



ABOUT PRIDE MEN'S CHORUS LONDON



PRIDE
MEN'S CHORUS
LONDON

SINGING OUT. CHANGING HEARTS.

Pride Men's Chorus London is a choir available to all men regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity.

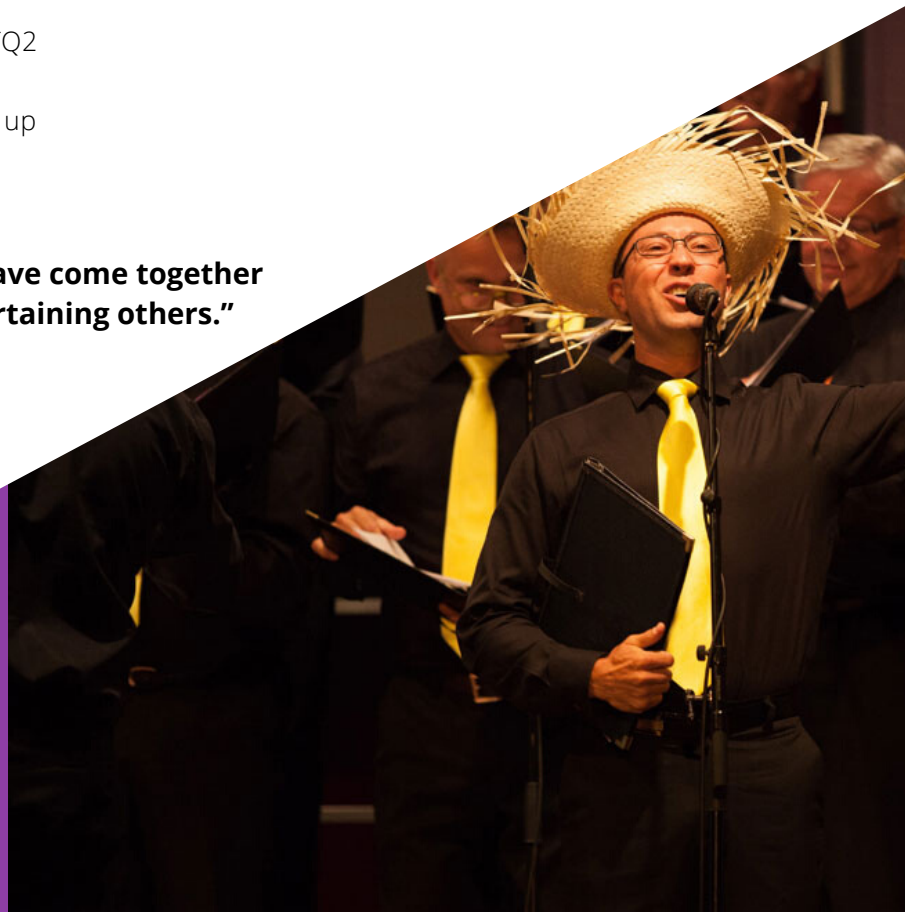
Pride Men's Chorus London was founded in 2016 and is a program of Aeolian Hall.

PMCL was the 2018 recipient of the Jack Richardson London Music Award Best Classical Vocal (Choir/Group).

More than 40 men sing in the chorus, and those with all levels of musical knowledge are invited to join us. Pride Men's Chorus London is part of a movement of LGBTQ2 Choirs in the world. Pride Men's Chorus London made its unexpected debut at the Vigil for The Orlando Massacre hosted at Aeolian Hall on June 14, 2016. In the global arena of eroding human rights and particularly the rights of the LGBTQ2 community, we sing to enlighten and help those with closed minds and hearts to open up and celebrate diversity and love.

"PMCL is more than just a chorus. They are a family of great men who have come together to take care of each other while entertaining others."
~Jason Plant

Pride Men's Chorus London creates experiences through choral music that promote community, inclusiveness and excellence. With the goal of combatting stereotypes and perceptions, we challenge the heteronormative worldview by inspiring our audience, the LGBTQ2 community and our broader community through advocacy and music. We celebrate victories won, we mourn lives lost, we find unconditional acceptance, and we celebrate all life in harmony, through our songs.



MISSION STATEMENT

Pride Men's Chorus London creates experiences through choral music that promote community, diversity, inclusivity and excellence. With the goal of combatting stereotypes and perceptions, we challenge the heteronormative worldview by inspiring our audience, the LGBTQ2 community and our broader community through advocacy and music. We celebrate victories won, we mourn lives lost, we find unconditional acceptance, and we celebrate all life in harmony, through our songs.

VISION STATEMENT

We will celebrate those who came before us and whose activism was hard fought. United through song, our voices will be freely heard as we fight for a nation and world where diversity is met with tolerance, equality and respect.

