

ONE VOICE MIXED CHORUS
presents

QUEER THUNDER

FEATURING TAIKO DRUMMERS FROM MU DAIKO

APRIL 16, 2016 • 7:30 pm

APRIL 17, 2016 • 3:00 pm

HOPKINS HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
2400 LINDBERGH DRIVE
HOPKINS, MN 55305

Jane Ramseyer Miller
Artistic Director

Mindy Eschedor
Accompanist

Mari Esabel Valverde
Commissioned Composer

Cathie VanDanacker, Heather Jeché and Arlene Teraoka
Mu Daiko Taiko drummers

ONE VOICE
MINNESOTA'S LGBT
MIXED CHORUS

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

www.OneVoiceMN.org
651.298.1954

All Performances

April 17, only

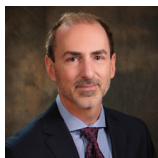


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WELCOME



FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Three world premieres, four One Voice commissions and five Minnesota composers! You are in for a treat as One Voice partners with taiko players from Mu Daiko for a concert that will get your heart pounding. We had a blast creating and designing Queer Thunder this winter as we explored ways to combine choral music with taiko. This concert also honors stories of global LGBTQ trailblazers who are taking our world by storm. We are especially excited that One Voice will perform with the Beijing Queer Chorus, China's first LGBT chorus, at the GALA LGBT Choral Festival this summer in Denver. You'll meet these wonderful performers in a special video presentation during the concert, so sit back and prepare for the THUNDER!

- Jane Ramsey Miller

Thank you from the Artistic Director to:

- Mari, for your beautiful spirit, lyrical voice and exquisite compositional skills. We are honored to premiere two of your compositions.
- Cathie, Heather, and Arlene for the countless hours of creation, rehearsal and learning western musical notation. Glad we get to do it all again in Denver!
- Kelli for your ability to jump in and ably assist with many musical tasks, creative ideas and rehearsals.



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We often talk about our mission at One Voice, and how we are more than just performing ensemble, we are community organization striving for social change. But that does not change the fact that this choir is 1 – really good, and 2 – programming music that nobody else is doing. What you're about to hear tonight – the new commissions, the taiko drumming and chorus, the journey around the world – is an experience that you won't find, literally, anywhere else on this planet. That's really cool, and it's a big reason I like my job. One Voice is going to continue to be on the cutting edge of choral music next year, with even more new commissions, off the wall programming, and pushing the envelope for social change. If you haven't supported the chorus before, I encourage you to get involved now as a donor, volunteer, or simply following us via email or social media. You can do all that in the lobby. It's exciting times. Enjoy the show and stay tuned for more!

- Josh Wise

*The poor and dispossessed take up the drums
for civil rights – freedoms to think and speak,
petition, pray and vote. When thunder comes,
The civil righteous are finished being meek.*

- J. PATRICK LEWIS, 2011-2013 CHILDREN'S POET LAUREATE



One Voice Mixed Chorus is Minnesota's only lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and straight allies (LGBTQA) chorus. Founded in 1988, One Voice has been **"building community and creating social change by raising our voices in song"** for 28 years. Known for their musical excellence, diverse programming, innovative collaborations, and deep commitment to community outreach, One Voice is the largest LGBT chorus in North America with 125 singing members ranging from ages 17 to 77, and nearly 50 non-singing "Fifth Section" volunteers. Under the direction of Artistic Director Jane Ramseyer Miller, the award-winning chorus inspires transformation through passionate, vibrant, and creative performances at concerts, during outreach tours and through their pioneering OUT in Our Schools program, now in its 17th year. One Voice has performed for thousands of people throughout the Twin Cities, Greater Minnesota and beyond, and is described by Chorus America as **"one of the region's best ensembles."**

One Voice Mixed Chorus
732 Holly Avenue, Suite Q — Saint Paul, MN 55104-7125
651.298.1954 www.OneVoiceMN.org



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.

OUT in Our Schools

Since 1999, One Voice has tackled the problem of bullying and homophobia in our communities through our interactive OUT in Our Schools program. Over the years, we have collaborated with over 50 Minnesota middle and high schools to provide positive LGBT role models and quality music partnerships culminating in joint concerts with our chorus and students performing together. Through this unique program we also support educators and administrators at each participating school with their work building understanding and respect for all.



