MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC ANNUAL REPORT
President’s Review

I am pleased to announce that the Michigan Philharmonic’s 73rd season, our NANiversary, was a great success. This season treated audiences to beloved favorites, such as Holiday Pops and Halloween concerts along with innovative performances which included unique culturally diverse programming, stunning classical arrangements and Pops performances for all audiences. Along with our free summer concert series, which reached audiences throughout Southeast Michigan and Downtown Detroit, there was truly something for everyone! None of this would have been possible without our extraordinary and innovative Music Director and Conductor, Nan Washburn, who completed her 20th year with the Orchestra. Winner of The American Prize in Orchestral Conducting, professional division 2013, The American Prize Ernst Bacon Memorial Award for the Performance of American Music, professional division, 2016, and 19 ASCAP Awards for Adventurous Programming from the League of American Orchestras,

Nan Washburn is one of the most innovative and dynamic conductors working in the U.S. today. The musicianship of this Professional Orchestra under her leadership continues to gain local, regional and national attention. Under her direction, the Michigan Philharmonic has won seven ASCAP Awards from American music and the Detroit Knight Arts Challenge. Just announced was the Michigan Philharmonic’s Second place honors in the Professional Orchestra Division for the American Prize for 2018-19. We look forward to celebrating her 21st season! As we reflect on our past, present and future, we remain committed to three pillars of our orchestra:
• Innovative Classical Music Programming
• Education for People of All Ages
• Geographic Enrichment Through Community Engagement

This past year we watched with considerable interest the push in our community for a new Performing Arts Center. While ultimately unsuccessful, the efforts and interest in the arts that the campaign engendered has created new opportunities for bringing the Michigan Phil's unique programs to an even broader range of audiences. We look forward to performing in two new and slightly larger venues this year in Northville and Canton.

Total revenue last season was nearly $466,534, slightly above our budget forecast. Admissions and season ticket sales were slightly below budget but on par with the prior season. Between our regular season performances and the summer programs, our audiences exceeded 20,000 attendees this season. Unfortunately, ticket sales alone do not provide nearly enough income to cover the costs of our programming. We depend on the support from our patrons and community as well. Annual giving was up this year over last, and for that we thank you, our patrons. Continuing our focus on sustainability, Michigan Philharmonic's staff, board and volunteers are working diligently to expand our donor base by hosting various events intended to build relationships with and opportunities for additional engagement to current and future patrons and stakeholders. Attendance at and funding from these engagement programs continues to grow.

Michigan Philharmonic’s Educational Program had a momentous year! With 125 students receiving professional instruction and performing in the Youth Orchestra programs under the direction of Hektor Qyteti and our award winning CLASSical Music Education Outreach and Composer in Me programs that includes musician classroom visits and special concert performances for third and fourth graders in five different school districts, our youth music staff and volunteers have never been busier! We would like to thank Taylor Haring (education coordinator) and Andrew Brauer (MPYO manager) for stepping in during this transition year. Both are leaving us to further career opportunities. We are pleased to announce that Nancy Davidson has agreed to take over their myriad responsibilities. The Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra continues to grow in size and stature, impressing audiences throughout the region.
Our Organization relies heavily on its Board of Directors. In that vein, we welcome four new board members. Aaron Reeder, is Vice President with Bank of Ann Arbor. Nick Brandon is Executive Director of Communications and Marketing with Plymouth-Canton Community Schools and an avid musician. Dr. Michelle Kelly is the Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Schoolcraft College. Marlene Donoghue, along with her late husband Wally, has been a patron and strong supporter of the arts in Southeast Michigan for many years.

On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, Beth Stewart, our stellar Executive Director, and Nan Washburn, Music Director and Conductor extraordinaire, we thank all of you- staff, musicians, patrons, supporters and our many volunteers- for your dedication and support. None of this would happen without you!

We have an exciting season coming up. We invite you to join us as we celebrate the Michigan Philharmonic’s 74th season of Orchestrating the Extraordinary!

Sincerely,

Christopher L. Belcher
Board President
Innovation

Summer concerts in Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth, Kensington Metropark as well as a big performance for the Kite Festival on Belle Isle led the way into fall with concerts in Our Lady of Good Counsel in Plymouth, PARC, The Penn Theatre, The Chapel at St. John’s as well as First United Methodist Church. We continued our association with both Wayne County Community College/Prechter Center and Brighton Center for the Performing Arts. The Michigan Philharmonic performed eight regular season concerts with eight repeats in Brighton, Northville and Taylor along with six performances of our Koncert for Kids. Our Michigan Phil Brass Quintet was invited to perform at the Tiger game for Star Wars Night for the sixth year in a row, awesome advertising!

Education

Education MPYO – the youth orchestra programs continue to grow – boasting over 125 students from 13 different communities in Southeast Michigan.

