

Metropolitan Wind Symphony FY 2015 Annual Report

The mission of the Metropolitan Wind Symphony is to foster the musical education and enjoyment of the public by providing musical performing experiences for talented and interested members of the community, programs for the performance of serious and contemporary wind music, and a channel for the commission and presentation of new musical works.

This FY 2015 Annual Report contains highlights of our artistic and organizational accomplishments, community involvement and feedback, and a financial overview for the 44th season of the Metropolitan Wind Symphony which ended on August 31, 2015.

Artistic highlights:

- *Eisenhower Interstate Highway System* by Josh Hummel- World Premiere (10/26/14)
- *Boston Strong* by Zach Friedland, World Premiere (5/3/15), 6/13/15)
- *Arctic Voices* by Matthew LaRocca, co-winner of MWS' 2011 International Student Composer Competition- won 2nd Prize in the Composition—Band/Wind Ensemble—Student Division of The American Prize (9/10/14)
- Mark Weaver, trombone soloist performing the New England Premiere of *Concerto for Trombone*, mvmts. 1 and 2 by James Beckel (3/01/15)
- Bryan Bishop, guest vocalist performing *The Last Full Measure of Devotion* (5/25/15)
- Lewis Buckley, MWS Music Director/Cornet soloist performing *Cornet Chop Suey* (7/16/15, 7/19/15)
- Four works arranged by MWS Music Director, Lewis J. Buckley and performed by the MWS: *Christmas Fanfare* (12/6/14), *In the (Holiday) Mood* (12/6/14 and 6/13/15), *Christmas Sing-Along* (12/6/14), *Cornet Chop Suey* (7/16/15 and 7/19/15)
- *Three Christmas Variations and a Trombone* by MWS Saxophone, Steve Ferrandino- World Premiere (12/6/14)
- 27th Annual Boston Festival of Bands, Faneuil Hall, Boston, featuring bands from Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont, Connecticut, Maine and New Hampshire. Attendance: 2200+ (6/13/15)
- Boston Memorial Day Celebration: *Honor and Tribute: A Musical Salute to Our Heroes*, Parkman Bandstand, Boston Common, Boston, MA. Attendance: 2500+ (5/25/15)
- Hastings Park Outdoor Concert Series, Lexington. 3 performances

(7/9/15, 7/16/15, 7/23/15) Attendance: 800+

- Pinebank Promontory, Jamaica Plain outdoor concert cosponsored by The Emerald Necklace Conservancy and Boston Parks and Recreation. Attendance: 650+ (7/19/15)

Organizational and Educational highlights:

- 14 select middle and high school student musicians from eight area towns performed on stage with the MWS (5/3/15)
- MWS' Student Award presented to a graduating senior enrolled in a college music program. 2015 Recipients: Olav Serres, trumpet, Duxbury High School and Emma Ferguson, flute, Bedford High School. (7/9/15) Olav is enrolled as a performance major at St. Olaf College. Emma is enrolled in music at Gordon College
- 4 Outdoor Concert Sponsors funded the Pinebank and Lexington concerts. Anne Codman chose to honor Alex Barstow who conducted *Sousa's Stars and Stripes Forever* (7/9/15); Dorothy Bromage sponsored and conducted *Stars and Stripes Forever* (7/16/15); Gregory and Maureen Depp sponsored the Pinebank Concert (7/19/15) in memory of Sam Sherwood; Watertown Savings Bank sponsored the Lexington concerts, allowing us to honor MWS piccolo, Geri Morillo Barazarte who conducted and played the piccolo solo in *Stars and Stripes* (7/23/15)
- MWS is now on YouTube- reaching a wider audience via our YouTube channel with video of our best indoor concert performances. They can be accessed at: www.youtube.com/metwinds
- Full concert videos are also available through the local cable company, LexMedia, who films and rebroadcasts our concerts for the enjoyment of local Lexington residents and also makes the video available for download via their website at: www.lexmedia.org

MWS in the Community:

