

# A Note From the Music Director & Conductor

It has been an honor to lead this talented group of musicians. The orchestra members and I are looking back at another year of growth and strengthening of the ensemble. We began the 2021 season with "back by popular demand" performances of Byron Stripling at Pops at the Pier and Mariachi Garibaldi in Kollen Park. It was great to see the Holland audience respond to these subsequent performances in great numbers. During the season we achieved several repertoire milestones which would have seemed out of reach 10 years ago. Examples are Brahms' Fourth Symphony in April 2023, Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring* in March 2023, and Berlioz's *Symphony Fantastique* in October 2022. We look forward to completing our cycle of performances of all of the Brahms symphonies in October 2023.

Speaking of Stravinsky, our collaboration with H2O Dance and Prof. Matthew Farmer at Hope College was a great success. Compliments on this collaboration were heard on both sides. Exploring performances at the renovated Civic Center was fun for the orchestra. I am excited about these community collaborations which continued with our Music

Unites Us project in the summer of 2023. The 2022-23 season was one of playing well-known repertoire such as the Saint-Saens *Organ Symphony* and the previously mentioned Brahms' Fourth as well as rediscovering hidden gems, such as the Joseph Marx' *Old Vienna Suites*, Hanson's Symphony No. 2, and Ravel's *Tombeau de Couperin*. We also explored newer repertoire, such as Milhaud's *The Bull on the Roof*, Florence Price's Concert Overture No. 2, and Esteban Benzecry's Cello Concertino played by Sphinx scholarship winner Adalus Low-Manzini.

I am truly proud of what the orchestra has achieved this past year. We have fully reemerged after the pandemic with new strength and enthusiasm and look forward to bringing more great music to you. Thank you for your ongoing support and dedication to great music-making in Holland!

Johannes Müller Stosch





# A Note From the Chair of the Board of Directors

Our last fiscal year for the Holland Symphony Orchestra kicked off in a wonderfully normal fashion after the challenges of coming back from interruptions of a global pandemic and recovery. On behalf of the Board, Orchestra and Staff of the HSO, we are so grateful to our supportive patrons and ticket holders! As the season went on, our audiences became larger and more confident in being together in venues and concert halls.

Our educational initiatives continued with new music programs for children and families being done in partnership with Herrick Public Library, the LinkUp program for fourth graders in area schools culminating in a concert at the Holland Civic Center, and our youth orchestras practicing together and providing performances highlighting their growing musical proficiency. Bringing local artists of diverse backgrounds together at a free concert in Kollen Park in August under the leadership of the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Access (DEIA) Committee was a major accomplishment of the season.

The HSO Board continues to participate in an exciting two-year initiative, a Capacity Building Workshop, offered to 15 selected area arts and cultural institutions. Facilitated by the DeVos Institute of Arts Management at the University of Maryland, the sharing of ideas in meetings, scrutiny of operations by arts experts, suggestions for ways to maximize the potential of support in the community, and more, have been inspirational and helpful for the future of the wider artistic community. This strategic planning effort has united staff and board members in formulating goals to ensure a vibrant and sustainable future for our Holland Symphony Orchestra.

We are fortunate to have a gifted Music Director, talented Musicians, a dedicated President & CEO, a hard-working Board of Directors, strong supporters, and a wonderful audience for the Holland Symphony Orchestra!



Ann Query

# **HSO** Board of Directors

(As of 4-30-23 Fiscal Year End)

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(Current 2023)

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Christopher Fashun – Conductor Youth Orchestra Kyle Nester – Conductor Junior/Concert Strings Victoria Zokoe – General Manager Youth Orchestras Jaclyn Klinger – Rehearsal Manager Youth Orchestras Josh Zallar – Social Media Haley Earley – Marketing Coordinator

