

Board of Directors

(current 2024)

Bill Downey

President

Dennis Disch

VP, Administration

Greg Zyjewski

VP, Education

Peter Claude

VP, Finance; Treasurer

Kate Gassman

Secretary

Natalie Baggio

Keri Suarez

SMSO Staff Team

(current 2024)

Matthew Aubin

Music Director & Conductor

Jessica Ishmael

Executive Director

Burke Lokey III

Education Director &

Conductor Youth Orchestra

Michelle Agay

Marketing & Volunteers

Hollie Ayres

Development & Outreach

Scott Burgess

Production Manager

Rachel Cabanilla-Sinnett

LMYO Conductor Encore Strings

Irina Kagan

Personnel Manager & Librarian

Forrest Miesse

LMYO Coordinator

Beth Oeseburg

LMYO Conductor Concert Strings

Mary Ann Ware

Office Services



SMSO

SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Transforming All Lives Through Music



ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2023-2024





FROM THE PRESIDENT

There's no question SMSO has undergone significant challenges in past years with leadership, board, and support turnover as well as the difficulties we all faced with the pandemic. Our emergence from Covid brought **new leadership with Matt Aubin and Jessica Ishmael**, who saw opportunity to rebuild SMSO's organizational structure to better manage its growth and development for a more sustainable future.

As this brief Annual Impact Report will show, this rebuild has produced successful returns over the last two years as their efforts have rejuvenated the SMSO and its contribution to our musical life in Southwest Michigan.

Our work is far from done, however. As SMSO prepares for its 75th Anniversary season next year--*now more than ever--we need your voices, ideas, and your continued financial support.* We invite you to join us in continuing the turnaround of SMSO toward a brighter future, ensuring the continuance of our mission to *Transform All Lives Through Music!*



Bill Downey
BILL DOWNEY
PRESIDENT

EDUCATION CONCERT RETURNS

1,093 Third- and Fourth Grade Students from **15** schools in Berrien County attended our first Education Concert that was offered **FREE** this past April. Grant support helped reduce transportation barriers as well.



2023-24 SEASON IN REVIEW

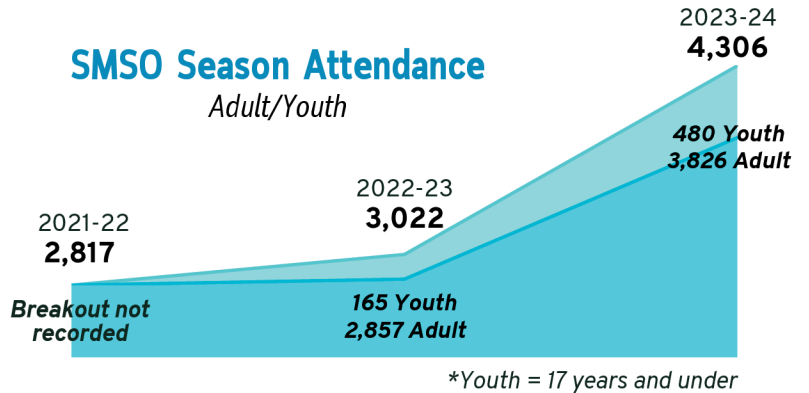
JUNE 1, 2023 - MAY 31, 2024

CONCERT EVENTS

JUL 3	A Salute to America	812
JUL 15	Ella & Gershwin on the Shore with Lisa Williamson (soprano)	376
JUL 28-29	The Sound of Music in collaboration with The GhostLight Theatre	1,118
AUG 12	At Home & Out of This World The Music of John Williams	400
OCT 22	Beethoven's Ninth with Chorlennium	415
DEC 9	Merry & Bright	529
FEB 24	The Four Seasons with Whun Kim & Abigail Weener (violins)	198
MAY 11	Rhapsody in Blue with Daniel Hsu (piano), in collaboration with The Gilmore	454

