

outstanding

Conducting the Chorus

Behind every group of singing gay men is a strong lesbian. Members of the Portland Gay Men's Chorus have such a woman working with them to create and share beautiful music while breaking boundaries.

My name is Mary McCarty.

I am known as a conducting associate for PGMC. In 2000 I played the flute for them, and in 2004 I filled in for Bob [Mensel] as a guest conductor for the holiday show. In 2005-2006 I sang with a subgroup of the chorus. In fall 2006 I conducted the cabaret show, and [Feb. 18] I conducted the classical concert.

My cause is to provide visibility for GLBT people through music.

I am 51 years old. I feel 40 years old because my partner [Lottie Zorn] is 14 years younger than I, and I'm in good health.

Right now I'm at work. I am the [information technology] manager for Freightliner, a company that manufactures heavy-duty trucks.

My childhood ambition was to be a professional musician.

I like to spend my down time with my family.

My proudest moment was being able to get married that moment in Multnomah County in March of 2004.

One of my biggest challenges of being a woman in a men's organization is my hesitation to not invade their space, though they are very welcoming.

A perfect day in Portland would be spent making music.

My first job was as a music teacher.


My vice is reading. I've been reading a lot of Carol Lea Benjamin mysteries.



MARY MCCARTY supports the Portland Gay Men's Chorus to change the world through music.

My inspiration is Lottie. She is so compassionate and in such a way that it is so true to her ideals.

The last philanthropic event I participated in was delivering Meals on Wheels on Jan. 27, which I've been doing for five years. I do so much with music, which fulfills me, but it doesn't provide for basic human needs. Meals on Wheels provides food for people who wouldn't get it otherwise, and many people wouldn't have social contact otherwise. It fills a different need.

My highest hope for the cause is that we stop being a marginalized group in society through the music and familiarity and education that PGMC provides, and as a group to be more universally accepted. 

—Malka Geffen

just asking

Just Out volunteered at Equity Foundation's Investments in Dignity benefit and asked attendees, "What is an appropriate response to recently televised occurrences of perceived homophobia in the media?"



KELLY MORROW
Traveler

"There needs to be a form of protest to the [Federal Communications Commission] and the advertising agencies that homosexuals can't be the butt of jokes. No other minority would be, so why would they use it with gays and lesbians?"



LINDSEY ADDISON
Equity Foundation Volunteer

"Everyone has a right to free speech, but is it newsworthy? I'm not really interested in basketball players' personal opinions."



REBECCA PROVORSE
Naturopathic Physician

"I definitely think voicing a response is the most appropriate, but you have to meet people where they are. If you respond with vehemence, you're just going to build a wall."



KEVIN BAILEY-GILLIAM
Gay Dad

"I think we shouldn't be so sensitive. Just like white, black and Chinese people are going to be made fun of, sometimes gay people are going to be the butt of a joke and you just shouldn't take it so seriously."



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