OVation is the portable version of One Voice—an a cappella ensemble that brings One Voice's music and message almost anywhere. Since its founding in 2000, OVation has presented over 200 performances, reaching over 30,000 people in dozens of Minnesota communities, at choral festivals from coast to coast, and internationally in Canada and Ireland. OVation performs at 20-30 community engagement events annually, in venues that have included the Minnesota State Fair, the Northern Voice Festival, the Minnesota Arboretum, TwinsFest, several Pride festivals, places of worship, and in partnership with organizations like RECLAIM!, the Aliveness Project, and Avenues for Homeless Youth. On July 2, 2016 they will make their fourth appearance at the quadrennial GALA Festival of GLBTQ choruses in Denver, Colorado at the Ellie Caulkins Opera House.

For information on booking this talented and entertaining ensemble for your party, sacred service, business, wedding, coming-out party, birthday bash, or other event, email OVation@OneVoiceMN.org.



2016 CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Queer Music Consortium Pride Concert

June 5, 2016 • 3:00 pm - FREE

Note that this concert is on a Sunday!

Como Park Pavilion
1360 Lexington Pkwy N
St Paul, MN 55117

Showtune Showdown

June 13, 2016 • 7:00 pm

Woman's Club of Minneapolis
410 Oak Grove St
Minneapolis, MN 55403

One Voice Pride Concert

June 26, 2016

3:00 pm Pride Concert - FREE

4:00 pm Worship Service

St. Mark's Cathedral
519 Oak Grove St
Minneapolis, MN 55403

GALA Choruses Festival

July 2-6, 2016 • Denver, CO

July 7, 2016 • Evergreen, CO

For a complete performance schedule, volunteer and audition information, visit:

www.OneVoiceMN.org or call 651.298.1954

Artistic Staff

Jane Ramseyer Miller, Artistic Director

Jane Ramseyer Miller is in her 21st year as Artistic Director for One Voice and also serves as Artistic Director for GALA Choruses, a national association of LGBT choruses. She holds Masters in Choral Conducting from the University of Minnesota and a BA in Psychology from the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada. She enjoys creative community collaborations and has created choral music with The Women's Cancer Resource Center, Shakopee Women's Correctional Facility, In the Heart of the Beast, Kairos Dance Theatre, Mu Daiko, and Teens Rock the Mic among others. In 2008 she 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.

Mindy Eschedor, Accompanist

Mindy Eschedor is an active Twin Cities collaborative pianist whose engagements regularly include vocal coaching/accompanying, chamber music, and theater work. She has performed with such companies as the Ordway Center for Performing Arts, Nautilus Music-Theater, Guthrie Theater, Chanhassen Dinner Theatres, Interact Theatre, Theater in the Round, Skylark Opera, and Minneapolis Musical Theater. Mindy is a Music Director for Nautilus' Wesley Balk Opera/Music-Theater Institute, and a frequent artist on the Rough Cuts series. Mindy was Principal Staff Accompanist at MacPhail Center for Music from 1999-2010 and currently serves as choral accompanist at the University of St. Thomas and Robbinsdale Armstrong High School.

J. David Moore, OVation Ensemble Coach

Award-winning composer J. David Moore has had works performed and recorded all over the world, and is especially enamored with the romance of word and melody. He is a member of the Independent Music Publishers Cooperative, and publishes through his company, Fresh Ayre Music. He is the founder and music director of The First Readings Project, a professional chamber choir founded to help assist composers in the development of new work. He was tenor section leader with the Dale Warland Singers, founded and directed two professional a cappella groups, taught composition at the St. Paul Conservatory and Valley City State University, and is Director of Music at Nativity Episcopal Church in Burnsville. He loves the work of Andy Goldsworthy, the books of Edward Gorey, and walking in the woods. He lives in Minneapolis with his wife Anna, two ferrets, and a Chihussell.

