



Washtenaw County's Original Mixed LGBTQ Chorus

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## OUT LOUD CHORUS ANNOUNCES NEW ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

*Ann Arbor, MI, August 15, 2017*– **Out Loud Chorus** (OLC) is excited to announce **William Scott Walters** (Scott) as the chorus's next Artistic Director. Scott enjoys a multifaceted career as a conductor, singer, and educator.

Recently a student of Jerry Blackstone in the University of Michigan's Master of Music conducting program, Scott has studied privately with Robert Spano, Harry Bicket, and Kenneth Kiesler.

"I'm thrilled to be the new artistic director of OLC, and working with such a talented and dedicated group of singers," says Scott. "We will continue to promote diversity through music!"

During his studies, Scott has served as conductor of the Orpheus Singers, assistant conductor of the Residential College Singers, Arts Chorale, and assistant conductor of the University and Chamber Choirs. Engagements include serving as assistant conductor for the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra's 2013 performance of Bach's B Minor Mass, and providing music direction for Ann Arbor Opera Guild's 2013 American premiere performance and recording of von Suppe's Light Cavalry. Scott has been a conducting fellow for Sarteano Chamber Workshop in Italy, and Conductors Retreat at Medomak in Maine.



A versatile performer, Scott has appeared as a soloist and section member of the UMS Choral Union and Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus, as well as singing backup for Barry Manilow. Scott was regularly sought out for vocal lessons and coachings in Atlanta and metro-Atlanta area before returning to Ann Arbor. Scott studied voice performance with Carmen Pelton and

Valerie Walters. Before commencing graduate studies, Scott served as director of choral music and taught drama at Pepperell High School in Rome, GA.

Originally from Kennesaw, GA, Scott earned his B.M. in music education from Kennesaw State University, where he studied conducting with Leslie Blackwell.

**The OLC Director Search Committee** worked with the Board of Directors during the five-month-long nationwide search. The Board brought in a highly-regarded expert from Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses (GALA), Eve Campbell, who regularly consults with GALA choruses throughout North America on director searches. The Search Committee was lucky to be presented with an exceptionally strong list of candidates for the position. After a thorough multi-phase interview process and choir audition, the Board was unanimous in its selection of Scott as the next Artistic Director. The board is confident that Scott will build upon the OLCs reputation of choral excellence, raising the chorus to new levels and inspiring a new sense of engagement that our audience and supporters will no doubt enjoy. Scott is already working closely with the Music Selection Committee in planning the 2017-2018 season. Rehearsals begin in September for the January 2018 concerts.

**Out Loud Chorus** is a non-auditioned, LGBTQA community chorus in Washtenaw County and was founded in 1995. The chorus produces two major concerts each year—one in January and one in May. OLC additionally performs at festivals and fundraisers throughout the year that have included Motor City Pride, OUTFest, Ann Arbor Art Fair and Affirmations' Big Bash. OLC is sponsored in part by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts. For more information on attending a concert or joining, please visit us at [olconline.org](http://olconline.org).

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If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Out Loud Chorus at 734.265.0740 or email at [outloudchorus@gmail.com](mailto:outloudchorus@gmail.com).