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The Discovery Orchestra teaches emotionally connect with classical music.

Orchestra and audience photos courtesy of Debbie Weisman and James Orthmann.





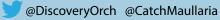












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Sandra Brown Sherman **Richard Somerset-Ward** 

the listening skills that help people

Annual Report Design by Palmer Uhl Design.









George Marriner Maull, Artistic Director

### **Annual Report -** Our 35th Season

FISCAL YEAR 2022 • JULY 1, 2021–JUNE 30, 2022 Leadership Message: BUILDING ON A SOLID FOUNDATION

When recalling the pandemic, which included our Fiscal Year 2022, memories are often a bit hazy. The good news from that difficult period is that The Discovery Orchestra not only survived, but actually thrived during a time that seriously challenged arts organizations around the country.

Our good fortune was due in large part to two factors: One — our Strategic Plan, already in place when the pandemic began, called for continuing to concentrate our efforts on electronic media as the primary mode for furthering our mission. And two — our individual patrons and foundation donors helped ensure that our programs and outreach efforts would continue through their generous support. We are also especially fortunate to have received continued substantial funding from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, demonstrating a long-term commitment to our mission.

Our programs kicked off in October 2021 with an exciting in-person Patrons' Dinner gala event. It was wonderful to experience live music again with the beautiful, bold playing of violinist Nathan Meltzer and pianist Rohan De Silva — as well as to celebrate the many contributions of Discovery Award Honorees Rachel Weinberger and Ed McGann. In November Maestro Maull partnered with the New Jersey Youth Symphony in a Discovery presentation of Morton Gould's American Salute. And in March the Stephane Wrembel Band helped lead an exploration of jazz guitarist Django Reinhardt.

Throughout the 2021–22 season, twice-monthly episodes of our *Inside Music* radio program were broadcast in our continuing partnership with WWFM The Classical Network, heard at 89.1 on the FM dial and online at wwfm.org. Four

Trustees, FY22

episodes of our popular video/podcast series, *Notes from Under the Piano*, were released with more episodes being prepared for release the following season.

A dozen outreach sessions with New Jersey music student and senior groups — Keys 2 Success in Newark, Paterson Music Project, Newark School of the Arts, Newark Boys Chorus School, Rhythms for Life in Morristown, and Warrenbrook Seniors — provided engaging music listening interactions.

As outlined in our Strategic Plan, the second half of our 2021–22 season included pre-production work for the fall 2022 taping of our sixth public television show: *Discover* Saint-Saëns' "Organ" Symphony. Another initiative was to focus on promotion and audience engagement. To that end, we began a partnership with Social Impact Studios, an organization that specializes in helping nonprofits expand and better serve their audience base. And in alignment with our Core Values — which include Accessibility and Innovation — we formed a DEI Task Force, hosted a Board training session for other area arts nonprofits, and utilized a work by New Jersey native and living jazz legend Paguito D'Rivera as part of our live outreach sessions.

Thoughtful planning and fiscal leadership have provided a solid foundation upon which to build. We are most grateful to Steve Reynolds and Ginny Johnston for their countless contributions and tireless dedication to The Discovery Orchestra. And as the leadership batons have been passed to Rachel Weinberger and Rick Kaller for FY23, the organization remains confident that its mission and objectives are well-positioned for the future.



Virginia Johnston Executive Director, FY22



golly George Marriner Maull Stephen Reynolds President, Board of **Artistic Director** 



Rich Kaller Rick Kaller **Executive Director** (current)



Converser Rachel Weinberger President, Board of Trustees (current)

## Season Highlights







### Catch Ludwig If You Can Gala

Guests enjoyed an exploration of Beethoven's *Kreutzer Sonata* and celebrated our Discovery Award Honorees, Rachel Weinberger and Ed McGann, for their contributions and long-time support.

### **Discovery Concerts**

Live Discovery Concerts resumed in 2021–22, featuring collaborations with the New Jersey Youth Symphony and the Stephane Wrembel Band.









### Outreach

A critical part of our mission, music listening outreach sessions were continued for local music students and senior groups.

### **Audience Feedback**

"The Discovery Orchestra keeps climbing the rungs...George is unique in what he does — a messenger for music."
—a long-time Discovery Orchestra supporter

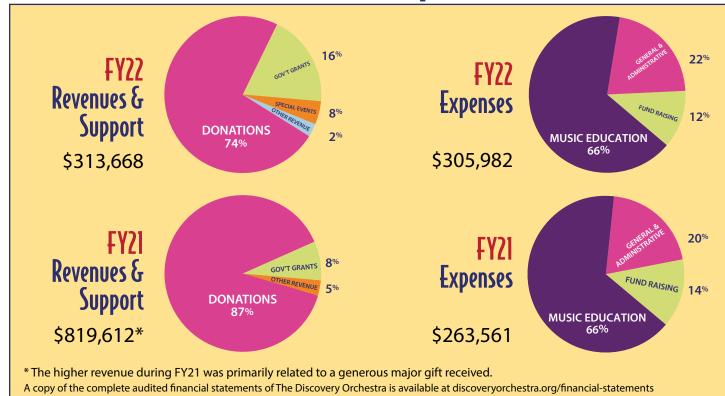
"It's just wonderful!! So beautifully spoken and so well-shaped — you do a good job of dramatizing your big question, making it sound compelling and even crucial. As we know it IS."

—Notes from Under the Piano viewer

"Just caught up with the FIREBIRD video. Outstanding production in every way. As a fellow educator via television, I know the care, planning, and knowledge required to execute something of this enduring value. Congrats to you & your extraordinary team."

—Television Industry Professional

### Financial Snapshot



### FY22 BY THE NUMBERS

12

Community Outreach, Program and Training Partners

147

Students Reached (live and virtual outreach sessions)

### 560+

Audience Reached through Live Events

25K+

Audience Reached through DVD Sales, Broadcasts & Webcasts, Films Media Group

### 300K+

Audience Reached through Broadcast & Streaming Platforms (public TV airings, Amazon Prime, and PBS Passport)

### \$231K

Donations

\$50K NJ State Council on

the Arts Grant

### **PROGRAM SPONSORS**

Mr. Alfonso Finocchiaro Mr. and Mrs. Sterling L. Pierson George A. Ohl, Jr. Charitable Trust Ernst Wessel Foundation















