago Gay Men's Chorus vision is to entertain and enlighten, inspire change, and build community. Chicago Gay Men's Chorus is a safe haven from discrimination and judgment.

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and members of the Chicago City Council, assembled here on this 1st day of November, 2023, do hereby honor and congratulate Chicago Gay Men's Chorus.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this Resolution be prepared and presented to the Chicago Gay Men's Chorus as a symbol of our esteem and respect.



Leni Manaa-Hoppenworth
Alderwoman, 48th Ward