Under the artistic leadership of Hektor Qyteti and Joanna Goldstein, students in the program give three performances of their own and the upper groups have opportunity to perform side-by-side with the Michigan Philharmonic on two concerts during the season.

Arts in the Schools

Serving all third and fourth graders in 27 elementary schools in three school districts with in-class educational demonstrations and a Koncert for Kids.

Play it Forward

With support from season subscribers students from the Arts Academy were able to attend selected concerts of the Michigan Phil.
Workshops with Danielle Belen, Libby Larsen and Whitney George - students in the PCEP Orchestra had a master class with Danielle Belen while the High School Choir at PCEP worked with Main Street Opera to have a master class with composer Libby Larsen while she was visiting with the Michigan Phil in November.

Engagement

The NANiversity – Celebrating the 20th season of our Music Director and Conductor, Nan Washburn, we had tributes given at each concert honoring Nan’s accomplishments with the orchestra from the local dignitaries, to US Senators, Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow, and from composers and musicians to Jesse Rosen, the President of the League of American Orchestras. Our friends at WRCJ 90.9FM – Detroit’s Classical Radio Station honored the Michigan Phil with the 2018 Crystal Microphone Award for Detroit Performances. The Michigan Philharmonic was part of the inaugural broadcast series on NPR called The Great Lakes Concert Series which features music by top orchestras across the State of Michigan.

First Fridays
The Michigan Philharmonic and Main Street Opera partnered to offer free music programs each month at PARC where guests could meet and hear classical musicians in a casual setting at lunchtime. Guest Artists from OLGC and Madonna University Chorus joined the orchestra at our November concert with composer Libby Larsen. High School Choirs from Belleville, Howell and Brighton all had opportunities to perform with the Michigan Philharmonic on the Holiday Pops Concert and at the final concert of the season all 65 members of the Plymouth Community Band joined the orchestra for a rousing finale.

By strategically partnering with neighboring organizations that further the cultural life in our community, such as the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, Plymouth Chamber of Commerce, Metroparks, WRCJ 90.9 FM, and PARC, the Michigan Phil has effectively cultivated more diverse demographics, captivating newcomers and serving our community.

Beth Stewart,
Executive Director

"The Michigan Philharmonic is the cultural anchor of our community providing concerts and programs that educate, enrich and engage."
The Michigan Philharmonic concerts, programs and educational activities reach nearly 20,000 adults and students annually and we employ 60 professional musicians and staff members, making our organization the largest arts employer in Western Wayne County.
MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC PERSONNEL

OFFICERS

President – Christopher Belcher,
Wealth Management & Trusts Advisor
Past President/Ex-Officio – Audrey Mistor,
Executive V.P. & Manager of Wealth Mgmt.,
Monroe Bank and Trust
Vice President – Narendra Sheth,
retired, Ford Motor Company,
President, Geetmala Foundation
Secretary – Pam Hall,
Senior Loan Officer, Union Home Mortgage
Treasurer – Ronald H. Frechen,
retired
Nick Brandon, Executive Director, Communications &
Marketing, Plymouth-Canton Schools
Luan Brownlee, retired, PCCS
Anthony Davis, Auditor and Arts Advocate
Gail Grieger, Executive Director, PARC
Kenneth Kaiser, Vice President of Global
Electronic Engineering,
TRW Automotive
Susan Noetzel, Arts Advocate
Barton Polot, Chair, Department of Music, Schoolcraft College
Aaron Reeder, Vice President, Commercial Lending
Bank of Ann Arbor
Kathy Ruble, Executive Marketing Director, Ally Financial

STAFF

Nan Washburn,
Music Director and Conductor
Beth Stewart, Executive Director
Cecilia Escobar, Marketing Manager
Catherine Byrd, Bookkeeping & Admin. Support
Faith Demorest, Orchestra Personnel Manager
Nancy Davidson, Education Programs Coordinator
Julie Nyhus, Graphic Designer
Mary Tavana, Patron Services Manager
Nancy Vermillion, Volunteer
Michael Grabowski, Volunteer Production Assistant
Lisa Kaberna, Volunteer and Ushers Coordinator

MPYO

Nan Washburn, Advisor
Hektor Qyteti, Artistic Director and
Principal Conductor
Dennis Carter, Flute Choir and
Wind Ensemble Conductor
Nancy Davidson, MPYO Manager
Envisioning the Michigan Philharmonic

The Michigan Philharmonic’s 73rd season was also my own 20th “Naniversary” season as music director. What a celebration it was! Exciting concerts, lots of amazing tributes, several parties and, can you believe it, two cakes! I am proud and humbled, and I’m very much looking forward to many more years of fabulous music-making! Here are the 2018-2019 Season’s artistic highlights:

Artistic Recognition
Yet another award! This year we received the prestigious Crystal Microphone Award from WRCJ 90.9 FM in recognition of our many contributions to WRCJ and to the arts in greater Detroit. We were able to accept the honor at WRCJ’s “Spring Soiree” on April 18 at The Roostertail in Detroit. We also again placed 2nd in the professional division of The American Prize 2018-19. We made it to the big time with a special feature on Detroit Public Television’s acclaimed arts program, “Detroit Performs.” The program aired twice and luckily still can be viewed on Youtube! WRCJ 90.9 FM also again aired five of our performances this season: Happy Naniversary (Oct.), In a Winter Garden (Nov.), Miniature Masterpieces (Jan.), Franck, Fireflies and Fortissimos (March) and PhilPalooza 2 (April). Once again, it is an honor to be acknowledged for our high-level performances. We are still among only a handful of organizations, including DSO, MOT and Ann Arbor Symphony, regularly being broadcast on this public radio station.

Guest Soloists
Kicking off the season on October 5, violinist Danielle Belen knocked our socks off with a dazzling performance of the Violin Concerto by Samuel Barber. For our Halloween concert, entertainer extraordinaire Geff Phillips
sang and narrated wonderfully creepy songs, including the infamous “Monster Mash” and Rocky Horror Picture Show’s “The Time Warp.” For our giant production in November, along with staging, scenery and supertitles, we had three choruses (Madonna University Chorale, OLGC Counsellors Chorale, Main Street Opera Theatre Chorus) and four vocal soloists (Noelle Jacquez and Catherine Davis, sopranos, Elizabeth Mitchell, mezzo-soprano; Joseph Leppek, tenor) who joined us for a terrifically moving performance of Libby Larsen’s 40-minute In a Winter Garden Advent-inspired oratorio. On our Holiday concert, Michigan Phil’s principal horn, Morgan LaMonica played a beautiful rendition of the 3rd movement of Mozart’s Horn Concerto No. 3. In January, our concertmaster Joseph Deller stepped out to solo and give us visions of warmer weather with his performance of “Spring” from Antonio Vivaldi’s “The Four Seasons.” Also on our January concert, guest composer and narrator Whitney George was captivating and scintillating with her spine-chilling, highly original setting and rendition of Poe’s famous poem, “Quoth the Raven.” Lauren Norris, vocalist on our February concert, kept us “in the mood” with delightful performances of swing-era songs, “Get Happy” and “Chattanooga Choo Choo.” Solo trombonist Ava Ordman gave an over-the-top performance in both beauty and technical perfection playing David Biedenbender’s new concerto, Their Eyes Are Fireflies.

Concluding our season in April, Zach Shemon, saxophone, showed us he is a brilliant virtuoso in his performance of John Williams’ jazzy Escapades for Alto Saxophone & Orchestra from the movie “Catch Me If You Can.” For the grand finale, the Plymouth Community Band, under the direction of Carl Battishill, joined the orchestra in Leonard Bernstein’s Overture to “Candide” and John Williams’ Raiders March. 120+ musicians playing terrifically together is not just gloriously loud, but SO thrilling! Congrats to all!

Our esteemed Guest Composers who were here for the final rehearsals, concert and pre-concert chat: Libby Larsen, composer In a Winter Garden, November 30. Whitney George, composer and narrator, Quoth The Raven, January 20. David Biedenbender, composer, Their Eyes Are Fireflies (Concerto for Trombone and Orchestra) (2018), March 10. Rick Robinson, composer, Highland Park, MI: City of Trees (2009/2013), April 5.

Big Repertoire—great Michigan Phil performances!

César Franck: Symphony in D minor (1888).

Summer Successes!

Education
Continuing dedication to Education, Outreach and Community Engagement: I reprised my ever-popular talk, “The Silent Art of the Conductor” for several enthusiastic audiences: at Fox Run in September, for our own patrons in October and finally for the students at Vista Maria in May. For the Adult Learning Center in October, I also presented my talk “An Insider’s View of the Orchestra.”

Once again we had two side-by-side performances with ensembles from the Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra (Nov. 30 & April 5).

We got an invitation again from the DIA to perform on their free Friday Night Live! series in the Rivera Court—again, standing room only for both back-to-back performances (Jan. 12).

Belleville High School Chorus performed on the Philharmonic’s Holiday concert on December 8 at Prechter Performing Arts Center in Taylor, and the Howell High School Choir joined the Brighton High School Choir on December 15 to sing with us at the Brighton Center for the Performing Arts.

We had five performances of our popular children’s concerts in Plymouth-Canton, Taylor and Van Buren School Districts (May 22-28).

Our guest soloist and composers were also involved in our education/outreach efforts: Danielle Belen did a workshop with the P-CCS High School Orchestra. Libby Larsen taught a masterclass organized by and featuring Main Street Opera singers with the P-CCS High School choirs in the audience. Then Libby worked in a rehearsal with the high school choir, helping them prepare one of her pieces for State festival. Even with the snow storms, Whitney George was able to do a fabulous talk and presentation about her music at PARC for our patrons.
Rick Robinson also did a workshop at the P-CCS High School, this time with the concert band.