MEMBERS AND COMMITTEES

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Colleen Watson	MEMBER AT-LARGE

Thank You to Our Committee Volunteers

We are fortunate to have many dedicated individuals who generously volunteer their time and skills in service to One Voice. Many thanks to each member of our board of directors and the following chorus committee chairs – Development: Colleen Watson, Finance: Julia Reed, Leadership & Governance: Justin Martin, Marketing: Dick Van Deusen, Membership & Diversity: Anna Schultz, Music: Jane Ramseyer Miller, Human Resources: Mary Nienaber, and Production: Vicki Janisch-Tri.

Be the Change: Join Our Leadership Team!

We are seeking talented professionals who are passionate about One Voice's mission and music to join our leadership team as board and committee members. Contact Josh Wise at: **ExecutiveDirector@OneVoiceMN.org** (or) **651.298.1954**.

Join One Voice on Stage!

Auditions for our 2016–2017 season will be held in late August by appointment. Sign up at the One Voice table in the lobby to get an audition reminder by email or call the office to receive more information. One Voice rehearses on Monday nights. For a complete performance schedule, volunteer, and audition information visit **www.OneVoiceMN.org** or call **651-298-1954**.

ONE VOICE MEMBERS

On Leave

* OVation Ensemble

♪ Section Music Leader

+ Section Representative

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Sue Campbell #
Beth Desotelle
Cathy Geist
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Jennifer Heaton
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Karen Muleski
Hannah Myers
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Wayne Schneider *
Maureen Seibert
JD Stocksett
Colleen Watson
John Whalen
Austin Wiebe
Dennis Wu

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Scott Burglechner
Shawn Erwin
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Luke Gagnon
Dereck Glasco
James Gottfried
Paul Halvorson
Adrian Hegeman
Allan Henden
AP Hopper ♪
Dennis Kearney #
Andy Kedl
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Jay Kurvers +
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Casey Rusco
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Marjorie Sigel
Ned Smith
Marcella Spears
Dennis Still
Kaylie Tully
Linda Tully
Cathie VanDanacker
Anita Wheeler
Linda Wiecher

ONE VOICE 2016-2017 SNEAK PEAK!

If you thought THIS year's One Voice programming was fun, check out what we've got coming up in our next season! This fall, One Voice hits the Iron Range with concerts in Hibbing, Virginia, Grand Rapids and Duluth. We have commissioned a brand new multi-movement composition based on the life of gay, African-American civil rights activist Bayard Rustin. Featuring T. Mychael Rambo, the composition will premiere in January 2017 for MLK weekend.



In March, One Voice welcomes New York City's Well Strung, a very gay, very awesome singing string quartet. This concert also features a new commission for One Voice and string quartet with poetry by Sierra DeMulder and music by George Maurer. And you won't want to miss our gender-bending *Pirates of Penzance* performed on Raspberry Island over Pride weekend 2017. See you in the audience!



BD PORTRAITS

Meet the Composer

I first got to know Mari when she came out as a transgender woman (and composer) at a national American Choral Director's Association workshop last winter. Especially in that milieu, I was incredibly impressed by her courage and pluck. When I found out Mari was a St. Olaf grad, I knew it was a match made in heaven!

One Voice commissioned two pieces from her, "Our Phoenix" and "When Thunder Comes", which appear on today's program and I have thoroughly enjoyed her incredible passion as a composer, her commitment to illustrating text through her music, and her enthusiasm for the collaborative process.

– Jane Ramseyer Miller

Mari writes: *Our Phoenix* is ours because we, the people, the queer population and our allies... share this life-struggle. When one stripe of our rainbow is denied the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, when we are targeted, harassed, assaulted and pushed beyond the edge of mortality, the impact comes back for everyone. We only have ourselves to hold accountable, and our response will set the tone for the generations who survive us.



Mari Esabel Valverde, Composer

Composer and singer Mari Esabel Valverde has been commissioned by the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA), GALA Choruses, the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, and others. Her music has been featured at conventions and festivals such as Chorus America, the Oregon Bach Festival, the Association of British Choral Directors, and TMEA.

In 2016, she will be a featured composer at GALA Choruses' quadrennial festival, where her *Our Phoenix* will be performed by a cluster of ten ensembles from the US, Canada, and Europe. Her works are published by earthsongs, Santa Barbara Music Publishing, and Walton Music and self-published.

