



Johannes Müller Stosch
Music Director & Conductor

2024

ANNUAL REPORT



A MUSICAL
JOURNEY

JOHANNES MÜLLER STOSCH MUSIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR



This has been a wonderful season for the orchestra – a worthy showing for Kay Walvoord's last season as CEO. We had several firsts for our musicians and welcomed back some esteemed artists from HSO's past.

Cleveland Pops Conductor, Carl Topilow, and singer Connor Bogart took the reins at our Pops at the Pier concert, and the *Music Unites Us* Project created our largest audience at Kollen Park to date. These summer concerts are so successful that we have an increasingly hard time topping them from year to year. Pianist Alon Goldstein graced us with Beethoven's magnificent "Emperor" concerto. The orchestra played Holst's *Planets* in September, representing a huge repertoire that began our classical season. We were fortunate to welcome back violinist Aaron Berofsky for Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto. This was preceded by a Covid-inspired piece by John Wineglass, "Alone Together." The HSO musicians finished our cycle of playing all four symphonies by Johannes Brahms with his most intimate and challenging work, his Third Symphony.

Moving on to the holiday season, Steve and Allison Martin collaborated with HSO in Dimnent Chapel, with attendance topping the charts. We have re-engaged the couple for 2025. In March, our very own principal oboist, Sarah Southard, was featured in Eugene Goossens's Oboe Concerto. That program was rounded out by Haydn's "Surprise" Symphony and shorter works by William Grant Still and Delius. On the educational front, HSO played two full concerts for Holland Area 4th grade students at Miller

Auditorium and collaborated with Turning Pointe Dancers, a local recorder group, and Brazilian drumming under Christopher Fashun. For our final concert, the orchestra prepared works related to opera and voice. Wagner's triumphant *Die Meistersinger* Overture ushered in two monumental works by Richard Strauss, his *Four Last Songs* and the Suite from *Der Rosenkavalier*. A string work by Arthur Foote and selections from Bizet's *Carmen Suite* rounded off the program.

HSO expanded its repertoire significantly during this past season and demonstrated continued artistic growth. I look forward to another season where we continue this journey together. Works I look forward to the most are Gershwin's *An American in Paris*, a welcome back to Huw Lewis at the organ, Debussy's *La Mer*, new contemporary works by Ana Lara and Anne Clyne, Mendelssohn's "Scottish Symphony," Andrew Le at the piano for Ravel's Piano Concerto, and Rachmaninoff's Second Symphony. We are also trying a new approach to programming by offering an audience choice selection. Stay tuned!

My sincere appreciation goes to Kay for many, many years of inspired leadership and to the board and the musicians for continuing to allow me to journey with the orchestra in our HSO growth story!

Musically yours,
Johannes Müller Stosch



A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



ANN QUERY,
RETIRING BOARD CHAIR

On behalf of the Board, Orchestra and Staff of the HSO, we offer gratitude to our supportive patrons and ticket holders! You have made our efforts rewarding.

The work of the Board this year centered on the plans for a well-deserved retirement for Kay Walvoord after her 36 years of dedication to the growth and development of the Holland Symphony Orchestra.

Participation with Michael Kaiser and the DeVos Capacity Building Workshop gave confidence that all is in order and in a strong position for change. We celebrate Kay's retirement as the President/CEO as she has ensured an excellent connection to the future with careful stewardship of resources, inspiring tutelage to committees and boards, and the creation of a love of music for generations to come. We are immensely grateful to Kay for her strong leadership for these many years!

Kay worked with Michael during a time of transition, as well as leading the search team for a successor to Johannes Müller-Stosch in the 2026-27 year.

A dedicated search committee headed by Board Vice Chair, Ruth Crouch, was established over the year, with a call for applications beginning in early 2024. The interest was good, and the process was handled with care and commitment to the task.

On the evening of April 30, 2024, the last day of the HSO fiscal year, a special meeting of the Board was convened, and a vote taken on the recommendation from the committee. Within days a contract was completed with Michael Naess who became the new President and CEO as of June 1, 2024.

