

What's Old is New, and That's Great for Lambda Chorale

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For Immediate Release

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Gary Keating, who founded South Florida Lambda Chorale in 1991, has returned to the group as artistic director five years after leaving to work on his doctorate in choral conducting at the University of Miami. Chorale members could not be happier.

Keating, who led the chorale as interim director during its recent performance at the International GALA (Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses) Festival in Miami, accepted the artistic director position on a permanent basis in August.

Well known throughout the GALA community, he has been one of the major forces behind the development of gay and lesbian choruses in Florida, a movement that now includes a dozen GLTB choruses.

Keating founded Florida's first gay chorus in 1986, the Gay Men's Chorus of South Florida, now known as the Fort Lauderdale Gay Men's Chorus. Five years later, he left that chorus and co-founded South Florida Lambda Chorale. He also has been artistic director of the Miami Gay Men's Chorus, a position he assumed in 2005, when he finished class work for his Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting degree.

He is beginning his third year as choral and music theory teacher at Dr. Michael M. Krop Senior High School in North Miami Beach and has enjoyed a variety of professional positions in the arts at such prestigious institutions as the Greater Miami Opera, The Great Artist Series of Temple Beth Shalom, and Gusman Center for the Performing Arts. In addition, he has served as adjunct professor of music at Florida International University and held conducting positions with the Barry University Chorale and the Miami Oratorio Society.

He and his partner, Richard Schultz, live in Wilton Manors and are celebrating their recent civil union, which took place in New Hampshire.

South Florida Lambda Chorale's next concert will be at 8 p.m., Saturday, September 27, at the Sunshine Cathedral (MCC), 1480 SW Ninth Avenue, Fort Lauderdale. Tickets, at \$15 each, are available from chorale members, or by calling (866) WE-SING-4-U (866-937-4644).

The chorale practices Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. at the Sunshine Cathedral. New members (male, female, gay or straight) are welcome. Call (866) 937-4644 for further information.

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