



World
Choir
Games

2012
cincinnati usa



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Global, national and local leaders announced for Cincinnati USA's 2012 World Choir Games

CINCINNATI (OH) – One of Procter & Gamble's top executives, one of Cincinnati USA's best-known philanthropists and a nationally renowned Civil Rights leader will assume leadership roles of the Cincinnati Organizing Committee for the 2012 World Choir Games to galvanize global, national and regional support for the event, which will be from July 4-14, 2012. It will bring 20,000 participants and up to 200,000 spectators from more than 70 countries to Cincinnati USA.

Werner Geissler, P&G's vice chairman of Global Operations, and his wife Sabine, have agreed to serve as Global Co-Chairs of the Cincinnati Organizing Committee of the 2012 World Choir Games. Shannon and Lee Carter and the Honorable Nathaniel Jones and Lillian Jones have agreed to serve as the U.S. Co-Chairs. Lee Ault Carter and Judge Nathaniel Jones have both been recognized as Great Living Cincinnatians by the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber.

Dan Lincoln, President & CEO of the Cincinnati USA Convention & Visitors Bureau and Director of the Cincinnati Organizing Committee of the 2012 World Choir Games, said: "We are delighted to have civic leaders of their experience and stature as volunteers leading this incredible event. With their involvement, we will elevate Cincinnati USA as one of the great American destinations for visitors, businesses, students and, especially, choral music."

The Geisslers, Carters and Joneses will help increase awareness, maximize involvement and generate support for the 2012 World Choir Games. Other volunteer leaders will be announced in the future. This event is the largest choral music competition in the world. It is inspired by the Olympic ideal with a goal of uniting people from all nations of the world through singing in peaceful competition. This event has never before been held in the United States.

Werner Geissler has worked for P&G since 1979. As Vice Chair, Global Operations, he oversees worldwide business operations, including offices in more than 80 countries. He was born in Hachenburg, Germany, and was with the German Air Force before earning a master's degree from the University of Cologne (Germany). Geissler has lived and worked in a variety of places, including Rotterdam, Los Angeles, Istanbul, Kobe, Geneva, and now Cincinnati. He has consistently engaged in civic work through chambers of commerce and educational institutions.

Sabine Geissler was born in Hagen/Germany. She holds an MBA in macro-economics from the University of Freiburg. She is a Procter & Gamble alumni and ex-Marketing Director at the German subsidiary of P&G. At the various stations of their international assignment, Sabine has been actively involved in school and church affairs. Currently, she is on the Board of P&G International Transfers, Inc. (PGITI).

“Procter & Gamble recognizes that the World Choir Games can be a transformational event for Cincinnati USA.” Werner Geissler said. “It is with great respect for this region that my wife and I are becoming involved in such a historic opportunity.”

Lee Carter, recognized in 2009 by the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber of Commerce as a Great Living Cincinnatian, is well-respected for his commitment to civic leadership and tireless efforts on behalf of dozens of the region’s leading organizations. Over the past 40 years, he has served in leadership roles with Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center, the Fine Arts Fund (now ArtsWave), Cincinnati Parks Foundation, Cincinnati Art Museum, WCET, Greater Cincinnati Foundation, the Cincinnati Arts and Technology Center, and many others.

An Enquirer Woman of the Year, **Shannon Carter** was a member of the Leadership Cincinnati class that launched Crayons to Computers, which has distributed more than \$75 million in new and used school supplies to more than 95,000 children in Greater Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky and Southeastern Indiana. In addition to her role as CEO of Crayons to Computers, Shannon’s other volunteer efforts have supported the Taft Museum, Cincinnati Ballet and Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center.

“Lee and I are committed to events and causes that build and enrich our community,” Shannon Carter said. “That is what the World Choir Games is all about. It will be a thrilling and memorable event for Cincinnati USA and it will create opportunities for all Cincinnatians to connect with others around the world.”

Honored as a Great Living Cincinnatian in 1997, the **Honorable Nathaniel Jones** has contributed to the community throughout his career as a lawyer, jurist and community leader. Appointed in 1979 to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit by President Jimmy Carter, he retired in 2002 and joined Blank Rome LLP as Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer and practices in the law firm’s Cincinnati, Washington, D.C., and New York offices. From 1969 to 1979, Jones served in the same position once held by Thurgood Marshall as General Counsel of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Among other honors, the internationally renowned civil rights activist was awarded the Peace of the City Award from the Jewish Community Relations Council of Cincinnati, the United Way’s Joseph A. Hall Award for fostering positive support of diversity and the Urban League’s Heritage Award for dedication to community improvement. Two of the most recent national awards he has received were the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2007 by the American Lawyer in New York City, and in 2009, the 65th Laurel Wreath by the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity in Washington.

Lillian Jones is serving as co-chair of the 2010 International Freedom Conductor Award luncheon of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, honoring His Holiness, the Dalai Lama. She was also chosen as a Cincinnati Enquirer Woman on the Year. In addition, Ms. Jones has served as member of the boards of Dress for Success, the American Heart Association, Cincinnati Opera, Friends of the Cincinnati-Conservatory of Music, the Cincinnati Chapter of Links, Inc., a black women’s national service organization, the Cincinnati Fire Appeals Board, Planned Parenthood, and as co-chair of the Every Child Succeeds volunteer program. Earlier in her career she was an assistant to then-Vice Mayor and Councilwoman Marian Spencer.

“We are honored to be a part of this event.” Judge Jones said. “I have been a champion for diversity and inclusion my whole life. When I see an event that is going to bring together people from 70 or more nations, Lillian and I can’t help but be excited by the opportunities for multi-cultural education and celebration.”

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About the 2012 World Choir Games: *The World Choir Games is the largest international choral competition in the world, taking place every two years. The 2012 World Choir Games in Cincinnati will be the first-ever hosted in the United States. The event is expected to have a local economic impact of \$73.5 million. The World Choir Games is the signature event of Interkultur, a Germany-based organization that produces elite international choral events all over the world.*