**One Voice Mixed Chorus presents** 

# Brave Souls & Dreamers



ONE VOICE MIXED CHORUS: Minnesota's GLBTA Chorus Building community and creating social change by raising our voices in song. Jane Ramseyer Miller • Artistic Director Scott Lykins • Accompanist

> January 21, 2012 • 7:30 pm January 22, 2012 • 3:30 pm

Hopkins High School Auditorium 2400 Lindbergh Drive, Minnetonka, MN



Building community and creating social change by raising our voices in song.



Come sing with One Voice this spring for our **Come Fly With Me: A GLBT Romp Around The World** concert! Sign up for auditions in the lobby, or call the One Voice office to schedule an audition and receive and information packet. One Voice rehearses at Unity Church Unitarian in St. Paul from 7-9:30 pm on Monday nights. For a complete performance schedule, ticket, volunteer and audition information – see info below.

#### January 30 & 31, 2012

CONTACT US FOR AN APPOINTMENT! 651.298.1954 • info@ovmc.org www.ovmc.org/auditions.html



## One Voice Mixed Chorus 2011-2012 Season

March 10, 2012 • 7:30 pm Spring Fever Cabaret & Silent Auction DoubleTree Park Place 1500 Park Place Blvd., St. Louis Park

April 2012 OUT in Our Schools A day of in-school performances

June 4, 2012 • 7:00 pm QMC Pride Concert Como Park Pavilion 1360 N Lexington Pkwy., St. Paul FREE event!

June 13, 2012 • 7:30 pm Chorus America Opening Concert Orchestra Hall 1111 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis

June 15, 2012 • 7:30 pm June 16, 2012 • 7:30 pm Come Fly With Me: A GLBT Romp Around the World History Theatre 30 East 10th St., St. Paul

July 2, 2012 • 8:00 – 9:00 pm Send-Off Concert for GALA Festival 2012 Unity Church-Unitarian 732 Holly Ave., St. Paul FREE event!

July 7-11, 2012 GALA Festival 2012 Denver, CO

## Welcome to Brave Souls Dreamers

#### from the Executive Director



Welcome to the concert! Whether today is your first concert with us (like it is mine) or you are a stalwart supporter: thank you for being here. The One Voice family of singers, volunteers, staff, and board members have been working for months in preparation for this

concert. In addition to a major concert like today's, One Voice travels to underserved communities to present our music. Our OUT in Our Schools program introduces more than 1,100 youth each year to positive GLBT role models in an interactive, fun and educational day of music.

Your support makes our work possible. Talk to your friends about us. Bring them to an event. Follow us on Twitter. Like us on Facebook. Make sure you are on the mailing list. Volunteer. Audition. Invite us to sing at your event or your business.

90 cents of every dollar we receive goes to making the music and delivering the outreach. Feel free to use the donation envelope in this program or go online to www.ovmc.org to make a contribution. Buy a CD (or two). Send a Val-o-Gram to a loved one. Donate an item or service to our Silent Auction. Catch the Spring Fever Cabaret in March. Come back to our concert June 15 & 16.

I look forward to meeting you and hearing from you how One Voice matters in your life. Thank you again for being part of the One Voice family – we couldn't do it without you!

- Craig Coogan, Executive Director

#### from the Artistic Director



Three years ago I heard BraveSouls & Dreamers for the first time and was spellbound as each movement unfolded through emotions of anger, pain, sorrow, hope and finally joy. I was amazed that one composition could encapsulate both the terror of war as well as a deep

hope for a more peaceful world. Tonight's concert honors peacemakers, past and present, who have protested, preached, fought, lived and transformed violence in their communities into something beautiful and harmonious. May this music inspire the same transformation in all of us.

– Jane Ramseyer Miller, Artistic Director



#### from the Artistic Director:

A special thank-you to Vicki Janisch-Tri and her family for their deep commitment to music and peace-making. Your gift, in honor of Cynthia, has made this Brave Souls & Dreamers concert possible and it has been a joy working with you every step of the way.