# A Note from the President & CEO



Holland Symphony has had a banner year performing concerts for growing, enthusiastic audiences all over the community. The momentum of appreciative audiences responding to the power of live music is so invigorating for musicians that it translates into a higher level of performance and purpose. Three youth orchestras engaged students from all of the area schools performing two concerts. The Carnegie Hall Link Up Concerts thrilled 1500 grade school kids as they giggled at the bull from the Carmen Suite trying to charge the Toreador as he sang. Small chamber groups were all over the community from nursing homes, churches, chamber music concert series, Herrick Library, and Freedom Village as they spread the joy of live music. This does not happen without musicians, board, staff and volunteers lending their hands to help facilitate these events. The fantastic Pops at the Pier, a year ago, was the return of our Byron Stripling and his magic trumpet. Byron is such a master entertainer and leader in bringing the history of Black culture and jazz to

life for an audience. Then in August 2022, our Mariachi Garibaldi friends from LA returned, taking over my kitchen and enjoying Holland and the beach on their trip to Michigan. Even though torrents of rain tried, they did not keep away a huge crowd from enjoying the music in that big boat shed!

We've had the opportunity to work with Michael Kaiser, CEO of the Capacity Building Project and former CEO of the Kennedy Center, as an advisor/consultant for a free two-year program for 15 local arts and culture groups sponsored by the DeVos Foundation. The greatest gain is the involvement of the board in this crash course in arts management. Of course, a new strategic plan and 5 year financial plan are very worthwhile as well. To have the ear and advice of someone of his stature is so invigorating and humbling. Kaiser has been very complimentary of Holland Symphony and that has been most encouraging.

The other big initiative of the past 18 months is the Music Unites Us Commissioning Project which searched out 5 diverse West Michigan artists to perform with the orchestra in a free concert at Kollen Park this past August. HSO hired a very talented composer, Greg Scheer, to write a song for each of the selected groups in the photo below: Cuong Luong, singer from Vietnam; Nina Tritenichenko, singer and Bayan accordion player from Ukraine; Samuel Nalangira, singer/instrumentalist from Uganda; Grupo Super Nova, Cumbia band from Mexico; and Julia LaGrand, a blind violinist. This was one of the most important concerts HSO has ever created and was extremely well received, uniting all who attended.

A special thanks goes to the marketing skills of Haley Earley, a recent HSO hire whose social media posts and mini documentary were so well done!

Kay Walvoord



"It has been a rich experience preparing these scores, imagining how they'll sound played by the musicians of the Holland Symphony Orchestra rather than the computer.

Many orchestras are wringing their hands about how to diversify their orchestras and audience, but you've taken action. The Music Unites Us Initiative will be a paradigm others will follow."

Greg Scheer



# Meet the Musicians

(2022-23 Season)

### **Music Director/Conductor**

Johannes Müller Stosch

### Violin

Amanda Dykhouse Michelle Bessemer Krista Archambault Katie Bast Emma Bieniwicz Sara Covell Sheri Dwyer Becky Dyk Susan Formsma Sara Good Karen-Jane Henry Letitia Jap Irina Kagan Michelle Kellis Kathryn Reikow Ellen Rizner Anna Spix Jennifer Tuinenga Roger White Patricia Wunder Josh Zallar

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Lauren Garza
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### Cello

Pablo Mahave-Veglia Matthew Heyboer Tiger Huang Esther Peterson John Reikow Kevin Sweers Dawn Van Ark MacCormack Wyn

