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Dear Nashville Philharmonic Enthusiasts,

As NPO Music Director, I wanted to jot a personal note of appreciation to you to accompany this Annual Report. Thank you for your support of the Nashville Philharmonic through your attendance, financial contributions, volunteer service, and spreading the word about who we are.

As I mentioned at our recent concerts that opened our 17th season(!), our longevity is a testament to your support, to the vision of our founder Kelly Corcoran, to the commitment of our musicians, and to the relevance of our mission. For any non-profit to start from scratch and to grow and thrive for this length of time is a success story worth celebrating!

As the report illustrates, our previous season was characteristically full of diverse music and highlighted by our first major commission of a work by internationally renowned performer-composer Tracy Silverman. With core and auxiliary instrumentalists along with our community chorus and soloists, we included well over 150 musicians during our 16th season. As you well know, these folks have various “day jobs” and practice on their own during the week, and then we get together on Tuesday nights to rehearse. Together, we believe in our mission of bringing music to various demographics throughout Nashville, and we enjoy seeing both familiar and new faces in our audiences (we had about a hundred new attendees at our recent pair of concerts).

Your contributions not only help us rent and purchase music, but we were also able to acquire some greatly needed percussion instruments due to patron generosity.

I have the welcome perspective of a dozen years with this organization, and I have been amazed at its remarkable expansion on every front. I trust with this report and with each concert you attend that you will take pride in knowing you’ve contributed to our success... for which I greatly thank you!

Sincerely,

Christopher Norton,
Music Director and Conductor
The Nashville Philharmonic Orchestra, an all-volunteer community orchestra featuring amateur and professional players from throughout Middle Tennessee, is proud to play its part in enriching the already vibrant Nashville arts community. Our mission is to offer area orchestral musicians opportunities to perform while providing high-quality symphonic music free of charge to a wide variety of audiences.
Season Highlight

The 2018-19 season was a milestone as the NPO premiered the first ever NPO commission, *For the Greater Groove*, by Nashville musician and composer, Tracy Silverman, in celebration of the NPO’s 15th season and Music Director Chris Norton’s tenth season with the NPO.

In *For the Greater Groove* Silverman pays homage to the spirit of collaboration and love of music-making that animates volunteer ensembles like the NPO. NPO musicians benefited from the opportunity to rehearse under the direction of the composer and Silverman took time to share his compositional process during a seminar class with music students at Nashville State Community College. In marking these anniversaries the NPO fulfilled the two aspects of its mission in a unique way: NPO musicians were privileged to premiere a new work and its Nashville audiences were the first to experience a piece that is now part of the contemporary orchestral repertoire.
Performing with the NPO

The NPO is dedicated to helping its members reach their fullest potential as musicians while also engaging and supporting other local musicians.

In the 2018-19 season the NPO organized:

★ Sectionals for its members led by Nashville Symphony Orchestra musicians
★ Concerto and Composition Competitions for local musicians
★ A Conducting Fellowship for an up-and-coming conductor
★ Collaboration with the NPO Festival chorus (drawing on singers from across the city) and NSO Principal Horn Leslie Norton
★ Performances of new works and interactions with composers:
   — Tracy Silverman
   — Nashville Composer Collective
   — Brad Warnaar
★ A wide variety of repertoire from Baroque (Buxtehude) and Classical (Mozart) to Romantic (Tchaikovsky) and Modern (Warnaar and Bernstein) works
Experiencing the NPO

The NPO strives to strengthen existing relationships with communities by returning to familiar venues even as it explores creative outreach to new communities.

- Tracy Silverman’s composition seminar at Nashville State Community College afforded music students the opportunity to learn about the composition of a work by the composer and hear it performed by a live orchestra.

- The NPO coordinated with several senior centers including FiftyForward, Adams Place, and The Manor at Steeplechase to arrange for bus trips to attend NPO concerts. Thirty-one seniors attended the May concerts through this initiative!

- The map to the right shows districts in which NPO has performed over the years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Audience Statistics</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Attendance</strong> 2,043</td>
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<td><strong>Seniors</strong> 26%</td>
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<td><strong>Youth</strong> 9%</td>
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“Seeing those small children at your concerts reminds me of how my mom took me to similar concerts at Peabody College when I was a very tiny tot and developed my love of music. Now, she is 92, and I take her to concerts to keep her love of music alive. It’s a circle — and we are so glad to have found the Nashville Philharmonic.” — NPO audience member
Investing in the NPO

The NPO seeks to make the best possible use of our resources. Your financial contributions help us to advance our mission and amplify the work of our many volunteers.

Operations Assistant

As the organization grows stronger and continues to fulfill its mission, the NPO is investing in its future by expanding the position of Operations Assistant and is thus delighted to welcome Alan Fey in that role. Fey brings a strong background in music performance and logistics to the NPO. By managing the complexities of organizing rehearsals, venues, general operations, and community relations, Alan is helping to advance the NPO’s position as Nashville’s community orchestra bringing free concerts to neighborhoods across Nashville.
Income

The NPO receives financial support from varied sources:

- **Individual Donors 69%**
- **Sponsorships 19%**
- **Grants 11%**
- **Other 1%**
Volunteers

There are many who invest countless hours of volunteer time every year to make our concerts a success. This cadre includes performing members, board members, ushers, equipment managers, stage managers, and many others.

*Deepest thanks go to all of these individuals.*

**VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT**

David Rawle has performed with the NPO since 2007 and has served as second horn for the past several years. In addition to his work as a performing member, David has become the NPO recording engineer, making sure that each performance is properly recorded for the video and audio archive. In addition to that work, David is a key part of the stage crew – opening the rehearsal venue each week, helping set up, then cleaning up and locking up following rehearsals. While David considered a music career, he ultimately pursued computer science and is currently working for Amazon in Nashville in support of Amazon Air.

“The NPO,” David says, “allows me to express myself in music, learn to become a better musician, give back to the community, and meet a diverse group of wonderful people. We are extremely blessed to have the NPO in our city.”

The NPO is grateful to have David and many other dedicated volunteers!
Supporters

The work of NPO would not be possible without those who support us with their enthusiastic attendance at our concerts or with their contributions, grants, and sponsorships.

* The NPO extends its gratitude to our 2018-19 corporate sponsors, grantors, and in-kind sponsors:
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**The Presto Society (≥$1000+)**
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- Cornelius & Collins, LLP in Memory of W. Ovid Collins, Jr.
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- Washington Foundation

**Vivace ($500-$900)**
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- James and Maureen Danly
- Tom and Leslie DiNella*
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- Alexandra MacKay and Eric Lease
- Darrell Merryman and Jennifer Wright
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Catherine Goodbred and family*
Barbara and Dick Heiden
Catharine Hollifield
Darrell Holt
Margaret Ikard

*Founding Friend
Thank you to the following for gifts in memory of Alice Jablonski Smith, NPO founding oboist and Personnel Manager

James Abernathy
Anonymous
Cathy and Mike Boettner
Ann and Frank Bumstead
Bobbie Christiansen
Tom and Leslie DiNella
Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Dioguardi
Susan and Bill Dupont
John and Allis Dale Gillmor
Catherine Goodbred and family
Catharine Hollifield
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