



DEARBORN
SYMPHONY

STEVEN JARVI, MUSIC DIRECTOR

ANNUAL REPORT

20 26

MUSIC THAT *moves* 25/26 SEASON



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**ANNUAL MEETING
DEARBORN ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY
AGENDA FOR JUNE 16, 2026 AT 5:30 PM
6 PARKLANE BLVD., SUITE 550 AND VIRTUAL**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Yasmin Eloian, President
- II. PRESIDENT’S REPORT:** Yasmin Eloian
- III. TREASURER’S REPORT:** Brenda Lemecha
- IV. PROPOSED 2026-2027 BUDGET:** Brenda Lemecha, Treasurer
- V. MUSIC DIRECTOR’S REPORT:** Steven Jarvi
- VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:** James Clements
- VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
 - A.** Artistic Committee: Wendy Baggett, chair
 - B.** Youth Artists Solo Competition: Wendy Baggett
 - C.** Scholarship & Education Committee: Jane Mykytenko, chair
- VIII. FRIENDS OF THE DEARBORN SYMPHONY:** Linda Freitag, President
- IX. NOMINATIONS:**
 - A.** Approve the slate of directors for a 3 year term ending in 2029, as presented.
- X. MOTIONS:** Yasmin Eloian, President
 - A.** Approve the Annual Meeting Minutes of June 24, 2025, as presented.
 - B.** Approve the 2025-2026 Board Motions, as presented.
 - C.** Approve the 2026-2027 Budget, as presented.
- XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**
 - A.** Executive Board Meeting: Monday, August 3, 2026 at 5:30 PM
 - B.** Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors: Monday, August 10, 2026 at 5:30 PM
 - C.** Executive Committee Meeting: Tuesday, September 8, 2026 at 5:30 PM
 - D.** Symphony Under The Stars: Thursday, September 10, 2026 at 7:30 PM Peace Park West
 - E.** Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors: Monday, September 14, 2026 at 5:30 PM
- XII. ADJOURNMENT:**

****5 MINUTE BREAK****

**DEARBORN ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY ENDOWMENT FUND (DOSEF)
ANNUAL MEETING**

- I. PRESIDENT’S REPORT:** Brenda Lemecha
- II. ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES & BOARD MOTIONS:** Sandy Butler
- III. FINANCIAL REPORT:** Ben Bachrach
- IV. ADJOURNMENT:**

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we look back on our extraordinary 64th concert season, “Music that Moves,” I am filled with immense pride, gratitude, and joy. This past year has been an extremely successful milestone for our symphony. Marked by breathtaking performances, our season celebrated a historic homecoming: the 25th anniversary of the inaugural performance of Verdi’s Requiem at the Ford Community & Performing Arts Center. This year’s programming truly moved our hearts, stirred our imaginations, and brought our community closer together.

An artistic triumph of this scale requires exceptional leadership, and we are incredibly fortunate to have Maestro Steven Jarvi at the artistic helm. Maestro Jarvi consistently guides the orchestra to elite artistic standards, shaping a cohesive, expressive sound that results in deeply memorable experiences for our audience. His brilliant approach to programming allows him to design diverse, engaging concert programs that successfully balance bold artistic ambition with broad audience appeal. By exploring challenging new repertoire, he has advanced the orchestra’s artistic growth while keeping us firmly aligned with our organizational mission.

Equally vital to our success is the strength of our administration. Our Executive Director, James Clements, continues to dynamically drive this organization forward, expertly coordinating our board and orchestra members to keep our entire team aligned, inspired, and running smoothly. Under James’s leadership, we achieved several major milestones this year. Notably, we revamped our logo to bring a fresh, modern energy to our visual identity. We also completely overhauled our ticketing system and strategically reduced our ticketing SKU quantities—a massive undertaking that not only simplifies and improves the ticket-buying experience for you, our patrons, but also significantly streamlines our backend operations.