– Jane Ramseyer Miller, Artistic Director

## Meet the Composers

*BraveSouls & Dreamers* was commissioned by the Portland Gay Men's Chorus in 2007 and composed by Robert Seeley with text by his partner, Robert Espindola "in response to current raging wars." In creating the text for this ten-movement composition, Espindola was inspired by the words of Gandhi, Jesus, Mother Teresa, Isaiah, Jimmy Carter, Confucius, Buddha, and the Qur'an. In September 2011, the Portland Gay Men's Chorus performed *BraveSouls & Dreamers* at St. John the Divine in New York City as part of the 10th anniversary commemoration of 9/11.

After hearing the men's chorus *BraveSouls & Dreamers* in concert, One Voice Artistic Director, Jane Ramseyer Miller, asked Robert Seeley if he would consider creating an arrangement for SATB (mixed) chorus to premiere here in the Twin Cities. This powerful 43-minute multi-movement piece is scored for chorus, instrumental ensemble, and four soloists including voices of the Mother, Sage and two Soldiers.

One Voice's arrangement of *BraveSouls & Dreamers* was made possible through a generous donation by Vicki Janisch-Tri and Jerry Tri in loving memory of Cynthia Schmidt.



#### Composer Robert Seeley,

a California native, was raised in a small town in the Mojave Desert. He received his formal education at California State University, Chico, where he received a B.A. in music theory and composition. He is a former Composer in Residence for the

San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus for which he composed NakedMan in 1996. He has also written for the Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus, (*Metamorphosis*), Dallas Women's Chorus (*Only Human*), New York City Gay Men's Chorus (*In This Heart of Mine*), Turtle Creek Chorale (*To a Dancing Star*), Gay Men's Chorus of Washington (*This House Shall Stand: Songs of My Family*), Seattle Men's Chorus (*Over the Skies of Yisrael*) and the Portland Gay Men's Chorus (*BraveSouls* & *Dreamers*). He currently serves as Artistic Director for Caballeros The Gay Men's Chorus of Palm Springs.

#### Librettist Robert Espindola

is a professional educator and a minister. He graduated with honors from Graceland College in Lamoni, Iowa in 1975. After completing graduate studies in psychology at Illinois State and San Francisco State University, he taught

in the California school system for twenty years. In 1992 he was honored as one of California's distinguished educators. A strong advocate for teenagers living with HIV/AIDS, he traveled extensively throughout the United States and Canada, conducting workshops and seminars. He has been the keynote speaker at two National AIDS conferences, and served in 1993 as a delegate to the International Conference on AIDS in Yokohama, Japan.

## Soloists

**Kris Anne Weiss** has performed leading roles in many operas, including L'Italiana in Algeri, Le Nozze di Figaro, Cosi fan tutte, and Madama Butterfly. In 2010, she premiered the lead role in a new opera, The Ladysmith Story, by Chris Gable. KrisAnne teaches voice at the Mount Olivet School of Music and has taught at the University of Minnesota, Lawrence University, and Luther College.

**A.P. Hopper** began her involvement with choral music in fourth grade and has since continually participated in music ministry as a vocalist, accompanist, and director. She has been privileged to be the bass section leader and occasional soloist of One Voice Mixed Chorus for 7 years and assistant director for 3 years (2007-2010). A.P. and Cyndi, her wonderful and musically gifted spouse of 13 years, live in Coon Rapids where they enjoy hosting their five children and two grandchildren bi-weekly.

**Emily Tinawi** started singing when she was just a youngin'. She continued to sing throughout elementary, middle, and high school, as well throughout college at Oberlin College in Ohio. During her lifetime she has sung

with 3 professional choirs in the DC area and been involved with various professional theatre companies throughout the US. In 2004, Emily won the National Choral Award and still has the certificate hanging in her room. Since graduating Emily performed in several cabarets as well as was a featured soloist for the Second Unitarian's Sunday choir in Chicago, IL and since moving to Minnesota has felt lucky to have found Once Voice. This is Emily's 5th season with One Voice and has been privileged to be a part of two Spring Fever Cabarets. She is currently teaching fourth grade language arts at Achieve Language Academy in St. Paul, Minnesota.