More changes for MPYO and our education programs: Hektor Qyteti, as MPYO’s Artistic Director of the three youth orchestra ensembles, and Joanna Goldstein, director of the flute choir and chamber wind ensemble, continued their great work this year guiding and inspiring our MPYO students. This summer we had another change in administration saying good-bye to Andrew Brauer, MPYO Manager, and Coordinator, Taylor Haring, Education Programs Coordinator, as they leave to pursue new adventures.

We are fortunate to be able to welcome new staff member (and former board member) Nancy Davidson who will do both jobs for us this year. Joanna Goldstein is moving on, as well, but this fall we’re very much looking forward to Michigan Philharmonic principal flutist Dennis Carter taking on the position of directing our wind groups.

Thank you to all our board members, staff, musicians and volunteers for all your hard work and continued support of the Michigan Philharmonic. We are one fabulous team!

Special thanks to our president Chris Belcher, vice president Narendra Sheth, treasurer Ron Frechen and secretary Pam Hall, along with board members Ken Kaiser, Sue Noetzel, Cathy Hasse and Kathy Ruble for their enormous contributions of time and expertise. We need to put our hands together for our amazing volunteers Mary Tavana, Lisa Kaberna, Michael Grabowski, Nancy Vermillion and Lee Miller, along with intern Holly Malinowski for the many hours they have clocked in for us; and thank-yous all around for our dedicated staff, Beth Stewart, Faith Demorest, Cecilia Escobar, Catherine Byrd, Taylor Haring, Nancy Davidson, Hektor Qyteti, Joanna Goldstein and Michael Grabowski, again, for his production work. And always, a very special recognition to Don Soenen, now officially an ex officio board member, who continues to be our major supporter and advocate as he leads PARC. Still hoping he can one day get the funds to convert the gym into a full-fledged concert space!

Respectfully,
Nan Washburn
Music Director & Conductor
The accounting policies of the Michigan Philharmonic conform to generally accepted accounting principles. Revenue through public support and grants is recognized when contributed or unconditionally promised and revenue for admissions, contract services and other is recognized when earned. Contributions that are restricted by the donor are reported as increases in temporarily or permanently restricted net assets depending on the nature of the restrictions. When a restriction expires temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets. The Michigan Philharmonic is a not-for-profit Michigan corporation recognized as exempt from Federal Income Taxes pursuant to Section 501 (c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code. The Philharmonic is exempt from Michigan Sales and Use Tax in accordance with P.A. 167 of 1933 and P. A. 94 of 1937, both as amended.

Total revenue for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019 was $466,524 compared to $476,999 for the prior year.

Total expenses net of other income amounted to $468,791 resulting in an excess of expenditures over revenues of $2,267 compared to $14,344 for the prior year. Admissions amounted to $73,914 with earned income comprising 41% of total income. Annual Giving amounted to $211,924. The Michigan Philharmonic was successful in obtaining grant awards during the fiscal year totaling $27,034. For the previous year grant income totaled $45,583.

Respectfully Submitted
Ron Frechen, Treasurer
The Michigan Philharmonic
“Orchestrating the Extraordinary”

The Michigan Philharmonic is one of the most innovative and dynamic professional symphony orchestras in Southeast Michigan; reaching out to a broad and diverse array of audiences, and providing an enjoyable cultural and social experience.

Our Music Director & Conductor Nan Washburn, who has been leading us for 20 seasons, has won 19 ASCAP Awards for Adventuresome Programming. We bring our events into an ever-expanding roster of Michigan communities, including Plymouth, Canton, and Northville, Livonia, Brighton, the Downriver communities and the city of Detroit.

We invite anyone who loves live music events to ‘Spend the night with Michigan Phil!’

Mission Statement
The mission of the Michigan Philharmonic is to enrich the communities of Southeastern Michigan by fostering excellence and innovation in the performance of orchestral music, to educate current and future audiences, and to bring distinction to our community through the regional presence and standing of our professional performing ensembles.

Vision Statement
Through innovative programming, orchestral excellence and regional outreach initiatives, within five years the Michigan Philharmonic will be one of the top five financially sustainable Michigan orchestras.
ATTENDANCE
SUPPORTERS
2019 - 2020, 74TH SEASON

ECLECTIC AND ELECTRIC

- Eclectic and Electric
- Masterpieces: A String Serenade
- Let It Be!: Beatles
- Phantom Philharmonic
- Marquis
- A Celebration of Courage – 100th Anniversary of Veterans Day
- Mahler Madness
- Holiday Pops with the Phil
- All That Jazz: The Roaring Twenties and Beyond