Pride Men's Chorus will seek to:

- Continuously improve the artistic and vocal talent of its members
- Challenge the societal norms or perceptions of its members through understanding of its own diversity
- Challenge perceptions of the LGBTQ2 community
- Combat fear, eliminate hatred, and encourage compassion through the timeless fundamental human connection to music
- Change or enrich the hearts of those whom we meet

The Pride Men's Chorus London envisions a world where the human voice is lifted up through song in celebration of diversity; where music is valued as a powerful gift and seen as a universal tool to achieve and sustain inclusivity; and where united voices are an instrument of change.

**The choir rehearses Sunday evenings from 7:30-9:30 p.m.
at Bishop Cronyn, 442 William St, London, ON.**



OUR ARTISTIC LEADERSHIP

Clark Bryan is a co-founder, co-director and pianist for Pride Men's Chorus London. An award-winning concert pianist, Clark has performed internationally, recorded 14 CD's and has been featured on radio and television. As a teacher, he has taught thousands of students, adjudicated more than 50 music festivals coast to coast in Canada, given dozens of workshops and written a book "Gateways to Learning and Memory".

The founder of The Aeolian Performing Arts Centre, Clark believes that everyone should have universal access to music, art and culture. Because of this belief, he launched El Sistema Aeolian in 2011. This free, intensive music program has offered more than 150 children and youth an opportunity to experience the joy of a rich musical education.

Clark is engaged in community activism and speaks regularly at events, on radio and television and has given a TED talk about the power and joy of music study.

Markus Howard is a co-director and conductor for Pride Men's Chorus London. As a conductor, director and choreographer, Markus Howard has worked extensively in the arts throughout Canada and abroad. A conductor, educator and private voice teacher, his talents have been recognized by Yamaha Music Canada, the Swedish Ministry of Culture, the Ontario Arts Council, and the International Association of Jazz Educators. He has been nominated four times as a candidate finalist by the Ontario Arts Council for the Leslie Bell Prize for excellence in conducting.

Currently, Markus is the Artistic Director for two of Ontario's most outstanding youth choir organizations, the award-winning Guelph Youth Singers and La Jeunesse Choirs, and concludes an eleven-year tenure leading the Oriana Singers of Cobourg. He serves as the founding conductor of the professional chamber choir LA MOVIDA, and appears as guest conductor for advanced choirs around the province. Recent engagements include concerts with the Guelph Symphony Orchestra, and as conductor for the Handel opera, Alcina with Halifax Summer Opera. He held the position of Lead Artist Educator with the Canadian Opera Company, and was on the faculty of the Royal Conservatory of Music, Glenn Gould School and the Randolph Academy for the Performing Arts. At the University of Toronto, Markus directed the Hart House Jazz Choir and Massey College Choirs. In addition to his new role as conductor for Pride Men's Chorus London, he is honoured to lead the exceptional London Pro Musica Choir as the Artistic Director starting in the fall of 2019.

Rod Culham is a co-founder and co-director of Pride Men's Chorus London. He has been active in community music and theatre in London for almost 40 years as director, music director, conductor, teacher, actor, singer, chorister, and producer in many productions. Rod is currently the musical director at Thamesview United Church in Fullarton, Ontario, a member of London Pro Musica Choir in addition to co-conducting Pride Men's Chorus London.

He taught dramatic arts and music at North Middlesex High School for 25 of his 30 years as a teacher, and is a graduate of the music program at Western University.

Rod is also a talented composer and arranger, many of his works and arrangements have been performed in local choirs and performance groups. Rod composed the music for "Canadian Waters Suite," premiered by London Pro Musica Choir in 2014. Several of the pieces performed by Pride Men's Chorus London are arranged or adapted by Rod.

Rod has been involved in several charitable causes, most significantly with Camp Wendake, a camp for people with HIV. In August, 2019, Rod climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro; he and his team of climbers raised in excess of \$24,000 for the camp.

In January, 2020, Rod handed over the conducting of Pride Men's Chorus London to Markus Howard so as to spend time traveling, volunteering, and enjoying his retirement.

OUR ARTISTIC LEADERSHIP



Rod Culham (left), Clark Bryan (centre), and Markus Howard (right)

“The PCML has challenged me musically, and rewarded me personally. The repertoire is often fun, sometimes thought-provoking, but when all those voices come together in concert, there is something truly beautiful and inspiring that happens, and it is a huge privilege to be a part of that beauty.”

~ Murray Watson



PRIDE CELEBRATION CHORUS

The Pride Celebration Chorus is an all-gender choir, comprised of singers singing in four parts: Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass. We debuted in Pride London Festival 2018 and had an outstanding concert, and sang again during the 2019 Festival! Stay tuned in the spring for sign-up information for our third year of this chorus!



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact our founding director, Rod Culham: pridemenschorus@yahoo.com
or contact Aeolian Hall: info@aeolianhall.ca

Follow us on Twitter and Instagram @pridemenschorus

Subscribe to our YouTube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/c/PrideMensChorusLondon>

Visit our website: pridemenschorus.com