A translator, she is fluent in French and Spanish, and progressing in Brazilian Portuguese and Swedish. She has translated Messiaen's cantata *La Mort du Nombre* and Ravel's opera *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges* among other vocal works and documents from French to English.

An educator, she taught voice at the high school level for four years in Texas, where she sang with the Dallas Symphony Chorus, the Dallas Chamber Choir, and Vox Humana. Her students, many of whom have participated in All-State Choirs and State Solo Competition, are represented in a dozen collegiate music programs in-state and beyond.

Ms. Valverde holds degrees from St. Olaf College, the European American Musical Alliance in Paris, France, and San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Her teachers include Tim Mahr, Justin Merritt, Philip Lasser, Narcis Bonet, David Conte, and David Garner. She is a member of ASCAP, ACDA, and the American Composers Forum.

CONCERT PROGRAM

Please turn off cell phones and other electronic devices that make noise. No photos or video allowed during the performance. Thank you!

QUEER THUNDER

SET ONE

Doluri (Drum Dance)

Music by Alexi Matchavariani
Poetry by Ioseb Noneshvili

Translation:

*I have conquered 100 castles
With my sword and I shade my eyes
How can it be that I can no longer conquer your heart?
Oh my lovely one, enchantress of the magic wind,
Open your hearts door!*

Break the Silence

Music and lyrics by Elise Witt, arr. Michael Holmes
Solos: Darcy Juhl, Paul Pederson, Becky Warren

Uganda: Kasha Jacqueline Nabagesera
Speakers: Lynn Holden, Rachel Hultmann

In Remembrance

Music by Eleanor Daley, text anonymous

Battle of Jericho

Traditional spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan

India: Prince Manvendra Singh Gohil
Speakers: Joe Kestel, Allan Henden

O My Friends What Can You Tell Me of Love

World Premiere performance

Music by Catherine Dalton
Text by Mirabai, translated by Jane Hirshfield
Assistant Conductor: Kelli Heckman
Solo: Joy MacArthur

Shambala

Music and lyrics by Daniel Moore
Arr. Kirby Shaw
Performed by OVation, solo: Lynn Holden

Minneapolis: Coming Out Brave
Speaker: Will Drew

Brave

Music and lyrics by Sara Bareilles and Jack Antonoff
Arr. Audrey Snyder
Solos: Sherry Kruczek, Kirby Goodell, Allison Thielen,
Jennifer Root

Like the Beat of the Drum

Music and lyrics by Jay Althouse
Featuring Mu Daiko

China: Beijing Queer Chorus
Speaker: Dennis Wu

I Am Flying

Music by Nan-Chang Chien, lyrics by Chia-Ming Chien
Solos: Britt Abel, Allan Warrior

Translation:

*I am flying in the sky,
Enjoying the spectacular scenery.
The feeling is wonderful,
Flying wherever freely
Half the bridge is in fog
Cable car bells ring in the hills*

*The island goddess stands against the wind
Red and yellow maple leaves
Are falling in the park
Ancient castles are still standing
The swan carried away the prince's dream*

*Leonid scatters its dust
Showering us with a meteor storm
The unusually beautiful scenery is endless
It makes me keep on flying
Forever and ever
Flying in the sky*

Our Phoenix

World Premiere performance

Music by Mari Esabel Valverde, lyrics by Amir Rabiya
Commissioned by GALA Choruses for GALA Festival 2016

INTERMISSION

SET TWO

Pounding Hooves

Created by Rick Shiomi

Japan: Tokyo LGBT Pride

Speaker: Dutch Van Haaften, Colleen Watson

Nidan

From the Odeo Sukeroku Taiko Ensemble, Japan

Matsuri Uta

Commissioned by One Voice Mixed Chorus, 2006

Based on a traditional taiko song

Composed and choreographed by Heewon Lee

In the Stillness

Japanese Haiku by Shiki Masaoka

Music and English lyrics by Audrey Snyder

Music Makers, Dreamer of Dreams

Commissioned by One Voice Mixed Chorus, 2014

Music by Christopher Aspaas

Lyrics by Arthur O'Shaughnessy and Walt Whitman

Solo: Mari Esabel Valverde

Thulele Mama Ya

Music and lyrics by Lisa Young

Solos: Britt Abel, Ann Rixmann, Jay Kurvers, Emily Smith

Text translation: 'don't cry' or 'don't worry mama'

