

March 31, 2024

PLC is in its 38th season, and preparing for Pride with our upcoming concert *Love Who You Love* June 14th and 15th at First United Methodist Church in SW Portland.

Gay bashing and hate are on the rise: a 16-year-old trans student in Oklahoma died after an altercation at their school; families in Texas are considering moving out of the state because they cannot get gender affirming care; and there are over 400 transphobic bills that have been proposed since the start of 2023.

PLC's very existence is an act of rebellion against those who would wish us harm. It is our goal that by singing and giving back to our wider community the LGBTQ+ community in Portland will have greater visibility and acceptance. Music can evoke emotions and transcend feelings of doubt and fear. Our performances allow our audience to experience the essence of the LGBTQ+ community, and aids in our understanding of one another.

Love can take many forms, as our concert explores. *Children*, composed by Uzocchi Emenike, Jade Thirlwall and Jonathan Christopher Shave, speaks of telling children who are being bullied that they are loved just the way they are. *Chosen Family*, by Rina Sawayama, Daniel Harle and Jonny Lattimer, says "We don't need to be related to relate. We don't need to share genes or a surname. You are my chosen family." It speaks to bonds so strong that one feels safe, supported and loved. Love is a human right and worth fighting for.

We hope you will join us for this very powerful concert. Tickets are on sale now at plchoir.org. All PLC concerts are ASL interpreted.

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