**Eric McCool**, an Iowa native, graduated from Luther College where he sang under the direction of Mr. Weston Noble with the internationally acclaimed Nordic Choir. Eric received his J.D. from the Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Lansing, MI. While in law school Eric found his stress relief through song with the Michigan State Singers. Currently, Eric can be seen singing around the Twin Cities and with the guys of the Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus and OutLoud under the direction of Dr. Stan Hill. Eric is an attorney with the State of Minnesota.

## Artistic Staff

#### Jane Ramseyer Miller, Artistic Director

Jane is in her 17th year as Artistic Director with One Voice and also works as Artistic Director-in-Residence for GALA Choruses, Inc. She holds Masters of Music in Choral Conducting from the University of Minnesota and a B.A. in psychology from the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada. She especially enjoys creative community collaborations and has created choral music with 15-Head Theater Lab, The Women's Cancer Resource Center, Shakopee Women's Correctional Facility, Heart of the Beast, Kairos Dance Theatre, Mu Daiko, Teens Rock the Mic and District 202 among others. In 2008 Jane received the GALA Choruses Legacy Award for her conducting, innovative programming and commitment to community outreach. In 2010 she was awarded the ACDA VocalEssence Award for Creative Programming and the ACDA Minnesota Advocate for Choral Excellence (ACE) Award.

#### Scott Lykins, Accompanist

Scott recently joined the artistic team at One Voice as Accompanist. He began playing piano at age five in his native Brainerd, Minnesota, and studied privately for twelve years, gaining considerable experience in vocal and string collaboration. He holds Bachelors and Masters Degrees from the Eastman School of Music in Cello Performance and is a freelance artist around the Twin Cities. An advocate for the exploration of innovative music presentation, Scott is Founder and Artistic Director of the Lakes Area Music Festival in Brainerd, Minnesota and Managing Assistant for the inaugural season of the Minneapolis Mill City Summer Opera this summer, 2012.

#### Randi Grundahl Rexroth, OVation Ensemble Coach

Randi is delighted to be working with OVation and has enjoyed coaching this talented group of singers. She is also a choir director at the Visitation School in Mendota Heights, Assistant Director for the Twin Cities Women's Choir, and is music directing several shows in Hudson, Wisconsin, and at Macalester College. When she's not conducting, teaching, or directing, she's arranging and composing while trying to perform.



#### **One Voice Personnel**

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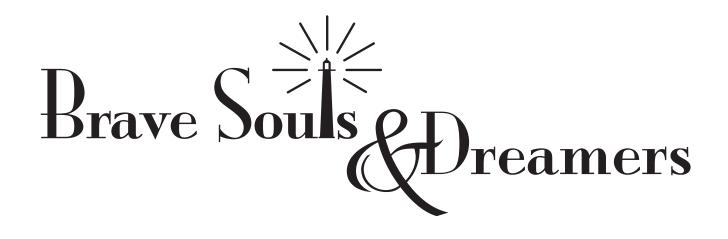
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**Brave Soul Stories** 

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## Set One

Please turn off devices that may make noise. No photos or video allowed during the performance. Thank you!

#### Bismillah

Arab Sufi melody, arr. Sangeet Translation: *In the name of Allah the most beneficent and the most merciful.* 

Nelson Mandela Narrators: Allan Henden, Jim Miller

**One by One** Lebo Morake, arr. John Leavitt Solo: Aya Eid, Rebecca Warren

Translation from Zulu: Hold tight my people. Don't get weary, don't lose your strength. We can see. They wanted to hold us back but they will not succeed. One by one we will win. They will not succeed because we know who we are. I am proud of the color of my skin that is dark. I will die with it.

