



Washtenaw County's Original Mixed LGBTQ+ Chorus

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OUT LOUD CHORUS ANNOUNCES NEW ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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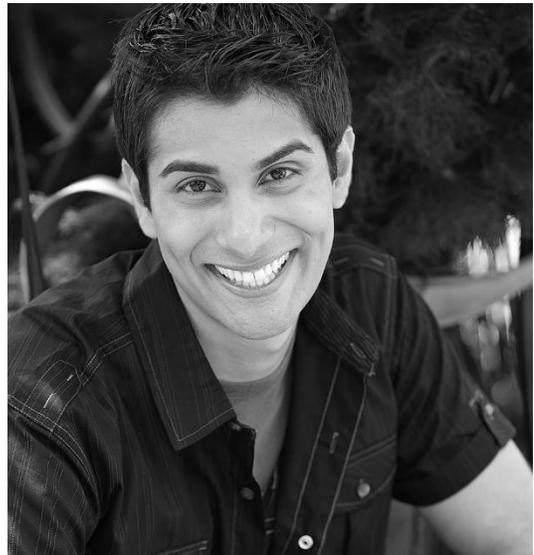
(OLC) is pleased to announce **Saleel Menon** as the chorus's next Artistic Director for OLC's 27th season. Menon enjoys a multifaceted career as conductor, singer, author, and educator.

"Moving across the country during a global pandemic was a crazy decision which left me searching for a community where isolation was recommended. When I saw the opportunity to join the OLC team, a group who I've admired since I learned of them, I jumped at the chance! I am thrilled to create memories, experiences, and high quality music with the welcoming, charming, and talented members of my new community!", said Menon.

Menon is a Graduate Student at Michigan State University pursuing degrees in both Choral Conducting and Music Education. He has a Bachelor of Music with Teacher Certification from the University of Houston.

Before moving to Michigan, Menon was a choir director at Ridge Point High School in Houston, developing that program over five years. Choirs under Menon's direction earned consistent Superior ratings at the Texas University Interscholastic League Concert & Sightreading Contest. They performed both state and nationwide and opened for the Grammy-winning Pentatonix!

As a performer, Menon has sung with the Moores School Concert Chorale, Bach Society Houston, Cantare Houston, Coro Vocal Artists, and the Houston Symphony Chamber Singers both nationally and in Europe.



Specializing in non-traditional choral pedagogy, Menon co-authored an article published in the *Music Education Journal* on popular music in 2019 and presents at conferences on the topic. In 2020 Menon received the Texas Choral Director's Association Young Director of Distinction Award. He is active as a clinician, composer, and accompanist, and sings professionally.

Out Loud Chorus is a non-auditioned, LGBTQ+ 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, Ann Arbor Pride, Ypsi Pride, Ann Arbor Pride, 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

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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.