Each year the MWS is asked to donate to many worthy causes in our community. In FY 2015 the MWS donated goods and services to:

- Boston University Engineers Without Borders- auction
- St. John of Damascus Church 2014 Holiday concert. Attendance: 240

Feedback from Audience, Student musicians, Parents, Members:

- *I love that you are educating us about the music. I want to build my knowledge base.*

- *It (was) an honor and pleasure to perform with such a talented organization as the MWS.*
- *Lew, your ability to pull so much from your musicians is truly indicative of your talent and leadership. The MWS is very fortunate to have you at the helm*
- *On behalf of Commissioner Sterling and Mayor Walsh, you are all second-to-none in management and musical talent.*
- *Thank you very much for the scholarship. I will be putting it toward a C trumpet when I begin school in the fall.*
- *Thank you for giving me the opportunity to play in MWS for the summer. I had an amazing time being able to perform with such a high level group!*
- *The world, and this area in particular, needs this: groups who play great repertoire at a high level and find ways to engage their audience and community.*
- *Lewis Buckley's pre-concert talk is, for me, the highlight of the concert. He is sensitive to the needs of the audience (whether musically experienced or not).*
- *Excellent live music and educational talks. Impressive. Diverse programming. You provide a chance for whole families to hear good music done very well.*
- *Fun, great music, convenient, affordable. A delightful way to spend Sunday afternoon!*
- *As a member of a community band, I very much appreciate this group and cherish the opportunity to hear music like this. I feel this work you all are doing is very important.*
- *Very talented group and conductor who do challenging, interesting music. Thank you!*
- *Interesting music, well played & beautifully presented—a combination of comfort & stretch.*

Financial overview

As our most recent IRS Form 990 will show, the MWS remains a solid, financially stable organization with a good balance between cash on hand to underwrite our everyday needs and investments to provide for future needs. We are blessed with a solid support system consisting of generous patrons and friends, audience members, performing members, small businesses, a host of volunteers as well as state and local grant programs. Our artistic, organizational, and financial strength provide a firm foundation for continued growth.

For the past two years I have focused on the substantial impact of donated in-kind services by a large network of community volunteers. I will continue to report on this as it illustrates the depth and breadth of volunteerism within the Metropolitan Wind Symphony and validates our worth to the community. Put simply, without these volunteer services the MWS simply could not survive.

- *Over 9,900 hours valued at over \$200,000 were donated in FY 2015*
- *160 volunteers including MWS board members, playing members and community members*
- *Their hours are the equivalent of 5.6 full-time employees*
- *Our annual budget was under \$50,000*

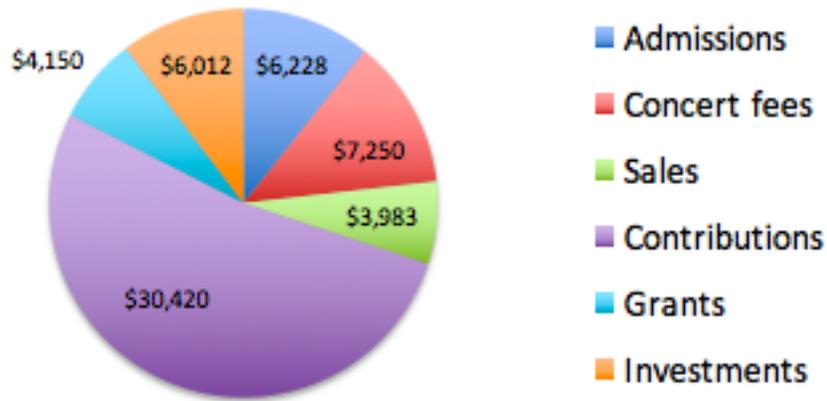
These statistics were gathered and submitted to the Massachusetts Cultural Council as part of the Cultural Investment Portfolio grant program to which we belong.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie A. Hansen
MWS President
October 1, 2015

Please see pie charts below:

FY2015 INCOME



FY2015 EXPENSES

