



Mn Sinfonia 2021 Fiscal Year-end Report

October 5, 2021

Dear Friends and Supporters,

2021 was a year like no other, and despite COVID-19 related issues, we ended it in very, very well. In the beginning, we were not able to perform public performances, instead our musicians created 24 chamber music videos for the public, and 46 instructional videos of “how to” lessons for students. This allowed everyone to be in a COVID safe environment. The teaching videos covered topics of tone creation, rhythm, bowing, shifting, phrasing, instrument care and minor instrumental repairs. These videos were sent to Minneapolis and St. Paul school district teachers, and to educational resources around the state. The chamber music videos were posted on the Sinfonia website and social media platforms.

During the summer, we were able to perform eleven free admission outdoor concerts throughout the Twin Cities. Three of the performances were classical programs, with the first two featuring international violin sensation, Yevgeny Kutik, and the second included some of our all-time favorites. Of the remaining eight performances, all of which were on the “lighter side” (everything from waltzes, to marches, ragtime, movie and showtunes, and yes, even a few great classics), three were at senior residencies, with the others scattered around the Twin Cities. See enclosed reviews.

Our original plans called for performing up to twenty summer concerts, but scheduling proved to be more difficult than anticipated. Several prospective sponsor hosts had to make commitments to performers who were cancelled last season because of COVID-19, and consequently they had no open dates that we could have. The good news is that all the hosts expressed excitement to have the Sinfonia play on their stages, which bodes well for next summer.

Looking forward, we have planned a full and exciting Winter Concert Season of live performances, all to begin on October 15. The Announcements have already been made and the mailer has gone out to nearly 4,000 of our audience members. There are caveats to be sure, and all are related to COVID-19, such as program changes, availability of soloists and possible cancellations all of which are in the mix. We are monitoring the situations closely and will make decisions based on the safety of our audiences and musicians. All decisions will be announced on our website and via email newsletters, etc. Similar to this past summer, we are now creating several contingency plans for the “just in case” scenarios.



Working with our community’s students through our Music in the Schools (MIS) is on temporary hold, again because of COVID-19. We will begin MIS as soon as we get clearance from the school districts, the state regulators and science. We have hopes of beginning late in the spring, or if necessary, next school year. We are developing alternative plans to be able to reach all students, including possibly by video recordings of our MIS program that can be used by teachers in their classrooms. More details on this as our plans develop.

Financially, the orchestra ended the year paying all its bills, having no outstanding debt with money in the bank. The board made a very prudent decision to keep \$150,000 in a “rainy day” account, so if circumstances dictate, we can allow the musicians to continue working on their ongoing projects and keep the administration functioning. We are very careful when it comes to spending and allocating money. When grants and or contributions are made for specific projects or programs, that money is put into a special “restricted” account, and only used for the designated projects. Not knowing the uncertainty COVID-19 has been having on the finances of our supporters, we are carrying a little over \$200,000 for general operating expenses into the new year. This is necessary to help cover the large payroll and other costs of the first Winter Concert Series Oct set.

Following are the year-end financial figures.

Checking account	\$226,126.26
Rainy Day Account	\$150,062.51
Temporarily restricted	\$65,339.47

Our most recent (2020) financial review and IRS form 990 are posted on the Sinfonia website.

It is because of your generosity and good will that we are able to continue our free admission policies, and the work we do in the community and with our community’s children. This could not happen without your continued financial support. We are truly very grateful and heartened by your commitment, and rest assured that our commitment to continue our outreach and educational programs remains absolute and unwavering. Thank you.

Jay Fishman
Artistic/Executive Director

Tina Enberg
President, Board of Director