

Break Through Classical Music  
**THE DISCOVERY ORCHESTRA**

*George Marriner Maull, Artistic Director*

# Impact Report

**OUR 38TH SEASON  
FISCAL YEAR 2025  
(July 1, 2024–June 30, 2025)**

***TEACHING THE LISTENING SKILLS  
THAT HELP YOU DEEPLY CONNECT  
WITH CLASSICAL MUSIC***

DiscoveryOrchestra.org  
120 Morris Avenue • Summit, NJ 07901  
(973) 379-2200

# LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

Dear Friends and Benefactors of The Discovery Orchestra:

Fiscal Year 2025 was the first year of our new five-year Strategic Plan, which emphasizes investing in new ways to reach audiences, maximizing the value of our television programs, and strengthening our long-term capacity for success. Our new Plan provides a roadmap for sustainability and growth, all focused on creating engaging programming for diverse audiences.

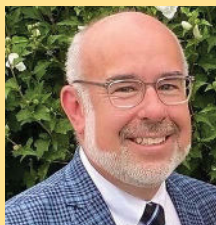
Our 38th Season featured a robust variety of live Discovery Concerts and events, media programs, and community engagement programs. We proudly presented outstanding musicians, including pianists Patricio Molina, Carlos Avila, and Enriqueta Somarriba; cellist Qianci Liu; The 3 Generations of Jazz Trio; soprano Cheryl Warfield and the Manhattan Opera Repertory Ensemble; clarinetist Virginia Johnston; guitar/violin duo Celil Refik Kaya and Amanda Kaya; and violinist Sharon Cho. In those live events, Maestro Maull led us on listening explorations of works by a diverse roster of composers, including George Gershwin, J.S. Bach, Percy Mayfield, Virginia Johnston, Manuel de Falla, and Aaron Copland.

We continued to get enthusiastic receptions of both our media and online programming. Through April 2025, four of our television shows were in national distribution through American Public Television and could be streamed on PBS Passport and Amazon Prime Video. Bi-monthly broadcasts of *Inside Music* with WWFM—The Classical Network ran throughout the season. And we launched the 12th Quest of our game app, *AHA! Classical*.

The number of our community engagement sessions increased this season, as we provided music listening programs for seven educational partners, reaching audiences of more than 850 students and seniors!

Thank you for your continued belief in our mission—and for being part of our Discovery Orchestra family. Your support is clearly making a difference!

With gratitude,



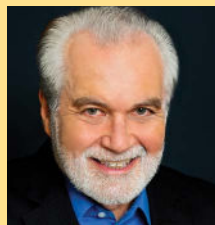
*Rick Kaller*

Rick Kaller  
Executive Director



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Susan Head  
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*George Marriner Maull*

George Marriner Maull  
Artistic Director

# FY25

## BY THE NUMBERS

**8** Community Engagement and Program Partners

**854** Students/Seniors Reached: Live Community Engagement Sessions

**38** Musicians Hired for Live Performances

**469** Audience Reached: Live Events & Concerts

**28K+** Audience Reached: Media (radio, streaming, game app, DVD sales)

**782** Broadcasts on 49 Channels in 15 States of our 4 TV shows in National Distribution with APT

**\$252K** Donations/Grants

**\$93.7K** NJ State Council on the Arts Grant

## AUDIENCE FEEDBACK

*"I was researching some resources to enhance my curriculum when I came across the AHA! Classical game app. I was very impressed with the bite-size of information that could be used to reinforce what is being taught in my classroom. I like using the music notes they earn as a way to gauge if they are retaining the information or not. Thank you for making an engaging app!"*

— Brittley Bates, Orchestra Director at Larkspur Middle School, Virginia Beach

# SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

## Live Events and Media Programs

Our multimedia *Discover Symphonic Masterworks with the Maestro* series, a live radio broadcast, and an Intimate Evening concert were live event highlights, and *Inside Music* and *AHA! Classical* continued to provide new learning opportunities.



## Patrons' Dinner Gala

Guests enjoyed an exciting performance by the guitar/violin duo Celil Refik Kaya and Amanda Kaya and celebrated our Discovery Award honorees, Bob and Cynthia Hamburger.



## Community Engagement

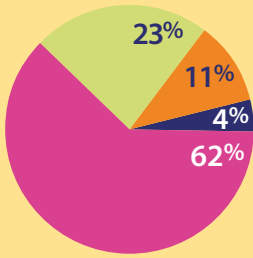


Our music listening sessions expanded in scope throughout the year, with more students and senior groups benefiting from this crucial part of our mission.

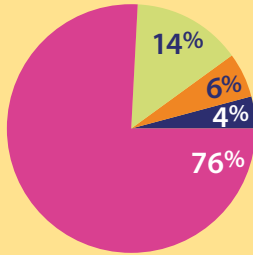


# FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

**FY25**  
Revenues & Support  
\$408,364

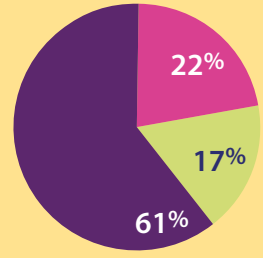


**FY24**  
Revenues & Support  
\$402,767

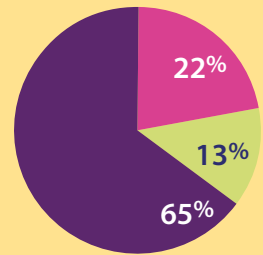


- DONATIONS
- GOVERNMENT GRANT
- SPECIAL EVENTS
- OTHER REVENUE

**FY25**  
Expenses  
\$391,502



**FY24**  
Expenses  
\$411,971



- MUSIC EDUCATION
- GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE
- FUNDRAISING

Note: FY24 Donations included a large bequest from a patron. The small surplus in FY25 is due to funds raised during our April 2025 Patrons' Dinner Gala (as part of our Fund-a-Need for community engagement programs and Inside Music episode sponsorships) and an early program sponsorship, all of which were designated for FY26. A copy of the complete audited financial statements of The Discovery Orchestra is available at: [discoveryorchestra.org/financial-statements](https://discoveryorchestra.org/financial-statements)

## INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAM SPONSORS



Made possible by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.



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*We gratefully acknowledge the following contributors who generously supported The Discovery Orchestra during Fiscal Year 2025.*

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New Jersey State Council on the Arts

## **Maestro's Circle (\$25,000+)**

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*For a complete list of our FY25 Donors, please contact our office.*

## AUDIENCE FEEDBACK

*“We thoroughly enjoyed yesterday’s event. I even had an opportunity to watch the live audience. When the piece was played in full at the end, many showed an emotional and physical outpouring in response (including me). George’s winning formula for explaining the ethereal was on full display!”*

— audience member at *Discover Symphonic Masterworks with the Maestro* event

*“Everyone seemed to be having so much fun ... especially the students! They were very much engaged trying to find and keep the beat.”*

— Marjorie Rich, Chair of The Arts, Rhythms for Life (The Links), following the February 2025 Black History Month program

*“The presence of TDO at the event engaged the audience of parents, students, and friends in a way I have never seen before! The students practically leapt out of their seats for a chance to answer Mr. George’s questions, for a chance to show off their classical music knowledge.”*

— Shaughnessy Price, Keys 2 Success Development Director and Site Manager

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George Marriner Maull, *Artistic Director*

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*Photos courtesy of Amanda Brown Photography and Christine Thorsen. Design by Palmer Uhl Design.*

