

2022-2023 SEASON
IMPACT REPORT





DEAR FRIENDS + SUPPORTERS

I am thrilled to share with you the highlights of our incredible journey over the past year. This year has been a remarkable one for Opera Columbus, marked by exponential growth and a level of community engagement that has surpassed all expectations.

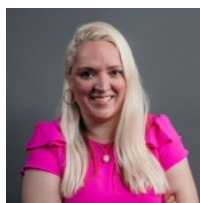
I am proud to announce that 2022-23 was our biggest and best attended season in the past 41 years. This milestone is a testament to the unwavering support of our dedicated patrons, the hard work of our talented artists, board, and staff, and the vibrancy of the Columbus arts community.

Our performances have captivated audiences, our educational programs have inspired young minds, and our engagement efforts have touched the lives of countless individuals. Together, we have created unforgettable experiences that have enriched our community and strengthened our bond with each other.

As we look to the future, I am filled with excitement and optimism for what lies ahead. With your continued support, I am confident that Opera Columbus will continue to thrive and grow, bringing the inspirational effect of opera to even more people in the years to come to central Ohio.

Thank you for being a part of our journey. Together, we are building a brighter future for opera in Columbus and beyond.

Warm regards,



Julia Noulin-Mérat
General Director + CEO

2022–23

SEASON IN REVIEW

OPERA COLUMBUS is YOURS. Creativity is our culture! Young and the young at heart, opera lovers, and our opera-curious friends all found a place to connect with our most recent season. A season curated with experiences to ensure the art of opera captured the heart of everyone within its reach. Our 22-23 season was innovative and bold, family-friendly, and opera-curious friendly, and above all, it was the grand revival of opera in our vibrant city!

LA CENERENTOLA

A family-friendly production of Rossini's classic comic opera *La Cenerentola* (*Cinderella*), performed in October 2022. This production welcomed our youngest fans & friends to the world of opera by creating engaging pre-performance activities including arts activities, tea parties, story times, and tiara contests.



MARIA DE BUENOS AIRES

Astor Piazzolla's revolutionary nuevo tango opera, performed February 2023. The first Spanish-language opera performed in Columbus, with a strikingly modern production that incorporated dance and high fashion – in collaboration with local Latinx artists – and captions in English and Spanish. *Maria* was OC's highest-grossing production in 10 years.



RIGOLETTO

OC kicked off the spring 2023 season by bringing grand opera back to the Ohio Theatre with Verdi's beloved work, with a sumptuous production in collaboration with our friends at the Columbus Symphony Orchestra and CAPA.



ALICE TIERNEY

Professional world premiere of a new work by composer Melissa Dunphy and librettist Jacqueline Goldfinger, *Alice Tierney* was performed in collaboration with Oberlin Conservatory of Music. Performed on April 29, 2023, in the Riffe Center Studio Theatres. All tickets were offered for free, to make this new women-led work accessible to all. All available tickets were claimed just a few days after the performance was announced.

COOPER-BING COMPETITION

OC's annual vocal competition has celebrated and supported emerging opera artists for nearly 40 years. The 2023 competition was won by mezzo-soprano Gabrielle Beteag, with additional awards won by finalists Ruby Dibble (mezzo-soprano), Kevin Godínez (baritone), Changdai Park (bass-baritone), and Kimberli Render (soprano). Ranking as our largest and most international competition yet; we had 324 applicants, including artists from Australia, Germany, Japan, China, Italy, Mexico, and South Korea. Watch for these rising stars across the stages of opera companies world-wide in the years to come.



COMMUNITY IMPACT

Our community is greater than the sum of its parts, and we are honored to be part of this amazing city. We recognize that it is possible to experience great art in unlikely places like a soccer stadium, a park, bus stops, medical campuses, and your local library. These events are accessible and nearly always free ways to interact with amazing talent and stories that reflect our community.



3

Sold-out SALON Events with Ivy Zhou, Gerardo Encinas, and Neil Fortin

3

Careers in the Arts videos focusing on set design + costuming and fashion design

2

OperaTalk segments released with Bell Tree Productions in a fun late-night tv talk show

17

Opera-isms podcasts launched on Spotify

60

Attendees to the sold-out Fashion and Design Showcase highlighting the archives of Encinas Designs

300+

Students reached in the Opera Collective partnership with Columbus Metropolitan Library

59,000

In-person audiences

30%

Of our 22-23 season audience is new to OC productions

1.2 MILLION

Total season reach via online media, participation in community festivals, and more