Michael is a passionate performing arts enthusiast with a love for travel, physical fitness, classical music, and dogs! He has a BA in Renaissance and Baroque Choral Music from Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine. His professional background includes working with The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Carnegie Hall, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, Dallas Symphony, and most recently the Grand Rapids Symphony.



RUTH CROUCH,
INCOMING BOARD CHAIR

Michael was born in Houston and raised primarily on the East Coast. He has family in Virginia and Munich. His leisure interests include running in marathons, playing chess, cooking, and enjoying his vast collection of classical music recordings. We are delighted to welcome Michael Naess to the Holland Symphony Orchestra leadership!!

Ann Query
Retiring Chair of the Board of Directors

HSO STAFF

(current 2024)

Johannes Müller Stosch – Music Director & Conductor

Kay Walvoord – President & CEO – retiring

Michael T. Naess – President & CEO – incoming

Greg Bassett – Operations & Personnel Manager

Amanda Dykhous – Ticket Manager, Concertmaster, Librarian

Brenda Hearn – Bookkeeper

Jenny Walvoord – Graphics/Website

Jayne Gort – Link Up Coordinator

Haley Earley – Marketing Coordinator

Josh Zallar – Conductor Youth Orchestra & Social Media Coordinator

Kyle Nester – Conductor Concert Strings

Victoria Zokoe – Conductor Junior Strings & General Manager Holland Symphony Youth Orchestras

Katie Rae Hayduk – Rehearsal Manager Concert Strings & Junior Strings

Jaclyn Klinger – Rehearsal Manager Holland Area Youth Orchestra

HSO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(current 2024)

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A NOTE FROM THE **PRESIDENT & CEO**



KAY WALVOORD,
RETIRING PRESIDENT & CEO

ing for not only the musicians but translates into a contagious level of inspired performance. The concerts are also the “payoff” for those of us who plan behind the scenes. The orchestra reached a new pinnacle of performance with the Strauss *Der Rosenkavalier* at the last concert of the season! What a wonderful gift to all of us!

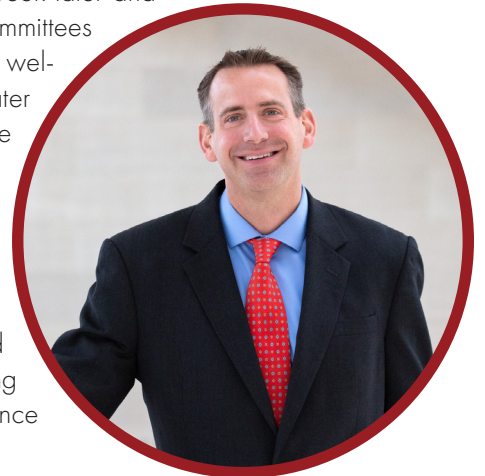
Concluding the two-year DeVos Capacity Building Project with Michael Kaiser was a highlight for board and staff resulting in an updated five-year strategic plan and a five-year financial plan. Mr. Kaiser was most complimentary about HSO and gave us valuable insight as to the CEO search process allowing us to move confidently into a period of transition. Bylaws and Governance Manual were updated and revised. The youth orchestras hired a new conductor, Josh Zallar, who has already visited the area schools to recruit for members this fall. In addition, the youth orchestras had two great concerts under Christopher Fashun,

Holland Symphony Orchestra has had a busy year planning for the transition of my position as President & CEO to the reins of a new person. If I were to choose an artistic season to end my 36-year role with the youth orchestras and the symphony, this was a marvelous one to conclude with. The momentum of appreciative audiences responding to the power of live music is invigorating

developed a new brochure, added back the string quartet, and increased lesson scholarships. Link Up had 1400 students enthralled with The Orchestra Moves at the Jack H. Miller Center. Chamber groups have entertained classrooms, event series, Hope Little Read for preschools/kindergarteners and Herrick Library concerts. HSO is grateful for the musicians, volunteers, staff, and board members who assist at these events.