#### Transformation

Shape-note music by Jane Ramseyer Miller, Text by Thomas Gibbons Amish of Nickel Mines Story Narrator: Sarah Ann Post

#### **Change of Heart**

Music by Holly Near, Jim Scott and Derek Nakamoto Text by Holly Near, arr. Steve Milloy Solos: Paul Dykes, Elizabeth Vaught

**Bayard Rustin** Narrators: Allan Warrior, Dennis Kearney

#### How Can I Keep from Singing

Quaker hymn by Robert Lowry, arr. Dare to Breathe Performed by OVation: Marisa Squadrito Geisler, Darcy Juhl, Becky Warren, Shari Pleiss, Brian Geving, Wayne Schneider, Jay Kurvers, Allan Warrior.

**Dear Abby** Narrators: James Gottfried, Sarah Bizek

#### Influenced by Queers

Judy Small, arr. Jane Ramseyer Miller Tea Party Ladies: Birdie Murphy, Doug Munro, Emily Tinawi, Marnie Milbert, Martha Bentley, Dennis Kearney

Ashley, Anoka-Hennepin School District Narrators: Elaine Voboril, Birdie Murphy

#### **Children Will Listen**

(from "Into the Woods") Stephen Sondheim, arr. Mark Brymer

**Judy Shepard** Narrators: Jen Rivera, Vicki Janisch-Tri

**What Matters** Randi Driscoll, arr. Kevin Robison Solo: Benjamin Lamb

*Ain't No Grave* Traditional spiritual arr. Paul Caldwell and Sean Ivory

#### INTERMISSION

"If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other."

– Mother Teresa

## Set Two

#### BraveSouls & Dreamers

Music by Robert Seeley Libretto by Robert Espindola and inspired by the words of Gandhi, Jesus, Mother Teresa, Isaiah, Jimmy Carter, Confucius, Buddha, and the Qur'an

Solos: Mother – Kris Anne Weiss, Sage – A.P. Hopper, Soldier 1 – Emily Tinawi, Soldier 2 – Eric McCool

Please hold your applause until the final movement.

The Great Obscenity Somehow Collateral Damages To Each Other Epitaph Elegy Footprints Angels As If BraveSouls & Dreamers

#### Imagine-Blowin' in the Wind

John Lennon, arr. Mac Huff/ Bob Dylan Solo: Jessica Eastman



#### Take BraveSouls & Dreamers home!

Sign up in the lobby to purchase your recording of BraveSouls & Dreamers. The limited edition recording of the commission will be autographed. Preorder your copy at the merchandise table for just \$15, including shipping and handling. Two other One Voice CDs are also on sale in the lobby at special concert discount prices!

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#### Additional Singers for BraveSouls & Dreamers

Jay Baumgartner David Edminster Dwight Joyner Jim Miller Stan Pankratz

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Jill Barnes

Our non-singing volunteers Amanda Stella Maris Amy Kutz Andy Luetgers Anita Wheeler Annie Anderson Ashley LaTour Bonnie LaDuca Brad Hanson Chris Johnson Cory Gottfried Cyndi Hopper Dan Thielen Darolyn Gray **Dorothy Williams** Earl Moore Gary Kelsey Ginger Kranz Hannah Burchill Jason Morrison Jeff Taylor

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In 2008, One Voice inaugurated a program to honor those who have left One Voice a legacy gift in their wills or estate plans in support of our mission of building community and creating social change. Thank you to the following individuals:

Colleen Watson John Whalen Sharon Barnd Jane Ramseyer Miller Paul Petrella Stephanie Peck

If you have already named One Voice as a beneficiary in your estate plans, or are considering such a gift, please contact Craig Coogan, Executive Director, at (651) 298-1954 or ExecutiveDirector@ovmc.org. Thank you for your generosity.

#### **Foundation & Grant Support**

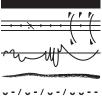
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This activity is funded, in part, by the Minnesota State Arts Board through the arts and cultural heritage fund as appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the Legacy Amendment vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008.