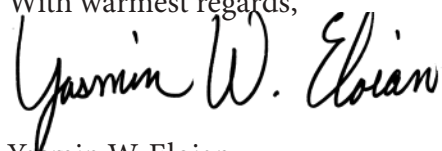
Working hand-in-hand with James is our incredible, all-volunteer Board of Directors. I want to extend my deepest, most heartfelt thanks to each of these individuals for their tireless help and selfless efforts. Their dedication is the cornerstone of our success, turning passion into progress and ensuring that the Dearborn Symphony remains a vibrant, welcoming cultural beacon for our entire community.

Looking to the future, as we continue to expand and develop our mission to serve and enrich our community, we need your help to sustain this wonderful momentum. We are actively seeking new, creative ideas for fundraising, as well as developing new funding partnerships with local businesses and organizations who share our passion for the arts. We are also eager to welcome new board members who bring fresh perspectives, diverse skills, and a shared love for music to our leadership team.

Most importantly, we need to continue supporting our incredibly talented artists. You can champion our wonderful symphony simply by spreading the word—bring your family, friends, and neighbors to our concerts to share the magic of live orchestral music. Your presence in the seats directly fuels the artistry on stage.

Thank you for your unwavering support of the Dearborn Symphony. Together, we have made our 64th season a resounding success, and we look forward to building an even brighter, more harmonious future with you.

With warmest regards,



Yasmin W. Eloian

Come Dance with Us!

Friday, February 6, 2026 at 6:45 p.m.

Couples and individuals made their concert night unforgettable with an exclusive, beginner-friendly pre-show dance experience. This interactive class offered a rare opportunity to learn a routine choreographed and taught by Spencer Genrich before seeing it live on stage later that evening.



Dearborn Orchestral Society
MINUTES
Annual Meeting - June 24, 2025

The meeting was called to Order: By Vice-President Kimberly Ismail at 5:35 P.M. in the Fairlane Office Centre Building 5th Floor Conference room as well as via Zoom.

Attendance: Wendy Baggett, Mary Bugeia, Paul Butler, Sandy Butler, Kevin Dewey, Yasmin Eloian, Linda Freitag, Kimberly Ismail, Andrew Kilburn, Brenda Lemecha, Richard Pasiak, Toni Pasiak, Marcel Pultorak, Alice Putrus, Francene Sanak and EmmaJean Woodyard. Via Zoom: Don Mack, Patti Mack and Lynn Whitmarsh. Staff: Dennis D. Carter II, James Clements, John Hartwick, Steven Jarvi, Seth Larson and Intern Maya Liljegren.

President's Report: Kimberly Ismail

Kimberly welcomed all the attendees in person and via Zoom. In lieu of John Matthews absence, Kim introduced James Clements to report President John Matthews report as shown on Page 3 of the Annual Meeting Report.

Treasurer's Report: Brenda Lemecha

Brenda Lemecha addressed the balance sheet for the Fiscal Year of June 1, 2024 - May 31, 2025 as reported on Page 7 of the Annual Meeting Report. Balance sheet noted Assets totaling \$108,736.28. The Proposed Budget for 2025-2026, as reported on Page 8 of the Annual Meeting Report, indicates income of \$317,089.00 and expense of \$388,048.00.

Music Director's Report: Steven Jarvi

Steven proceeded to give a big thanks to James, Dennis, Maya, Seth and John for all of their help. Steven personally thanked Kevin for his hard work and dedication with the Vanguard Voices and their participation during this past concert season. Steven commented on his report located on Pages 9 and 10 in the Annual Meeting Report.

Executive Director's Report: James Clements

James complimented Steven on his hard work for this past concert season. He also thanked Sandy and Wendy for being such invaluable advisors for his first year as Executive Director. James introduced the summer intern Maya Liljegren.

- A. Office Manager, Dennis Carter II - Dennis mentioned that this was his 2nd year as the Office Manager and has been with the orchestra for 25 years. In addition to his report on Page 12 of the Annual Meeting Report, he proceeded to give a thank you to Wendy and Brenda for all of their help and guidance.
- B. Librarian/Stage Manager, Seth Larson - Seth mentioned that he has been with the orchestra for 20 years, 15 years as Stage Manager and Librarian for 2 years. In addition to his report on Page 13 of the Annual Meeting Report, he gave a thank you to Dennis and John for their help. Wendy mentioned that Seth had been doing an excellent job getting the music digital for the musicians.
- C. Personnel Manager, John Hartwick - John mentioned that he has been with the orchestra for 28 years and this was his 1st year as the Personnel Manager. In addition to his report on Page 13 of the Annual Meeting Report, he thanked Dennis and especially Wendy for all of her guidance.