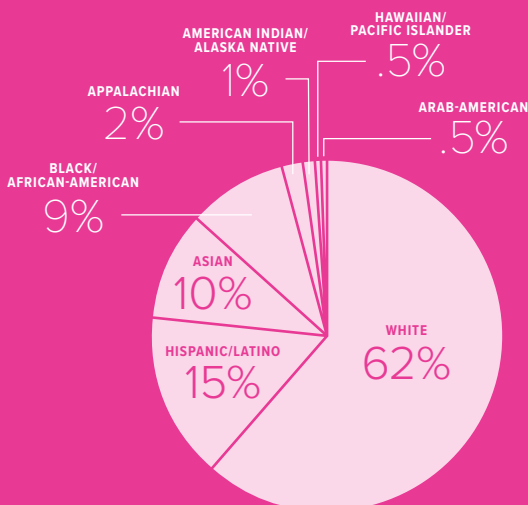


FRIENDS OF OPERA COLUMBUS

This incredible volunteer organization has been an essential part of Opera Columbus for more than 30 years. This group serves as volunteers and fundraisers, they know opera inside and out, and they always have the best parties. They support productions and serve as a fantastic sounding board for our staff. Over the life of the organization, the Friends of Opera Columbus have raised more than \$200,000 for the benefit of Opera Columbus. To learn more or become a member, visit operacolumbus.org/friendsoc

ARTIST REPRESENTATION

Opera Columbus is committed to gender equity and hiring and supporting BIPOC artists. In the past five seasons, (2018-2019 through 2022-2023), 43% of our mainstage productions have been conducted by women, and 36% of them directed by women. OC will continue to share stories that reflect our community, on and off stage.



2022-23 COLLABORATIONS



AUBERGINE



GERARDO ENCINAS



MEDIA PARTNERS:



FINANCE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

June 30, 2023

2023

Cash, Cash Equivalents & Investments	\$189,682
Other Current Assets	\$356,597
Total Current Assets	\$546,279
<i>Total Non-current Assets</i>	<i>\$742,997</i>
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,289,276
Total Liabilities	\$52,983
Without Donor Restrictions	\$418,281
With Donor Restrictions	\$818,012
Net Assets	\$1,236,293
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$1,289,276

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES & CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