The search process for a new President and CEO went smoothly and Michael Naess was selected. He started in the office on June 10 after attending the League of American Orchestras Conference in Houston in early June. He jumped into the Pops at the Pier Concert a week later and meetings of all committees soon after. Please welcome him to the greater Holland area. He is a very capable, charismatic guy and ready to learn and take HSO to the next level. I wish him every success and look forward to being an enthusiastic audience member!

Kay Walvoord
Retiring President &
CEO



MICHAEL T. NAESS,
INCOMING PRESIDENT & CEO





MEET THE **MUSICIANS**

(current 2024)

Violin

Amanda Dykhouse, Concertmaster
*Walvoord Endowment**
Michelle Bessemer, Principal Second
Krista Archambault, Assistant
Katie Bast, Assistant
*Ken & Grace Vos**
Teresa Bellamy, Assistant
Patrick Foley, Assistant
Sara Good, Assistant
Letitia Jap, Assistant
Anna Spix, Assistant
Jennifer Tuinenga, Assistant
Josh Zallar, Assistant
Larissa Brooks
*Lynette & Stuart Fall**
Sara Covell
Sharon Dwyer
Becky Dyk
Susan Formsma
Karen-Jane Henry
Michelle Kellis
Jane Lee
Rhiannon Pitcock
Kathryn Reikow
Ellen Rizner
Roger White
Patricia Wunder

Viola

Lauren Garza, Principal
David Lee, Assistant
Kristina Zeinstra, Assistant
Emma Bieniewicz
Daniel Griswold
Mary Hofland
Connie Meekhof
Lexi Sloan-Harper
Jamie Lish
Laurie Van Ark

Cello

Pablo Mahave-Veglia, Principal
James Alexander, Assistant
Lydia Raymond, Assistant
John Reikow, Assistant
McCormack Wyn, Assistant
Lee Copenhaver
Matthew Heyboer
Tiger Huang
Esther Peterson
Kevin Sweers
Dawn Van Ark
Rebecca Winchell

Bass

Chuck Page, Principal
Marcy Marcelletti, Assistant
Jmar Bongado
Liam Coussens
Cameron Steenhoek

Flute

Rebecca VanDeWalker, Principal
*Susan & Randall Miller**
Jayne Gort, Assistant
*Westrate Foundation**
Gay Landstrom
Julie Sooy

Oboe

Sarah Southard, Principal
Rebecca Williams, Assistant

Clarinet

Gary June, Principal
Lindsey Bos, Assistant

Bassoon

Kerrisa Silverthorne, Principal
Laura Diaz, Assistant
Ruth Wilson

Horn

Greg Bassett, Principal
Michael Wright, Assistant
Fred Gordon

Trumpet

Bruce Formsma, Principal
Aaron Good
Gregory Alley, Assistant

Trombone

Paul Wesselink, Principal
Steve Lilly, Assistant

Bass Trombone

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Tuba

Brendan Bohnhorst, Principal

Timpani

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Percussion

Eric Peterson, Principal
Shanley Kruiuzenga, Assistant
Rachel Coussens

Harp

Alison Reese, Principal

**Chair Sponsor*

OUTREACH

HOLLAND SYMPHONY YOUTH ORCHESTRAS



LEARN MUSIC
ALONGSIDE YOUR PEERS
WHO LOVE MUSIC



MEET STUDENTS
FROM OTHER SCHOOLS

our ensembles

Holland Symphony Youth Orchestras is dedicated to the training of young musicians in the greater Holland area and consists of three orchestras:

Holland Area Youth Orchestra (HAYO)

A full orchestra of students through age 21 selected through a competitive audition process. In 2024-25, HAYO welcomes a new Conductor, Josh Zallar.



HAYO

Holland Area Concert Strings (HACS)

A string orchestra of students with intermediate experience selected through a competitive audition process. HACS is conducted by Kyle Nester.