### **Bass**

Marcy Marcelletti Chuck Page Jmar Bongado Liam Coussens Cameron Steenhoek

### **Flute**

Gabe Southard Rebecca VandeWalker Jayne Gort Gay Landstrom Julie Sooy

### Oboe

Sarah Southard Rebecca Williams

### Clarinet

Gary June Lindsey Bos

### Bassoon

Kerrissa Silverthorne Laura Diaz Ruth Wilson

### French Horn

Greg Bassett Michael Wright Fred Gordon

### **Trumpet**

Bruce Formsma Aaron Good Gregory Alley

### **Trombone**

Paul Wesselink Steve Lilly Adam Graham

### Tuba

Brendan Bohnhorst

### **Timpani**

Chris Jones

### Percussion

Eric Peterson Shanley Kruizenga Rachel Coussens

### Keyboard

Linda Strouf

### Harp

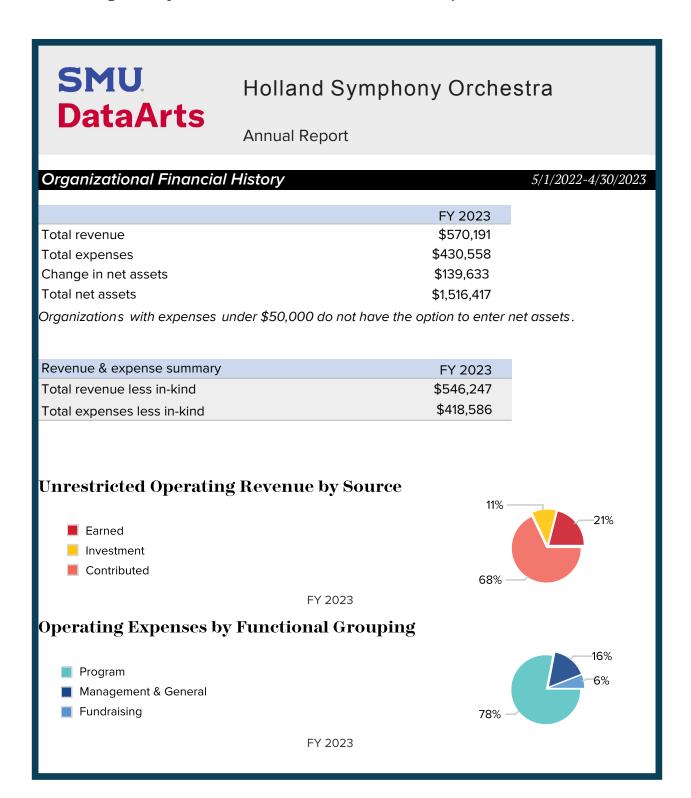
Allison Reese



# **Annual Financial Report**

The Holland Symphony fiscal year is May 1 to April 30 so the 2023 financials reported are for 8 months of 2022 and 4 months of 2023. The orchestra uses a season calendar for general reporting to keep income and expenses in the year in which they are received yet uses a calendar year to track and report annual donations.

The list of donors in this report and in concert programs is based on a calendar year and does not reflect new donations given in the year 2023. These donations will be acknowledged and published at the conclusion of the 2023 year.



# Thank You for Supporting our Programs

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- Unlisted YouTube link sent to info.hsyo@gmail.com
- Or text video to 616-283-3159
- Applications & audition requirements can be found on the HSO website

## **QUESTIONS?**

Email Tori Zokoe (HSYO General Manager): info.hsyo@gmail.com









### POPS AT THE PIER: BROADWAY OUR WAY

CONCERT SPONSOR UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN HEALTH-WEST

Thursday, June 22, 2023, 7:00pm Holland Concert Jazz Orchestra, 6:00pm Eldean Shipyard, Macatawa MI Carl Topilow, Cleveland Pops Conductor Connor Bogart O'Brian, vocalist

### **COMMUNITY CONCERT - OUR WONDERFUL WORLD**

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Saturday, August 12, 2023, 7:00pm Kollen Park, Holland Rain Location: Holland Civic Center Music Unites Us Artists

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**CONCERT SPONSORS: The Stuart & Barbara Padnos Foundation** 

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Saturday, September 30, 2023, 7:30pm Jack H. Miller Center, Hope College Alon Goldstein, piano

### **BRAHMS 3**

**CONCERT SPONSOR: Floyd & Caron Farmer** 

Saturday, October 28, 2023, 7:30pm Jack H. Miller Center, Hope College Aaron Berofsky, violin

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Saturday, December 9, 2023, 3:30 & 7:30pm Dimnent Chapel, Hope College Steve & Allison Martin, soloists

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Saturday, March 9, 2024 Jack H. Miller Center, Hope College Sarah Southard, oboe

### **NIGHT AT THE OPERA**

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Saturday, April 27, 2024, 7:30pm Jack H. Miller Center, Hope College Brittany Logan, Soprano



