



2017/18
ANNUAL REPORT

MOVING MUSIC FORWARD



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

The Oregon Symphony is changing the notion of what a great symphony can be. The largest performing arts institution in the largest city in the state, we are a cultural catalyst, invigorating Oregon's thriving, diverse, artistic community. Our goals are to thrill audiences with exhilarating performances, spark conversations far beyond the concert hall, and bring the power of music to more people in new ways.

We are pleased to report on our 2017/18 season – which ran from July 1 to June 30. With our partners' continued support, we plan to reach, move, and inspire generations to come.

Scott Showalter, president & CEO



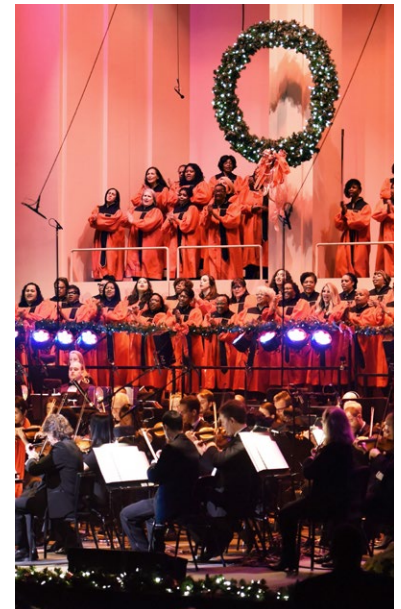
INSPIRED/INSPIRATIONAL

With the belief that music has the power to inspire, unite, educate, and heal, throughout the 2017/18 season Oregon Symphony performed 113 full-orchestra concerts. We presented over 250 community education and engagement events, bringing the joy of live music to over a quarter million people.

Advancing new music, inspiring creative collaboration and offering our audiences innovative performances, in 2017/18 we commissioned five new works for orchestra from composers like Gabriel Kahane and Mark-Anthony Turnage, and dramatist Dipika Guha.

In cooperation with educational partners, youth symphonies, and public schools, we empowered young music students to pursue their passion and grow in their musicianship.

Our holiday concert Gospel Christmas again featured one of the country's largest community gospel choirs, assembled from dozens of churches throughout the Portland metro area.



Gospel Christmas

In 2017/18, we brought to Oregon and sw Washington a diverse range of some of the finest, most celebrated artists in the world.



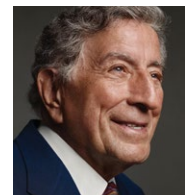
Josh Bell



Audra McDonald



Simone Lamsma



Tony Bennett

RELEVANT/MEANINGFUL

In the 2017/18 Season, the Oregon Symphony pushed artistic boundaries with Sounds of Home, a transformational series that wove contemporary and classical music, drama, and visual art to illuminate personal and shared experiences of immigration, the environment, and homelessness.

In our Classical series, 12 of the season's 46 orchestral works were by living composers (16%, compared to a national average of 4%). We deepened our repertoire, this year playing 17 pieces never before performed in the Symphony's history. Boundary-crossing special presentations included rap, jazz, Broadway and pop music, drawing large

audiences diverse in age, geographical location, and ethnic background.

THE SOUNDS OF HOME



Azaan



Rite of Spring



emergency shelter intake form

ENGAGED/ENGAGING



We brought music and opportunities for creative expression to underserved and isolated members of our community



Oregon Symphony serves our community with scores of interactive events and performances reaching new – and often underserved – audiences. Partnership and community were at the heart of our 2017/18 season.

In our evolving Music & Wellness program, the Lullaby Project supported maternal health and child bonding by empowering homeless mothers to write and record lullabies for their children. With musicNow, musicians helped seniors suffering from cognitive decline re-discover self-expression.

We expanded the reach of Carnegie Hall's Link Up curriculum to offer year-long music education and hands-on performance – with the full orchestra – to 9,000 3rd–5th graders

from 52 schools throughout the metro area. We performed free Symphony Storytimes at libraries throughout the tri-county area for approximately 1,200 pre-school kids and their parents. We also hosted 53 school and community musical groups for pre-concert Prelude Performances at Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall.

Our Community Engagement and Education programs break down economic barriers to experiencing the Oregon Symphony. In all, we brought the joy of music to a non-traditional audience of 27,000 people far beyond the concert hall. This includes the youth of St. Mary's Home for Boys and the incarcerated women of the Coffee Creek Correctional Facility.



Measha Bruggersman



Johnny Mathis



Vladimir Guzman



Herbie Hancock



Sarah Kwak



Kirill Gerstein



Angelique Kidjo

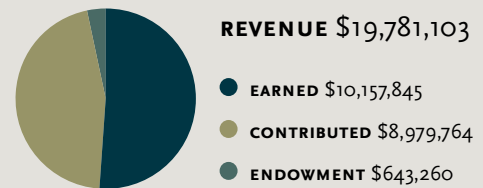
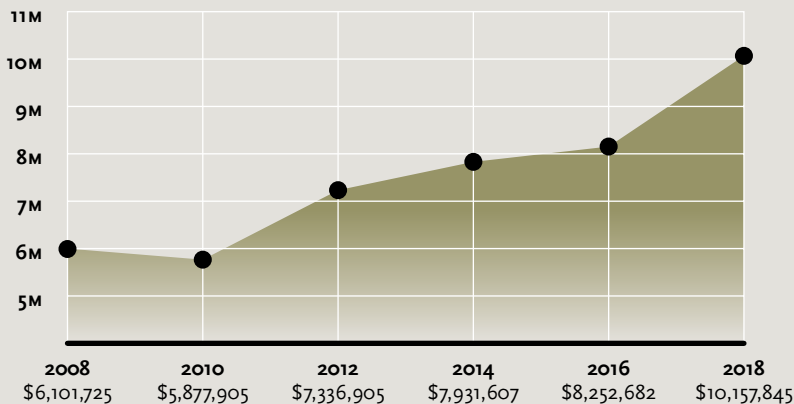


Today's Oregon Symphony is a symphony for all. With the participation of our concertgoers, donors, and community partners we achieve excellence and strengthen our community through music. We thank the many supporters who help make our success possible.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Achieved a balanced budget for a ninth consecutive season, with no debt.
- Increased operating budget over \$5 million in four years (from \$14.5 million in FY14 to \$19.8 million FY18).
- Surpassed fundraising records at our annual Gala for the fourth consecutive year, raising an unprecedented \$1.15 million.
- Sold a record 186,532 seats (up 21% over the last two years).
- Subscription revenue for the expanded Popcorn Package more than doubled.
- Reached over 15 million listeners on local and nationally syndicated radio programs through American Public Media.

EARNED REVENUE



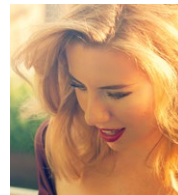
Chris Botti



Bill Murray



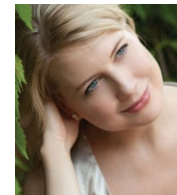
Garrick Ohlsson



Natasha Paremski



George Takei



Elina Vahala



Andre Watts

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