Committee Reports:

- A. Artistic Committee: Wendy Baggett, Chair - Wendy commented that when she stepped down as the Executive Director, she wanted to make sure that the symphony had the right team in place. In addition to her report on Page 17 of the Annual Meeting Report, she worked hard to keep the costs down for the 2025-2026 season and with more collaborations.
- B. Scholarship & Education Committee: Jane Mykytenko, Chair - In Jane's absence, James personally thanked Jane for stepping up and taking over the committee due to the death of Margaret Schafer. Please refer to her report on Page 17 of the Annual Meeting Report.

James mentioned that he is looking for volunteers to become involved in various other committees that he wishes to reinstitute. James asked anyone who is interested to contact him directly.

Friends of the Dearborn Symphony: Yasmin Eloian, President - Yasmin highly praised the Friends board members on their hard work and dedication to the organization during the 2024-2025 season. Yasmin reported out on the 3rd season of the success of the Music Medleys, which highlights the orchestra musicians. The organization arranged their 1st Friendship Tea and how successful it was and commented about the full table of men who attended the fundraiser. The organization will continue providing dress rehearsal refreshments during the 2025-2026 season. Additional information about her report can be found on Page 18 of the Annual Meeting Report.

Nominations: Linda Freitag, Secretary

- A. Ratify the elected directors Wendy Baggett and Jane Mykytenko with a term ending in 2027, as presented on Page 19 of the Annual Meeting Report. Sandy Butler made the motion to approve Wendy and Jane and seconded by Yasmin Eloian, passed.
- B. Approve the slate of incumbent directors for a 3-year term ending in 2028, as presented on Page 19 of the Annual Meeting Report. Incumbents: Mary Bugeia, Sandy Butler, Yasmin Eloian, Linda Freitag, Mary Kosch, Donald Mack, Patti Mack and EmmaJean Woodyard. Wendy Baggett made the motion to approve the incumbents and seconded by Fran Sanak, passed.

Motions: Kimberly Ismail, Vice President

- A. Approve the Annual Meeting Minutes of June 25, 2024, as presented on Page 4 of the Annual Meeting Report. Kim indicated that the minutes be amended to show that she attended the meeting via Zoom. Mary Bugeia made the motion to accept the minutes with the amendment of Kim attending the meeting via Zoom and seconded by Yasmin Eloian, passed.
- B. Approve the 2024-2025 Board Motions, as presented on Pages 5 & 6 of the Annual Meeting Report. Yasmin Eloian made the motion to approve the 2024-2025 motions and seconded by Brenda Lemecha, passed.
- C. Receive the Treasurer's Report for May 2025 to be placed on file, as presented on Page 7 of the Annual Meeting Report. Yasmin Eloian made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and seconded by Patti Mack to be placed on file, passed.
- D. Approve the proposed 2025-2026 Budget, as presented on Page 8 of the Annual Meeting Report. Sandy Butler made the motion to approve the proposed 2025-2026 Budget and seconded by Wendy Baggett, passed.

Announcements: Kimberly Ismail

- A. Special Meeting for the Election of Officers: Monday, August 11, 2025 at 5:30 P.M.
- B. Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors: Monday, August 11, 2025 following the election.
- C. Executive Committee Meeting: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 at 5:30 P.M.
- D. Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors: Monday, September 8, 2025 at 5:30 P.M.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 6:30 P.M. by Yasmin Eloian and seconded by Linda Freitag.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda L. Freitag, Secretary

Dearborn Orchestral Society
Motions from Board of Directors Meetings June 24, 2025 through May 11, 2026

Annual Meeting – June 24, 2025

MOTION by Sandy Butler to approve Wendy Baggett and Jane Mykytenko to be appointed directors with a term ending in 2027 as presented on Page 19 of the Annual Meeting Report and seconded by Yasmin Eloian, passed.