HACS

Holland Area Junior Strings (HAJS)

A string orchestra of beginning students with at least one year of playing experience with no audition required. HAJS is also conducted by Kyle Nester.



HAJS

Becoming a part of
HSYO has allowed me
to seek music in ways
that I haven't before.

Annie, HAYO

CHALLENGE
YOURSELF TO BECOME
A BETTER MUSICIAN





Thank you to the Chamber Music Festival of Saugatuck and the Holland Symphony Brass Quintet for stopping by on Thursday to introduce our students to chamber...



CLASSICAL CHATS



LINK-UP



HIGH SCHOOL MENTORING



AUG 12 2023

MUSIC UNITES US

Holland Symphony Orchestra



CELEBRATING DIVERSITY

ADULT EDUCATION



SCHOOL VISITS

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



HASP



FREEDOM VILLAGE CHATS



THANK YOU FOR **SUPPORTING OUR PROGRAMS**

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ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

The Holland Symphony fiscal year is May 1 to April 30 so the 2024 financials reported are for 8 months of 2023 and 4 months of 2024. 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 2024. These donations will be acknowledged and published at the conclusion of the 2024 year.

ASSETS

Current assets:

Cash	\$ 48,079
Investments	1,478,099
Accounts receivable	4,000
Total current assets	<u>1,530,178</u>

Operating lease right-of-use assets	18,600
Instruments, furniture and equipment, net	9,727
Investments restricted for long-term use	<u>185,089</u>

TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 1,743,594</u>
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LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current liabilities:

Accounts payable	\$ 1,204
Accrued liabilities	196
Deferred revenue	38,590
Current portion of operating lease liabilities	15,077
Total current liabilities	<u>55,067</u>

Operating lease liabilities, net of current portion	4,015
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Net assets:

Without donor restrictions:	
Undesignated	1,590,534
Board designated	-
With donor restrictions	93,978
Total net assets	<u>1,684,512</u>

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 1,743,594</u>
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2024-2025

Holland Symphony Orchestra

Johannes Müller Stosch, Music Director & Conductor

MUSIC UNITES US 24-25 SEASON



POPS AT THE PIER: BROADWAY OUR WAY

Concert Sponsor:



Thursday, June 20, 2024, 7:00pm
Holland Concert Jazz Orchestra, 6:00pm
Eldean Shipyard, Macatawa MI
Lisa Vroman & Doug LaBrecque, soloists

COMMUNITY CONCERT: MUSIC UNITES US - BRAZIL!

Saturday, August 10, 2024, 7:00pm
Kollen Park, Holland
Rain Location: Holland Civic Center
Choro das 3, guest artists
Christopher Fashun, guest conductor

AN AMERICAN IN PARIS

Concert Sponsor:

IN MEMORY OF: FLOYD FARMER

Saturday, September 14, 2024, 7:30pm
Jack H. Miller Center, Hope College
Huw Lewis, organ

SOUNDS OF THE SEA

Concert Sponsors:

JOHN & ANN QUERY | RUTH & DAVID CROUCH

Saturday, November 2, 2024, 7:30pm
Jack H. Miller Center, Hope College
Andrew Le, piano

HOLIDAY: HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Concert Sponsor:

PAT & CAMY THOMPSON

Saturday, December 14, 2024,
3:30 & 7:30pm
Dimnent Chapel, Hope College
Jennie Judd Reyes, soprano

SCOTTISH INFLUENCE

Saturday, March 22, 2025, 7:30pm
Jack H. Miller Center, Hope College
Letitia Jap, violin

ROMANTIC RACHMANINOFF

Concert Sponsor:

GEORGE & SIBILLA BOERIGTER

Saturday, April 26, 2025, 7:30pm
Jack H. Miller Center, Hope College
Cameron Renshaw, cello

ADDITIONAL CONCERT SUPPORTERS:



MillerKnoll

Stuart & Barbara Padnos
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Lewis & Helen Padnos
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