

For Immediate Release



**NEW YORK CITY GAY MEN'S CHORUS**

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**NEW YORK CITY GAY MEN'S CHORUS PRESENTS  
*BIG GAY SING: DIVAS, DIVAS, DIVAS*  
AT NYU SKIRBALL**



**Friday, March 20, 2020 at 8:00 p.m.  
Saturday, March 21, 2020 at 8:00 p.m.  
Sunday, March 22, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.**

**January 29, 2020, New York, NY**— The [New York City Gay Men’s Chorus \(NYCGMC\)](#) pays tribute to its favorite divas and celebrates their legacies at its [Big Gay Sing: Divas, Divas, Divas](#) on **Friday, March 20 and Saturday, March 21 at 8:00 p.m.** and **Sunday, March 22 at 3:00 p.m.**

The annual tradition, now in its 12th year, features an audience singalong to iconic anthems, dancing, drag queens, and more, all set to pop, musical theater, and current top 40 and throwback hits by Beyoncé, Britney Spears, Celine Dion, Cher, Dolly Parton, Judy Garland, Lady Gaga, Lizzo, and others.

“This year’s Big Gay Sing takes an expansive view of who and what a diva can be, whether it is an individual artist of any gender, or simply the spirit of a diva—someone who knows what to do to survive and to be successful, and demands nothing less,” said Artistic Director Gavin Thrasher. “The LGBTQ+ community and other marginalized groups emulate the spirit of divas when standing up for our rights, and we look forward to kicking off spring and celebrating our favorite divas with you!”

The New York City Gay Men’s Chorus also presents [Proud: NYCGMC Celebrates 40 Years!](#) on **June 20, 2020** at David Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center.

### **Concert Information**

***BIG GAY SING: DIVAS, DIVAS, DIVAS***  
**New York City Gay Men’s Chorus**

**Friday, March 20, 2020 at 8:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, March 21, 2020 at 8:00 p.m.**

**Sunday, March 22, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.**

**NYU Skirball**  
**566 LaGuardia Place**  
**New York, NY 10012**

Tickets, priced from \$25, are available by visiting [nyuskirball.org](http://nyuskirball.org), by calling 212-998-4941 or by visiting the NYU Skirball Box Office.

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### **About the Artists**

**New York City Gay Men’s Chorus (NYCGMC)** is a world-class, world-renowned New York institution and a pioneering voice for the LGBTQ community, comprised of more than 250 talented singers of various ages, backgrounds, and experiences. Together, the chorus produces a vibrant sound and energy that audiences can feel and connect with. Through the power of this sound and spectacular performances, the NYCGMC are fearless champions for love, equality, and acceptance. Founded in 1980, the chorus has formed a strong bond with devoted followers and continues to make lasting connections with new and diverse audiences. NYCGMC sings in every style from classical to pop, Broadway to gospel, and from cultures all over the world. As artists, chorus members listen to the changing world around them, using it to transform what they hear into music. Chorus members sing to challenge perceptions of the LGBTQ community, to combat fear and hatred, to encourage compassion and human connection, and to thrill with the superb quality of their sound. Through the NYCGMC’s music, audiences mourn losses, cheer victories, find unconditional acceptance, and celebrate life. The chorus performs in a variety of settings, including special, private, and corporate events, concerts, television appearances, festivals, Broadway/theatre productions, conferences, weddings, parties, fundraisers, and community events. For more information, please visit [nycgmc.org](http://nycgmc.org).

Artistic Director **Gavin Thrasher** is a professional conductor, singer, and teacher. He is currently the Interim Artistic Director and Conductor for the Gay Men’s Chorus of Los Angeles, where he develops the musicianship and sound of the ensemble and its individual members, creates the concert season, and oversees all of GMCLA’s educational programs. Gavin has been a guest conductor and clinician for ensembles and international festivals and presented his work to international conferences.

Prior to taking over as Interim Artistic Director, Gavin was the Assistant Conductor and Youth Programs Director for the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles for 4 years. During his time in this role, he founded GMCLA's small ensemble a cappella group, Aftershock, which performs at concerts and events across Southern California, most recently for the Emmy's Television Academy. He also founded two new youth programs in Los Angeles. The first brings music education through healing-informed practices to adolescents who are in the L.A. County Probation System Juvenile Halls and Camps. The second provides semester-long choral and vocal music education to Los Angeles Schools that wouldn't otherwise have access to these aspects of arts education. Gavin also updated and further developed GMCLA's Alive Music Project, which brings the chorus into schools to share personal stories and engage in positive conversation with students. Gavin has presented these programs, their materials, and best practices for this work on a national level, helping many organizations begin changing young peoples' lives.

Gavin is recognized for the collaborative approach he brings to his work and has built lasting relationships with organizations in L.A. such as the Los Angeles Master Chorale, Vox Femina, the Arts for Incarcerated Youth Network, and the Partnership for Los Angeles Schools. He has numerous television and film credits as a vocalist, including *The Mindy Project*, *Ellen*, and *VEEP*.

He earned his Master of Music degree in Choral Music from the University of Southern California, where he studied with Dr. Jo-Michael Scheibe, and served as Conductor of the University's Apollo Men's Chorus. Gavin's work has been recognized by the *Los Angeles Times* and Southern California Public Radio, an NPR affiliate, and Good Day LA.

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*Image at top of release by Michael Dekker*