MOTION by Wendy Baggett to approve the slate of incumbent directors for a 3-year term ending in 2028 as presented on Page 19 of the Annual Meeting Report and seconded by Fran Sanak, passed.

MOTION by Mary Bugeia to accept the June 25, 2024 minutes as presented on Page 4 of the Annual Meeting Report with the amendment of that Kimberly Ismail attended the meeting via Zoom and seconded by Yasmin Eloian, passed.

MOTION by Yasmin Eloian to approve the 2024-2025 motions as presented on Pages 5 & 6 of the Annual Meeting Report and seconded by Brenda Lemecha, passed.

MOTION by Yasmin Eloian to approve the Treasurer's Report for May 2025 as presented on Page 7 of the Annual Meeting Report and seconded by Patti Mack, passed.

MOTION by Sandy Butler to approve the proposed 2025-2026 Budget as presented on Page 8 of the Annual Meeting Report and seconded by Wendy Baggett, passed.

MOTION by Yasmin Eloian and seconded by Linda Freitag to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 P.M.

Election of Officers to the Board of Directors – August 11, 2025

MOTION by Sandy Butler and second by Wendy Baggett to approve the nomination of Yasmin Eloian for President, passed.

MOTION by Brenda Lemecha and second by Sandy Butler to approve the nomination of Wendy Baggett for Vice President (Internal), passed.

MOTION by Wendy Baggett and second by Sandy Butler to re-elect Kimberly Ismail as Vice President (External), passed.

MOTION by Wendy Baggett and second by Fran Sanak to re-elect Linda Freitag as Secretary, passed.

MOTION by Sandy Butler and second by Wendy Baggett to re-elect Brenda Lemecha as Treasurer, passed.

MOTION by Linda Freitag and second by Sandy Butler to adjourn at 5:44 P.M.

Board Meeting – August 11, 2025

MOTION by John Matthews and second by Fran Sanak to approve agenda.

MOTION by Sandy Butler and second by Patti Mack to approve minutes of the May 12, 2025 Board meeting, passed.

MOTION by Sandy Butler to make corrections to the June 24 annual meeting minutes to remove the word Liabilities from the Treasurer's report, along with correcting under nominations to read Ratify the elected directors and second by Brenda Lemecha, passed. Minutes to be presented at the 2026 annual meeting.

MOTION by Linda Freitag and second by Sandy Butler to accept the Treasurer's Report to file for audit, passed.

MOTION by Sandy Butler and second by Linda Freitag to extend Steven Jarvi's contract through May 31, 2028, passed.

MOTION by Wendy Baggett and second by Sandy Butler to approve the issuance of a DOS credit card, passed.

MOTION by Sandy Butler and second by Linda Freitag to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 P.M.

Board Meeting – September 8, 2025

MOTION by John Matthews and second by Mary Bugeia to approve agenda, passed.

MOTION by Sandy Butler and second by Frank Sanak to approve special meeting minutes of the August 11, 2025 election of officers, passed.

MOTION by Patti Mack and second by Brenda Lemecha to approve the regular meeting minutes of August 11, 2025, passed.

MOTION by Mary Bugeia and second by Fran Sanak to accept the Treasurer's Report to file for audit, passed.

MOTION by EmmaJean Woodyard and second by Fran Sanak to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 P.M.

Board Meeting – October 13, 2025

MOTION by John Matthews and second by Brenda Lemecha to approve the agenda, passed.

MOTION by Don Mack and second by Kimberly Ismail to approve minutes of the September 8, 2025 Board meeting, passed.

MOTION by John Matthews and second by Alice Putrus to accept the Treasurer's Report to file for audit, passed.

MOTION by Linda Freitag and second by Alice Putrus to adjourn meeting at 6:37 P.M.

Board Meeting – November 10, 2025

MOTION by Wendy Baggett and second by John Matthews to approve agenda, passed.