When Thunder Comes

World Premiere performance

Commissioned by One Voice Mixed Chorus, 2016

Music by Mari Esabel Valverde, poem by J. Patrick Lewis

*The poor and dispossessed take up the drums
For civil rights—freedoms to think and speak,
Petition, pray and vote. When thunder comes,
The civil righteous are finished being meek.
Why Sylvia Mendez bet against long odds,
How Harvey Milk turned hatred on its head,
Why Helen Zia railed against tin gods,
How Freedom Summer's soldiers faced the dread
Are tales of thunder that I hope to tell.
From my thin bag of verse for you to hear
In miniature, like ringing a small bell
And know a million bells can drown out fear.
For history was mute witness when such crimes
Discolored and discredited our times.
The poor and dispossessed take up the drums
For civil rights—freedoms to think and speak,
Petition, pray and vote. When thunder comes,
The civil righteous are finished being meek*

Let My Love Be Heard

Poem by Alfred Noyes, music by Jake Runestad

Gate Gate

Music and lyrics by Brian Tate based on a Buddhist mantra

Translation:

*Gone, gone all the way over (from suffering to liberation,
from forgetfulness to mindfulness), everyone gone to
the other shore, enlightenment. Svaha!*

You Can't Stop the Beat

Music by Marc Shaiman, arr. by Ed Lojeski

Lyrics by Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman

Arr. Ed Lojeski

Solo: Will Drew

Take One Voice Home with You!

One Voice recordings are on sale in the lobby.

Support the chorus and take home a CD!

Recordings are also available for purchase
on Amazon, iTunes or OneVoiceMN.org.



Guest Artists



Mu Daiko, the professional ensemble of Mu Performing Arts

About Mu Performing Arts

Mu Performing Arts is the Midwest's foremost pan-Asian performing arts organization, and is home to Theater Mu - an Asian American theater company and Mu Daiko - a Japanese taiko drumming group. Founded as Theater Mu in 1992, the company rebranded itself as Mu Performing Arts, reflecting a broad artistic base of theater, taiko, and artist development.

About Mu Daiko

Led by Artistic Director Jennifer Weir, Mu Daiko is a ten-member professional taiko ensemble of Mu Performing Arts, performing yearly concerts featuring a variety of traditional and contemporary works ranging from traditional taiko repertoire to original pieces composed by its members. The group regularly premieres new work at its annual performances, continuing to stretch the boundaries of the art form and contributing to the innovation of American taiko. Members perform in over 100 educational and concert performances annually for schools, community organizations, and corporations throughout Minnesota and the Midwest. Through studio classes and school residencies over the past decade, the Mu Performing Arts taiko program has taught thousands of students of all ages and abilities.

Mu Performing Arts

www.muperformingarts.org

612-824-4804

About Taiko Drumming

Taiko (the Japanese word for drum) drumming goes back to the earliest Japanese communities where it was a part of daily life and rituals. Its roots stem from the drums that priests played to banish evil spirits and farmers played to celebrate bountiful harvests. Taiko were also used to carry the prayers of the people to their gods. Today, taiko has become a dynamic performance art form of musical drumming and choreographed movement based on traditional Japanese styles and techniques. While taiko was originally performed by a solo male artist, contemporary taiko is performed by groups including both male and female players. It's loud, strenuous, and pulsating with adrenaline.

