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Chorale Announces New Staff and Board Appointments

Los Robles Master Chorale announces the appointment of two new staff members as well as the election of new officers to its Board of Directors.

Lenard Geres has been named to the newly created post of Executive Director. A resident of Simi Valley, Geres is also a financial representative with OneAmerica Financial Partners, specializing in financial planning. Geres holds a degree in secondary music education and has been a high school choral director, church organist and pianist, and a choral singer. “I am pleased to be part of the exciting journey of Los Robles Master Chorale,” Geres said, “and look forward to helping it realize its growth in Ventura County.”

Moorpark resident Lynn Youngren has been appointed Artistic Production and Personnel Manager of the chorale, another newly created position. Since graduating with a BA in vocal performance from California Lutheran University, Youngren has been a soloist, voice teacher, choir director, handbell director, chorister, wife and mother. “I look forward to doing my part in helping LRMC grow in excellence and in touching the lives of people in this community through moving musical performances,” Youngren said, “and educating our young singers in the choral tradition of southern California through LRMC’s many outreach programs.”

The Board elected Christopher Gambol, of Agoura Hills, as its new president. Born in Los Angeles and raised in the San Francisco area, Gambol is a corporate customer service trainer and an experienced professional singer. A member of the Screen Actors Guild, he has performed

with the Los Angeles Opera and Los Angeles Master Chorale, sings regularly on movie soundtracks and studio projects, and is also a singing instructor.

Mike O’Sullivan, of Los Angeles, has been named board Vice President and Secretary. O’Sullivan has been involved in choral music for over fifty years, including forty years with Paul Salamunovich and the Saint Charles Choir. He is a retired school administrator from the Los Angeles Unified School District. He and his wife, Judi, also a member of the board, reside in the Hollywood Hills.

Camarillo resident Gretchen Fletcher, who has lived in Ventura County since 1970, becomes the new Treasurer of the board. As a lover of good music, she has attended almost all performances by LRMC since 2005, and reports she joined the board “because it is time to give back to my community.”

Los Robles Master Chorale, a non-profit corporation under IRS section 501(c)(3), is a 90-voice community choral ensemble serving Ventura and western Los Angeles counties. Throughout its 33-year history, the organization has routinely presented works of the standard repertoire as well as contemporary choral works and world and west coast premieres. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Lesley Leighton since 2008, the choir has expanded not only its vision and personnel, but also its audience base and board membership. LRMC works continuously to expand its horizons in both the repertoire it performs and the contribution it makes to the rich choral traditions of the southern California region.

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