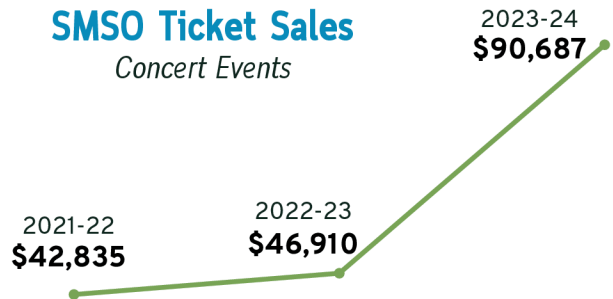
SMSO Season Attendance

Adult/Youth



SMSO Ticket Sales

Concert Events

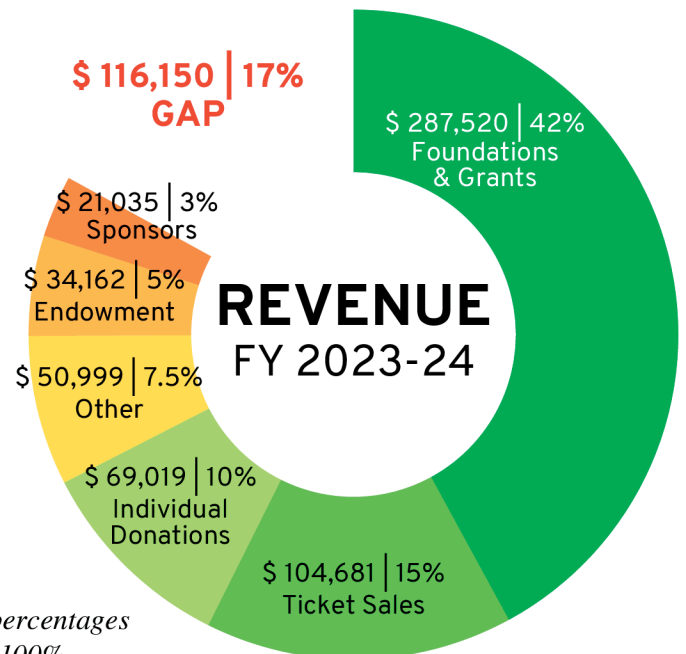
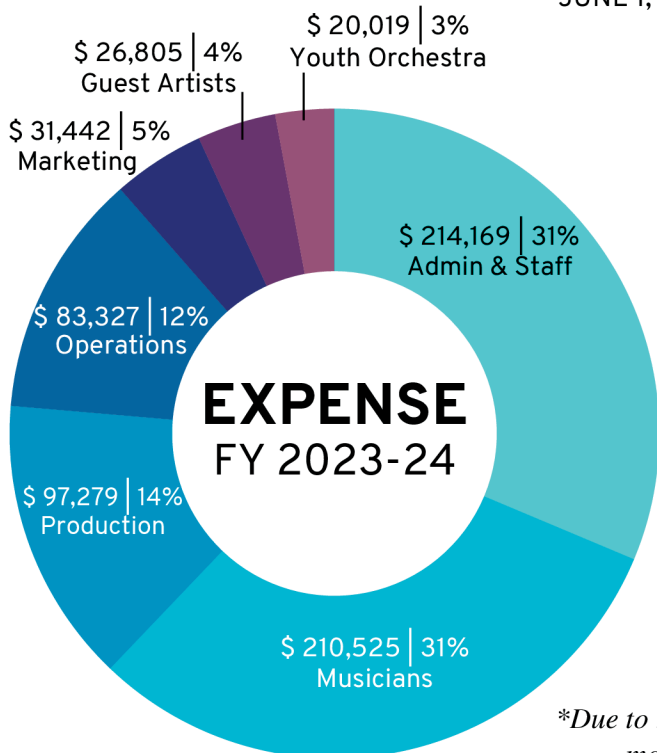


*Attendance and Ticket Sales figures listed above only reflect the specified listed concerts.
Ticket sales for all SMSO & LMYO concerts and events totaled \$104,681 for 2023-24.

FISCAL SUMMARY

FY 2023-24 Budget: \$683,566

JUNE 1, 2023 - MAY 31, 2024



*Due to rounding, percentages may not total 100%

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR PROGRAMS!

CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED JUNE 1, 2023 - MAY 31, 2024

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Platinum (\$10,000 +)

Carolyn Hanson
Paul & Rose Suchovsky

Gold (\$5,000 to \$9,999)

Michelle & Matt Aubin
Peter & Laura Claude
Natalie Baggio & Dennis Disch
Denny & Betsy Sexton
Elizabeth Upton

Silver (\$2,500 to \$4,999)

Carol Clark
Christopher Conley
Bill Downey & Lisa Cripps-
Downey
Greg & Mae Zyjewski

Benefactors (\$1,000 to \$2,499)

Melanie Goff
Ray & Laura Ingham
Peter & Karen Johnson
Jim & Amy Marohn
John & Sandra Nye
Mark & Jean Penwell
Carol Sizer
Eugene Weil

Patrons (\$500 to \$999)

Anonymous (1)
Bruce & Priscilla Banghart
Jean Bloomquist
Mike & Phyllis Damschroder
Maggie Daly & Tim Gleason
Brent & Liz Glendening
Erika K. Mauerman
Richard & Toni Rabbers
Joan & Bob Judd
Jim & Chris Svab
Pat Taplick