MOTION by Brenda Lemecha and second by Fran Sanak to approve minutes of the October 13, 2025 Board meeting, passed.

MOTION by Linda Freitag and second by John Matthews to accept the Treasurer's Report to file for audit, passed.

MOTION by Brenda Lemecha and second by Don Mack to appoint Yasmin Eloian to chair the Fund Development Committee, passed.

MOTION by Linda Freitag and second by Fran Sanak to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 P.M.

Board Meeting – January 12, 2026

MOTION by Mary Bugeia and second by Sandy Butler to approve agenda, passed.

MOTION by Wendy Baggett and second by Brenda Lemecha to approve minutes of the November 10, 2025 Board meeting, passed.

MOTION by Sandy Butler and second by Don Mack to accept the Treasurer's Report to file for audit, passed.

MOTION by Sandy Butler to honor Ben and Anina Bachrach by awarding the Youth Artist Competition winner in their name for everything they have done over the years for the symphony, second by John Matthews, passed.

MOTION by Sandy Butler and second by Linda Freitag to adjourn the meeting at 6:18 P.M.

Board Meeting – February 9, 2026

MOTION by Mary Bugeia and second by Wendy Baggett to approve agenda, passed.

MOTION by Brenda Lemecha and second by Charles Miller to approve minutes of the January 12, 2026 Board meeting, passed.

MOTION by Mary Bugeia and second by Alice Putrus to accept the Treasurer's report for file for audit, passed.

MOTION by Linda Freitag and second by Patti Mack to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 P.M.

Board Meeting – March 9, 2026

MOTION by John Matthews and second by Fran Sanak to approve agenda, passed.

MOTION by Patti Mack and second by Brenda Lemecha to approve minutes of the February 9, 2026 Board meeting, passed.

MOTION by Mary Bugeia to appoint Michael Lopez to serve on the board until he is officially elected at the annual meeting and second by John Matthews, passed.

MOTION by Fran Sanak and second by Linda Freitag to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 P.M.

Board Meeting – April 13, 2026

MOTION by John Matthews and second by Brenda Lemecha to approve agenda, passed.

MOTION by Mary Bugeia and second by Brenda Lemecha to approve minutes of the March 9, 2026 Board meeting, passed.

MOTION by Fran Sanak and second by Linda Freitag to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 P.M.

Board Meeting – May 11, 2026

MOTION by Fran Sanak and second by Linda Freitag to approve agenda, passed.

MOTION by John Matthews and second by Fran Sanak to approve minutes of the April 13, 2026 Board meeting, passed.

MOTION by Sandy Butler and second by Fran Sanak to recommend approval of the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Budget to be presented at the Annual Meeting, passed.

MOTION by Sandy Butler and second by Patti Mack to extend Steven Jarvi's contract as Music Director and Conductor through May 31, 2029, passed.

MOTION by Fran Sanak and second by Don Mack to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda L. Freitag, Secretary



**JOIN STEVEN JARVI &
THE DEARBORN SYMPHONY**

**Best of the Danube ~ Celebration of Music
AMA WATERWAYS RIVER CRUISE**

July 7-14, 2027

Sail roundtrip from Budapest through Austria, Hungary, and Slovakia, exploring imperial capitals, UNESCO treasures, and the birthplace of Mozart, with a week of music celebration hosted by Steven Jarvi.

For more information call (313) 565-2424 OR (313) 388-0448, or visit www.dearbornsymphony.org/wp/travel-with-us/

**A DEARBORN SYMPHONY
FUNDRAISER**

Dearborn Symphony
Balance Sheet
Fiscal Year June 1, 2025 - May 31, 2026
Previous Year-to-Date Comparison
As of May 31, 2026