L-R: Arlene Teraoka, Cathie VanDanacker, Heather Jeché



One Voice Personnel

ONE VOICE PERSONNEL

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ACCOMPANIST
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
REHEARSAL ACCOMPANIST
OVATION ENSEMBLE COACH
OPERATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS
OFFICE ASSISTANT
AD SALES
BOOKKEEPER
GRAPHIC DESIGN
REHEARSAL RECORDINGS

Jane Ramseyer Miller
Josh Wise
Mindy Eschedor
Kelli Heckman
Stephen Swanson
J. David Moore
Rocky Jones
Jen Rivera
Dick Van Deusen, Josh Wise
John Whalen
Tony Horning
Paul Pederson

ARTISTS

MU DAIKO DRUMMERS
PERCUSSION
FLUTE
TRUMPET
STORY COACH
MANDARIN PRONUNCIATION COACH
SLIDE SHOW DESIGN
OVATION

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Zach Baltich, Allison Thielen, Danielle Boor
Danielle Boor
Kelli Heckman, Becky Warren
Kate Lynn Hibbard
Dennis Wu ("I Am Flying")
Abbey Martin
Jo(seph) Fear, Ashley Hannahs, Kate Lynn Hibbard,
Lynn Holden, David Jones, Sarah Olson, Wayne
Schneider, Anna Schultz, Kristen Schweiloch, Dutch
Van Haaften, Gloria Vande Hoef, Allan Warrior

CONCERT PERSONNEL

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STAGE ASSISTANTS
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BRAILLE PROGRAMS
FRONT OF HOUSE MANAGER
PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Anne Hodson
Sarah Ann Post, Brad Hanson, Erika Rae
Stephen Medlicott
Jennifer Dunnam
Rocky Jones
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St. Paul Cultural STAR Program
Stagetime Productions
United Arts Fund
Unity Church Unitarian

*This activity is funded, in part, by appropriations from the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the State's general fund, and its arts and cultural heritage fund that was created by a vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008.

MAJOR DONORS

THE CRESCENDO SOCIETY

In April 2006, One Voice inaugurated a multi-year giving society to ensure ongoing financial support for our mission-based, social justice-focused work. We are grateful to our exceptional donors who pledged at least \$1,000 per year for five years.

THE CRESCENDO SOCIETY MAJOR DONORS

April 1, 2015 thru April 1, 2016

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Tim Kanaley
Jon and Lisa Lewis
Marnie Milbert and Elaine Voboril
Sarah and Jeff Olson
Shannon Pierce and Rachael Kroog
John Sullivan
John Whalen

PLANNED GIVING

In 2008, One Voice launched 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:

Sharon Barnd
Donna Doiron
Charlene Greenwald and Darcy Rowe
Jane Ramseyer Miller
Carla Peck
Paul Petrella
Lisette Schlosser
Colleen Kay Watson
John Whalen

If you have already named One Voice as a beneficiary in your estate plans, or are considering such a gift, please contact Josh Wise at 651.298.1954 or ExecutiveDirector@OneVoiceMN.org. Thank you for your generosity.

DYNAMIC DONORS

Donations received from April 1, 2015 thru April 1, 2016

One Voice Mixed Chorus relies on the generous gifts of individuals whose hopes and dreams complement our mission. We offer our profound gratitude to the following supporters:

Fortissimo — \$2,500 & Above

Mairi Doerr
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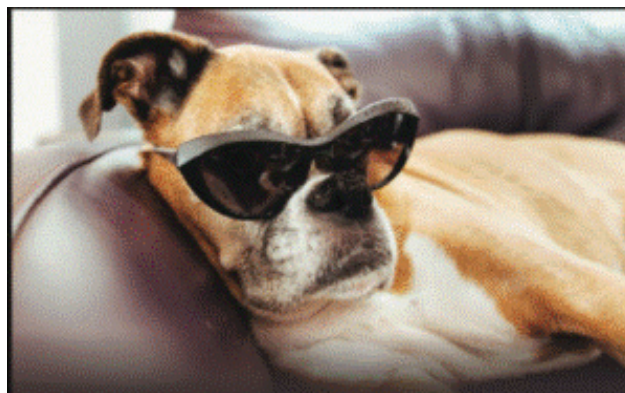
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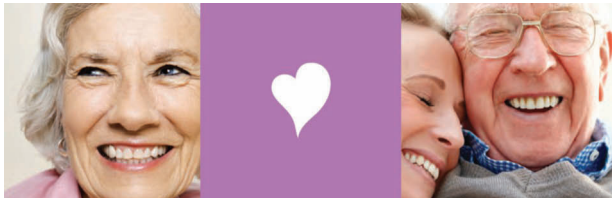
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