Friends (\$100 to \$499)

Virgina Bedunah
Jo Ann Bertrand
Scott & Maureen Bradford
Richard Curtis & Diane
Barrett-Curtis
Martin Dixon
Erin Drury
Patricia Forbes & William
Mitchell
Bob & Janine Harrison
Barbara & James Jespersen
Carol Johnson
Robert & Mary Kynast
Merrily Mahon
Phillip Maki
Jim & Suzanne Miller
Amy Nolan
Sue Plummer
Joelle Regovich
Charles & Lisa Rowe
Jason & Abigail Savage
Larry & Jenny Schanker
Susan H. Schwartz
Peter & Raejene Shaffer

Craig Siemans
Constance Slater
Richard Vavra-Musser
Pat Walton
Teri Williams

Advocates (up to \$99)

Arturo Abarca
Art & Gail Adcock
Ken Ankli & Ann Miller
Lora Arnelis
Nick & Shirley Auringer
Steve Baden
Daniel & Ann Barz
Olivia Beebe
Erik Bergh
Salvador Bermudez
Wayne & Kerry Binnington
Gloria Bowman
Laura Buehler
Daniel Burton
Paula Jean Camp
Robin N. Carroll
Blake Cartwright
Theadore & Faye Chamberlain
Kelsey Cheyne
Tom & Linda Closson
Kimberley & Michael Cornelius
Jayme Cousins
Pauline Couvelis
Jake & Nora Davis
Marcos De Souza
Lynn DeMarco
Jill DiFranco
Caroline Erhardt
Alex Farrington
Tami Fauver
Susan Flynn
Olga Fraley
Maria Frank
Abhijit & Archana Ganu
Tom Gear
Martin & Lois Goldrick
Bonnie & Kirk Goodwin
Toinette Gunn
Dave Harry
John Jaffee
Tracey Jaggi
Beth Jensen
Harvey Johnson Jr.
Laura Jolly
Jennifer Kirby
Rita Klann
Kelli Kline
John Kloosterman
Deborah Kozak
Erin Kuhl
Samuel Leggitt
Stacy Lynch
Brian Malone
Kathy Manning
Barbara McGath
Lynda McGrath
Josephine & Ben Nicholson
Edith Nickel
Dolores Olejniczak
Kathy Olsen

Chris Paine & Kristen Robinson
Brent & Elizabeth Parsons
Mark Partridge
Natasha Paulinski
Toan & Jenny Pham
Chuck & Carolyn Phillip
David Poole
Gregg Pudell
Ryan Rohrman
Joe & Becky Rommel
Valinta Schnable
William Schneider
Pete & Joanne Schrock
Adriana Schulka
Lona Sharpe
Isha Siddiqui
Wendy & Ralph Skinner
Herb Smith
Suzanne Snyder
Jeff & Barbara Starke
Karen Tabbert
Jennifer Tabor
Leo Utsman
Carol Vondale
Gary & Nancy Walker
Josh & Ashley Wells
Eileen Willenborg & Jane
Melnick
Monty Willett
Theresa Willson
Marcia Wineberg
James & Jaclyn Winship
Rebecca Zilz
Tom Zoltanski

In-Kind

Kelsey Cheyne
Peter Claude
Teri Williams
Greg Zyjewski

CORPORATE / GRANTS

Platinum (\$10,000 +)

Frederick S Upton Foundation
Michigan Arts & Culture
Council
Schalon Foundation

Gold (\$5,000 to \$9,999)

AEP Cook Nuclear Plant
Berrien Community Foundation
John EN & Dede Howard
Facilities Endowment
Margaret Beckley Upton
Foundation Endowment
St. Joseph-Benton Harbor
Rotary Club Foundation
Tiscornia Foundation
Wales Wealth Management
Group

Silver (\$2,500 to \$4,999)

Meijer
Music Performance Trust Fund
National Endowment for the
Arts
PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP

Benefactors (\$1,000 to \$2,499)

Combined Insurance Agency
Corewell Health
EverGreene Foundation
Horizon Bank
John DeVries Agency
Monday Musical Club
New Buffalo Arts Council

Patrons (\$500 to \$999)

True Blue Financial

In-Kind

90.7 WAUS / PBS Michiana
WNIT
Boulevard Inn & Bistro
Flour Shop Bakery
Giannola Construction &
Investments
Herald Palladium
Howard Performing Arts
Center
Lake Michigan College Mendel
Center
Lake Michigan College Visual &
Performing Arts
TPC Technologies, Inc

We cannot say "THANK YOU!" too much or too often. You have played an important role in *Transforming All Lives Through Music* in our beautiful corner of the world!