#### BraveSouls & Dreamers Commission Gifts \$5,500

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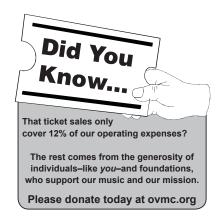


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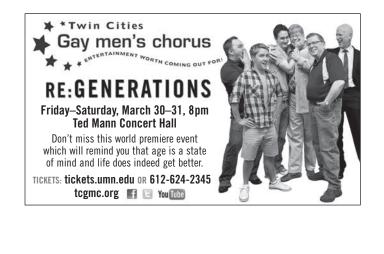
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- Franklin D. Roosevelt









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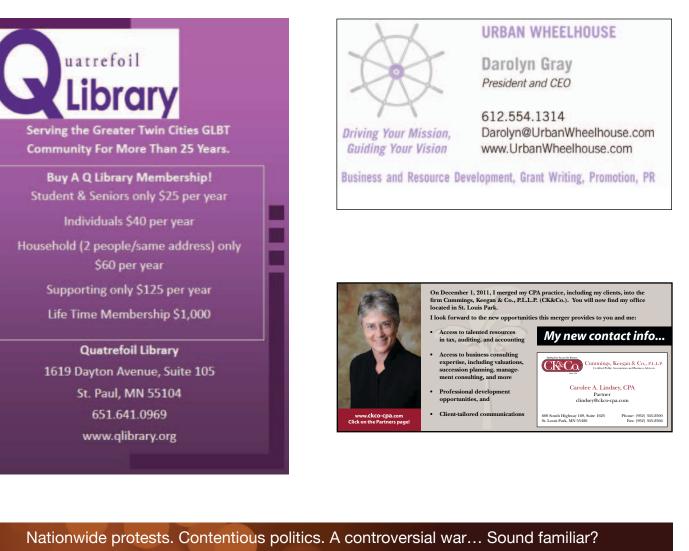




North Hennepin Community College

Foundation

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#### The Year That Rocked the World

By members of the Playwrights' Center

Music arranged by Ivey Award-winner Gary Rue

performed by students from McNally Smith College of Music

History Theatre brings 1968's most explosive events and personalities of 1968 to life on stage for seven distinct perspectives on the year that rocked the world, surrounded by the music and culture that entertained and reflected a chaotic world.

**MAKE A DAY OF IT AT THE MINNESOTA HISTORY CENTER!** On Tuesday evenings and weekends see both the Exhibit and the Play for an extraordinary experience of an extraordinary year.

SHOW TICKETS AS LOW AS \$32!



651.292.4323 www.HistoryTheatre.com

PRESENTED AT THE MINNESOTA HISTORY CENTER IN TANDEM WITH THE 1968 EXHIBIT



One Voice Mixed Chorus unites gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender people and straight allies to build community and create social change by raising our voices in song. As the largest GLBT chorus in North America, One Voice is known for its musical excellence, diverse programming, and deep commitment to community outreach. The 100 singing members range from ages 17 to 74, and the "Fifth Section" boasts more than 50 non-singing volunteers. Whether performing in schools, at community events, or on stage for marquee concerts, One Voice inspires transformation through passionate, vibrant, and creative performances. The award-winning chorus, under the direction of Artistic Director Jane Ramseyer Miller, has performed for thousands of people throughout the Twin Cities, Greater Minnesota and beyond.

#### Join us for One Voice's June Concerts!

One Voice's season finale comes in June with **Come Fly With Me: A GLBT Romp Around the World**. Join us for a spirited trip around the globe! Travel tunes join indigenous songs in this musical travelogue showcasing stories of GLBT communities worldwide. The concert includes a fiery Argentinean tango, lush favorites from the Russian choral masters, an encounter with faeries in Ireland, Bollywood delights, heart-pounding African drumming, and sing-along favorites!

Join One Voice on June 15 and 16, 2012 at the History Theatre in St. Paul.



#### GALA CHORUSES

One Voice Mixed Chorus is a member of GALA Choruses, a network of over 200 queer choruses across the world, with a mission of inspiring member choruses to change the world through song. Founded in 1982, GALA Choruses is the world's leading international choral association for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and allied choruses. For more information visit www.galachoruses.org.

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