



Contact Information:

**Fountain City Performing Arts Inc.**

Elven Hickmon, Managing Director

Ph. (816) 701-9223

Email: [info@fcpakc.org](mailto:info@fcpakc.org)

**Fountain City Performing Arts Welcomes New Artistic Director**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Kansas City, MO** – The board of directors of Fountain City Performing Arts (FCPA) are beyond thrilled to welcome Dr. Joseph P. Nadeau as permanent Artistic Director. Fountain City, an educational outreach program that offers LGBTQ+ teens and allies **SingOUTKC** youth chorus, **PerformOUTKC** youth theater arts and **OUTloudKC**, a youth rock band ensemble, all with a focus on social justice programming and performance. Dr. Nadeau served as guest director/artistic advisor at the beginning of the year and begins his new role in August.

Known for his innovative programming and ability to inspire singers of all ages, Dr. Nadeau enjoys a multifaceted career as conductor, clinician, educator and guest speaker. Joe has been an active choral conductor and teacher for two and a half decades at regional, state and national conferences & music festivals. He has taught at every educational level from pre-K through college and is currently teaching music in the Blue Valley School District.

Joe holds several degrees including a doctor of musical arts from the University of Kansas and a master's degree from the University of Missouri Kansas City (UMKC) conservatory of music in choral conducting.

Dr. Nadeau has served as artistic director of the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles, Heartland Men's Chorus, Kansas City Women's Chorus, and Denver Gay Men's Chorus. Joe has been actively involved in GALA Choruses since 1993 and has helped create the Trans Chorus of Los Angeles in addition to working with two LGBT youth performing ensembles: PerformOUTKC (Kansas City) and Outside Voices (Los Angeles). In addition to presenting, directing and conducting, Joe serves on the national board of directors for GALA Choruses. Dr. Nadeau is passionate about the mission of GALA Choruses and strongly believes in the power of the LGBT choral movement to make this world a better place for everyone. "I am extremely honored to serve as artistic director for Fountain City Performing Arts and to have the opportunity to work with young people from across the Kansas City metropolitan area".

During his career, Joe has conducted choruses in notable venues across the United States including the Hollywood Bowl, Walt Disney Concert Hall, Carnegie Hall, Meyerson Symphony Center, and the Kauffmann Center for Performing Arts. He has led choruses in national and international tours, performances at GALA, American Choral Director's Association and Chorus America festivals and conferences, produced several professional recordings and collaborated with multiple choirs, arts organizations, and guest artists. Joe has been actively involved in research studies on LGBT choruses and has presented at Alabama and Kansas state ACDA conferences on the GALA choral movement.

This summer, through a strategic partnership, Fountain City will offer vocal workshops, performance art classes and instrumental jam sessions at the Synergy Youth Resiliency Center. Synergy Services, the first shelter for runaway and homeless youth in western Missouri offers a drop-in center for ages 12-20. The center has a recording studio, basketball court, computer lab, free laundry, TV Lounge, exercise room and a dental/health clinic. Dr. Nadeau is a member of the National Alliance for Music in Vulnerable Communities and that makes this new partnership so important even more now than ever.

**FCPA – Fountain City Performing Arts** believes in connecting youth of all backgrounds, featuring their individual talent to create innovative and original artistry fostering social justice, equality and empowerment in celebration of their voices of change. Our vision is to foster an environment to empower youth through original art; to unite, educate and enlighten the change in hearts and minds!

For more information about Fountain City Performing Arts (FCPA) or to read more about Dr. Nadeau, please visit us online at [fcpakc.org](http://fcpakc.org).

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