

ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16

The Signature Sound of Erie





From Music Director Daniel Meyer



Dear Erie Community,

The 2015-16 Season was yet another artistic triumph for the Erie Philharmonic, and that is due in large part to your continued passion for and support of the Erie Philharmonic. From the initial plans made over two years in advance, to expectation of that tuning-A on the Warner stage, to the warm and generous response from our Symphonic, Pops, Youth Concerts, and community concert audiences, it all comes back to the power of great music to transform our lives. I for one feel deeply grateful and humbled to be the artistic steward of this vital Erie institution, and it is always a pleasure to look back on the season's highlights that now make up the musical history of our Philharmonic.

Particular standouts for me were guest appearances of the young violinist Bella Hristova playing Shostakovich, the Erie Philharmonic Chorus singing a glorious Beethoven Mass in C, and a performance of a brand new cello concerto by Michael Daugherty featuring cellist Zuill Bailey. Bailey and Daugherty won the 2017 Grammy Award for 'Tales of Hemingway', and I am proud to say that as a co-commissioning orchestra, the Erie Philharmonic played an important role in bringing this work to life. In the Pops series, I will never forget how the audience reacted to local star tenor Daniel Cabanillas, our evening of Gershwin favorites with Inna Faliks, and the soulful music of Celtic music expert Cathie Ryan. And last but certainly not least, who can forget our historic collaboration with the Erie Playhouse to cap our 15-16 Season with My Fair Lady?

The Erie Philharmonic family includes the voices of the Erie Philharmonic Chorus and the young instrumentalists of the Jr. Philharmonic, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the many volunteers and participants who make these ensembles thrive and contribute to the musical life of our community. Special thanks to directors Dr. Gabrielle Dietrich and Bob Dolwick, without whom we would certainly not have enjoyed the high quality programming these groups continue to bring year after year. The musicians of the Erie Philharmonic deserve special mention. Through their tireless dedication and their commitment to excellence each and every time they take the stage, they make our concerts come alive for so many in Erie. Thank you for your incredible work.

Sincerely,





Zuill BaileyGrammy award-winning cello soloist for opening night 2015



My Fair Lady in Concert
Unforgettable collaboration with the
Erie Playhouse



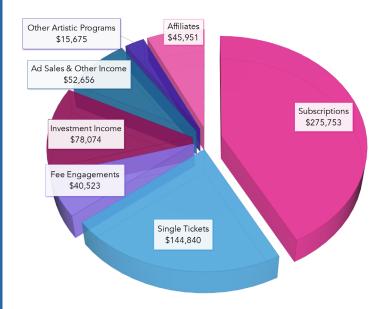
Meiser Building
Mid-season move to our new home at
23 West 10th Street, Suite 3



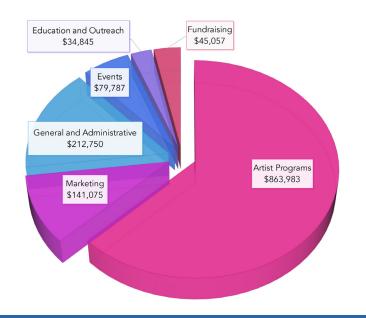
Holiday Tour of Homes
Our signature holiday-themed event
returned, reaching over 1,000 people

Financial Overview

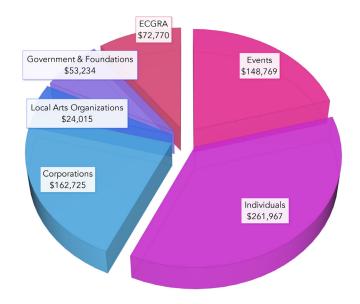
2015-16 Earned Revenue



2015-16 Expenses



2015-16 Contributed Revenue



2015-16 Earned vs. Contributed Revenue



Concert Attendance

2015-16 Season

Subscriptions	Early Bird	Regular	Total	Attendance
Full Series	159	166	325	Symphonic Series8,136
Symphonic Series	212	114	326	Pops Series11,427
Pops Series	467	291	758	Youth Concerts4,100
Compose Your Own	76	83	159	Summer Concert Series736
Flex 4	13	30	43	Music Across the Community2,000
TOTAL	927	684	1,611	TOTAL27,299

Reflections from Leadership



The momentum continued as we entered a new era of the Erie Philharmonic in the 2015-2016 season. Our new administrative team, led by Executive Director Steve Weiser, completed their first full season while settling into our beautiful new office space at the historic Meiser building.

Led by Music Director Daniel Meyer and our gifted musicians, the Erie Philharmonic brought a magnificent series of Symphonic

and Pops programs to concert goers at the beautiful Warner Theater. We took community outreach to a new level by exposing over 4,000 students to orchestral music through our Youth Concerts and donated multiple pianos to various schools and youth organizations. Overall concert attendance increased by more than 23%, including an increase of 33% in Symphonic Series attendance. There are few, if any, orchestras in America today who can boast about that type of growth.

The Erie Philharmonic is blessed with talented musicians, dedicated staff and generous support of our sponsors, patrons and community leaders. All of which allow us to continue providing high-quality live orchestra concerts and programs that enrich, entertain, and educate people of all ages. On behalf of the Erie Philharmonic family, I wish to thank all of our supporters as we look back on a great year and look forward to even greater heights. Your support truly does strengthen our community.

Damilly

Daniel ZimmermanPresident, Board of Directors (2015-17)



As I look back on my first full season with the Erie Philharmonic, I have to take a moment to pause and smile at the fantastic memories we created in just one year. From the reemergence of our Symphonic Series and our collaboration with the Erie Playhouse to our expanded Youth Concerts and outreach programs across the city, we certainly held true to our central mission tenants to enrich,

educate and entertain. In total, we reached more than 5,000 new people in 2015-16. With a new look, a new website, a new staff, and even a refined logo, we leapt into this new season together and emerged a stronger Philharmonic, due in no short order to you, our dedicated audience. Whether you supported our Annual Fund or Youth Concert Fund Drive or attended any of our 10 concerts at the Warner Theatre, you played a vital role in our success. The orchestra has never been stronger, and the positive impact across the region during our 2015-16 year has planted the seeds for exciting things to come, both for the Philharmonic and the community at large.

When I was hired as Executive Director, I asked you to join the orchestra on a journey as we started a new era with the Erie Philharmonic. I can't begin to thank you enough for your support last season as well as during this current season. You are the reason the Philharmonic is thriving in Erie!

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Pennsylvania Council on the Arts In Memory of Leon Wallerstein Jr.

+ indicates EITC donor

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