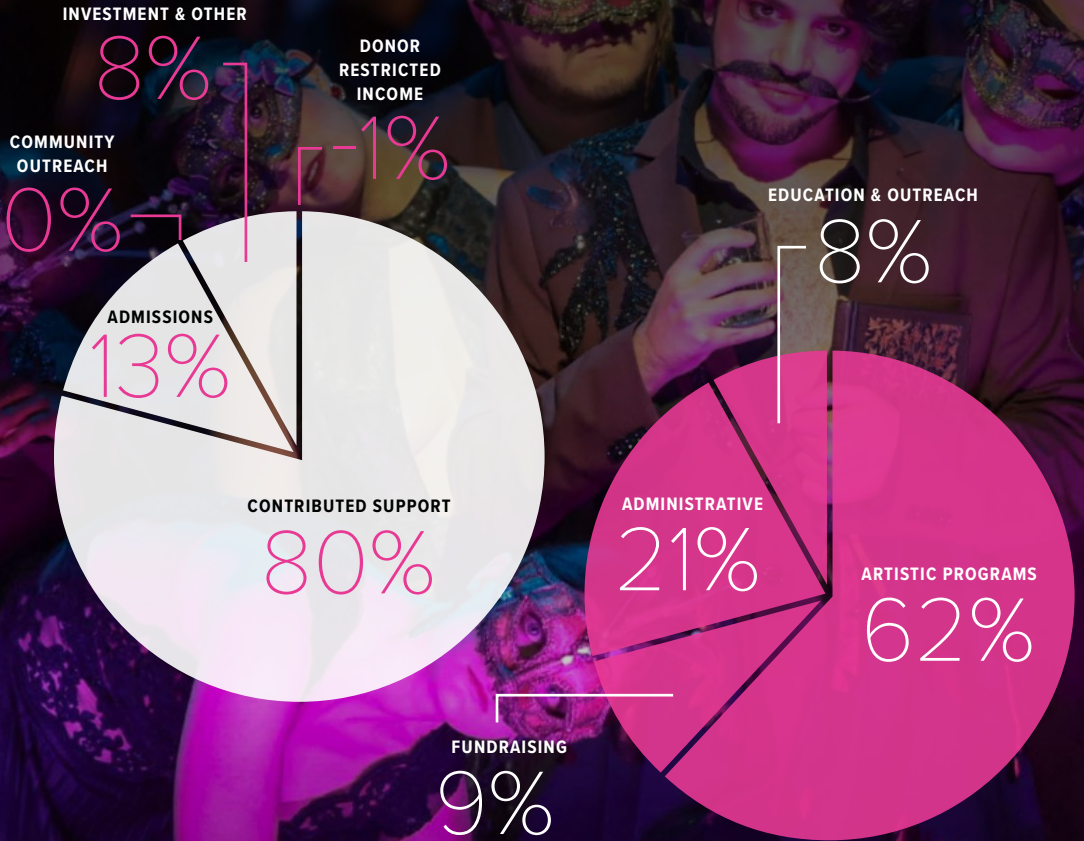
For the Year ended June 30, 2023

2023

Revenue	
Contributed Revenue	\$1,204,900
Earned Revenue	\$302,543
TOTAL REVENUE	\$1,407,443
Expenses	
Productions	\$856,780
Education and Community Programs	\$105,490
Management and General	\$289,627
Fundraising & Special Events	\$117,451
Loss on Long-term Investments	—
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,369,348
Change in Net Assets	\$38,095
Less Donor Restricted Income and Expenses	(\$30,382)
Change in Operating Net Assets	\$7,713

OPERATING REVENUE

\$1,407,443



OPERATING EXPENSES

\$1,369,348

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

For the year ended June 30, 2023, the activities from operations resulted in a profit of \$7,713. This excludes activities related to restricted contributions and gain/losses on restricted investments. The unrestricted net assets increased to \$418,281 from \$410,658.

Long-term investments experienced a profit of \$62,192 in FY23 (Operations: \$15,605; Donor Restricted \$46,587). This represents an overall gain of 8% in the Beneficial Interest in assets held by other. The gain was consistent with market activity in 2023 as investment.

ANNUAL FUND CONTRIBUTORS



The continued support of enthusiastic fans like **Bruni & Gary Duncan** significantly increases the reach and influence of Opera Columbus. Thank you Bruni & Gary and all our donors.

With gratitude Opera Columbus acknowledges all of our institutional supporters, individual supports, in-kind donations, and in memory of and in honor of donations. This publication lists names for donors who made gifts, pledges, and in-kind donations in the 2023 fiscal year (July 1, 2022 — June 30, 2023).

If we inadvertently omitted your name or made an error in compiling this information, please accept our sincere apologies and contact the Development Office at 614-719-6718 to provide corrected information. Thank you for your support!

INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORTERS

\$100,000+



\$10,000-\$49,999



\$50,000-\$99,999



INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORTERS

\$5,000–\$9,999

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\$1,500–\$4,999

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UP TO \$499

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\$500–\$1,499

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La Cenerentola, October 2022

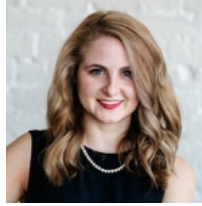


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2022-23 SEASON



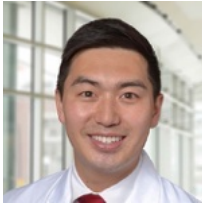
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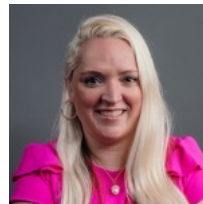
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2022-23 SEASON

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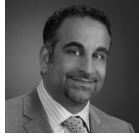
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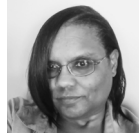
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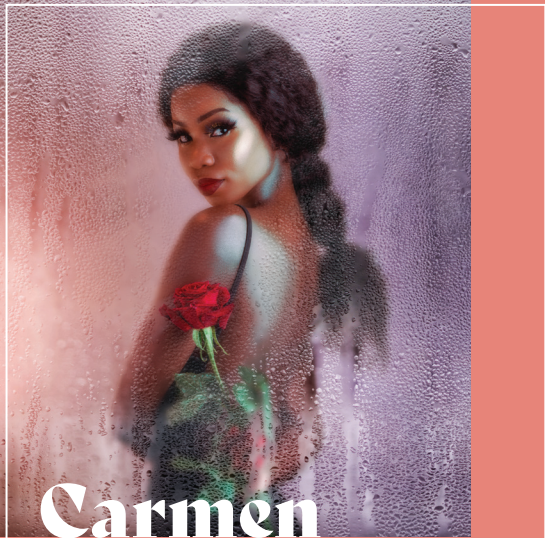


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*Kaiser Consulting LLC,
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Carmen

September 29 + October 1, 2023
Southern Theatre



Eugene Onegin

March 1+2, 2024
Ohio Theatre



A Magic Flute Experience: The Temple

April 19-21, 25, 27-28, 2024
Secret Downtown Location



Cooper-Bing Competition

May 19, 2024
Southern Theatre

2023-24 SEASON
Her Story, Her Vision



Learn more about what's
happening next at
OPERACOLUMBUS.ORG