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# PRESS RELEASE

BIG APPLE PERFORMING ARTS



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## **NEW YORK CITY GAY MEN'S CHORUS PRESENTS A FREE CONCERT - *BIG GAY SING: WELCOME TO NEW YORK***

Sunday, March 19, 2017 at 3pm

At The Crystal Ball Room of the Berkeley Oceanfront Hotel in Asbury Park, NJ

**NEW YORK, March 2, 2017** – The New York City Gay Men's Chorus is pleased to announce, after last year's more than sold out performance, they are bringing Big Gay Sing back to Asbury Park on Sunday March 19 for a FREE (pay-what-you-like) preview of the final performance in NYC on March 24, 25, and 26. This year we are bringing *Big Gay Sing: Welcome to New York* which celebrates the greatest city in the world in all its dirty, gritty, crazy, and spectacular glory.

The performance is free, but pay-what-you-like donations are encouraged. At pre-show and intermission, the chorus will hold a fundraising raffle with items including roundtrip air tickets from season sponsor JetBlue.

"*Big Gay Sing: Welcome to New York* will celebrate New York as a vibrant and spectacular city that is multicultural and outward-looking," said Charlie Beale, Artistic Director of the NYCGMC.

*Big Gay Sing: Welcome to New York* will feature arrangements of chart-toppers by Alicia Keys, Ella Fitzgerald, Taylor Swift, Sarah Bareilles, and many more. "The arrangements, the immensity of the sound, and the sparkle from drag queens and dancers will have you jumping to your feet," Beale commented.

*Big Gay Sing*, an NYCGMC original concept and now in its ninth year, has become New York's greatest way to welcome the color and gayness of spring. Its outrageous sing-along format has become so popular that *Big Gay Sing* has been franchised to choruses around the US and the world.

"We are thrilled to be back for another sing-along with our friends in Asbury Park at the Berkley Oceanfront Hotel," Beale added. "We have started another great tradition bringing the New York City Gay Men's Chorus and Big Gay Sing to our neighbors to the south before our NYC premiere."

*Big Gay Sing: Mind the Gap!* will be performed at NYU Skirball Center for the Performing Arts at 8pm Friday March 24 and Saturday March 25, with a matinee on Sunday March 26 at 3pm. Tickets are now available [here](#) or visit [nycgmc.org](http://nycgmc.org).

### **Listing information:**

***New York City Gay Men's Chorus presents A FREE performance of Big Gay Sing: Welcome to New York***, Sunday, March 19, 3PM, Crystal Ball Room of The Berkeley Oceanfront Hotel, 1401 Ocean Avenue, Asbury Park, NJ.

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**New York City Gay Men's Chorus** is a world-class, world-renowned New York institution and a pioneering voice for the LGBTQ community. NYCGMC is comprised of more than 260 talented singers of various ages, backgrounds, and experiences. Together, we produce a vibrant sound and energy that audiences can feel and connect with. Through the power of this sound, and our spectacular performances, we are fearless champions for love, equality, and acceptance. Founded in 1980, NYCGMC has formed a strong bond with devoted followers and continues to make lasting connections with new and diverse audiences. We sing in every style from classical to pop, Broadway to gospel, and from cultures all over the world. As artists, we listen to the changing world around us and transform what we hear into music. We sing to challenge perceptions of the LGBTQ community, to combat fear and hatred, encourage compassion and human connection, and to thrill with the superb quality of our sound. Through our music, audiences mourn losses, cheer victories, find unconditional acceptance, and celebrate life. We perform in a variety of settings, including special, private, and corporate events, concerts, television appearances, festivals, Broadway/theatre productions, conferences, weddings, parties, fundraisers, and community events. [nycgmc.org](http://nycgmc.org)

New York City's Youth Pride Chorus harnesses the power of the performing arts to engage lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and straight young people ages 13-22 as agents of change. YPC fights homophobia, bullying, and all forms of hate by boldly asserting—through music—the joy, diversity, strength, and pride of today's youth. YPC singers discover their own power by empowering others in schools, online, and in the broader community through electrifying, high caliber singing and performances. [youthpridechorus.org](http://youthpridechorus.org)

Big Apple Performing Arts is the non-profit management company for the New York City Gay Men's Chorus and Youth Pride Chorus. With over thirty years of history, innovative programs, and service to the LGBTQ community, Big Apple Performing Arts is renowned for producing legendary performances, commissioning new works, and taking a leading role in the movement for social justice. From Carnegie Hall to City Hall, from the AIDS crisis to the struggle for marriage equality, as well as today's gender and identity politics, the choruses of BAPA have been leaders and activists in the New York City community since 1980.

**Here are links for more information on the following:**

[NYCGMC](#)

[Big Gay Sing](#)