

PRESS RELEASE For Immediate Distribution

Albany Gay Men's Chorus Appoints New Music Director

August 13, 2015 – The Advisory Board of the Albany Gay Men's Chorus (AGMC) is proud to announce the appointment of Dr. R. Ryan Endris as Music Director beginning with the 2015-16 concert season. The AGMC's annual holiday concert will open its 2015-16 concert season and will feature traditional and popular holiday songs, along with an audience carol sing-a-long.

The AGMC seeks to entertain and enlighten by creating high quality vocal music in the rich and time-honored tradition of male choral singing. The AGMC strives to promote pride in and acceptance of the gay community and endeavors to build bridges by making positive contributions to the greater Capital Region.

“As a founding member of the AGMC, I am proud of the accomplishments this group of talented singers have achieved over these last seven years. Our numbers have grown and we have become so well respected by our audiences and the community. I cannot wait to see how much we can improve under the direction of Ryan Endris and am excited about our upcoming rehearsal and holiday concert season.”

“I am excited to be chosen to help lead the AGMC in not only performing male choral music at the highest level, but also in promoting the mission of the organization,” says Endris. “The AGMC is a wonderful community of singers where gay, bisexual, transgender, and straight men can come together, united by a passion for music-making.”

The AGMC is currently accepting both singing and non-singing members. Those interested in joining the organization this season as a singer or to help out in our fifth section, should contact Joel Harrington, Recruitment Chairman at joelh1980@gmail.com, or at albanygmc@yahoo.com. You can also visit our website at www.albanygmc.org or on Facebook at [Albany Gay Men's Chorus - AGMC](#). Rehearsals begin Wednesday, August 26, 2015 from 6:45pm to 8:45pm at the First Lutheran Church, 181 Western Avenue, Albany.

About Ryan Endris

Ryan Endris has received critical acclaim for his "ability to imbue his vocal and instrumental forces with his view of the music" and for his ensembles' "clarity, exquisite phrasing, and vibrancy." Highly sought after as a conductor of both choral and instrumental music, he currently serves as Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Choral & Vocal Activities at Colgate University, where he conducts the Colgate University Chorus and Chamber Singers. Prior to his appointment at Colgate University, Dr. Endris served as Director of Music at First Christian Church in Bloomington, IN, where he conducted the church's four choral ensembles and orchestra.

Endris is also in demand as an arranger of choral and instrumental music throughout the country, and his arrangements have been heard by audiences around the world. He has been commissioned for arrangements by both educational and professional organizations, including The Indiana University Singing Hoosiers, The Indiana University Wind Ensemble, The Bay View Music Festival (MI), Bloomington POPS Orchestra (IN), and LaGuardia High School for the Performing Arts (NY).

He has taught music education, music theory, choral methods, and conducting courses at St. Mary-of-the-Woods College in Terre Haute, Indiana, where he served as Visiting Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Choirs. Other recent appointments include Conductor of the Indiana University All-Campus Chorus, Chorusmaster for the Bloomington POPS Orchestra, and Interim Artistic Director and Conductor of the Indianapolis Men's Chorus.

Endris holds Doctor of Music and Master of Music of Choral Conducting degrees from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, as well as a Bachelor of Music Education (K-12 Choral/General Music).



The AGMC is an affiliate of the Pride Center of the Capital Region.