					May 31, 2026	May 31, 2025	
ASSETS							
	Current Assets						
	Checking/Savings						
			checking/DOS-Comerica		\$ 43,006.60	\$ 45,056.39	
			Ford Money Market		\$ 49,327.34	\$ 41,577.50	
			checking/scholarship - Dbn Fed		\$ 10,699.14	\$ 13,195.21	
			Total Checking/Savings		\$ 103,033.08	\$ 99,829.10	
	Other Current Assets						
			Undeposited Funds		\$ 1,629.54	\$ 6,735.12	
			bulk mail - pre pd		\$ 676.24	\$ 1,613.67	
			petty cash		\$ 15.51	\$ 15.51	
			Total Other Current Assets		\$ 2,321.29	\$ 8,364.30	
			Total Current Assets		\$ 105,354.37	\$ 108,193.40	
TOTAL ASSETS					\$ 105,354.37	\$ 108,193.40	
LIABILITIES & EQUITY							
	Liabilities						
	Current Liabilities						
			Credit Cards				
			Chase		\$ 1,438.83	\$ -	
			Total Credit Cards		\$ 1,438.83	\$ -	
			Other Current Liabilities				
			Current Liabilities		\$ 1,626.74	\$ 1,700.50	
			Total Other Current Liabilities		\$ 1,626.74	\$ 1,700.50	
			Total Current Liabilities		\$ 1,626.74	\$ 1,700.50	
			Total Liabilities		\$ 3,065.57	\$ 1,700.50	
	Equity						
			Retained Earnings		\$ 106,492.90	\$ 213,570.64	
			Net Income		\$ (4,204.10)	\$ (107,077.74)	
			Total Equity		\$ 102,288.80	\$ 106,492.90	
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY					\$ 105,354.37	\$ 108,193.40	

Dearborn Orchestral Society
Income and Expenses for Prior Seasons 61 - 64
Proposed Budget for 2026-2027 Season 65

	Year:	2022 - 23	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27
	Season:	61	62	63	64	65
	Budget:	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Proposed
		Jun-May23	Jun-May24	Jun-May25	Jun-May26	Jun-May27
Income						
Admissions		\$45,291	\$61,722	\$56,623	\$53,716	\$58,000
Cabaret						\$16,000
Children's Concert		\$2,520	\$2,835	\$1,890	\$883	\$5,000
Contracted Services		\$25,000	\$15,209	\$31,616	\$46,322	\$48,035
Corporate Support		\$19,510	\$16,490	\$17,630	\$15,155	\$25,000
Foundations		\$2,000	\$2,500		\$4,000	\$2,000
Grants		\$27,375	\$23,061	\$42,129	\$49,325	\$30,000
DOSEF		\$61,460	\$64,900	\$30,100	\$30,000	\$100,000
Donations		\$41,261	\$226,761	\$48,244	\$132,940	\$50,350
Friends of the DS (WADOS)		\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Interest Income		\$616	\$3,253	\$5,497	\$2,750	\$2,500
Scholarship Donations		\$1,356	\$2,835	\$14,502	\$13,006	\$12,000
Fundraisers (other)		\$7,301	\$1,472	\$3,404	\$5,659	\$9,200
Total Income		\$243,690	\$431,037	\$261,635	\$363,756	\$368,085
Expense						
Administrative		\$52,579	\$59,882	\$87,590	\$89,224	\$102,774
Grant Writer						\$2,000
Direct Concert Expenses		\$169,314	\$186,840	\$220,679	\$192,507	\$209,350
Marketing		\$1,721	\$6,461	\$4,964	\$4,853	\$9,000
Contracted Services		\$19,596	\$12,090	\$31,616	\$40,196	\$68,035
Cabaret (non-music)						\$8,500
Other fundraisers		\$5,291		\$556	\$800	\$2,800
Insurance		\$3,281	\$3,428	\$3,556	\$3,781	\$4,000
Newsletter		\$11,718	\$13,462	\$15,882	\$16,436	\$17,000
Outreach		\$1,000		\$1,425	\$3,800	\$3,000
Misc. Program Expenses		\$100	\$100		\$1,360	\$1,000
Scholarship Expenses			12,335	2,445	15,003	\$12,000
Total Expense		264,600	294,597	368,713	367,960	\$439,459

May 8, 2026 | Verdi's *Requiem*
Soloists Christina Parson, Kristin Clark, Cameron Barrett Johnson, Brian Kontes
Vanguard Grand Chorus, under the direction of G. Kevin Dewey



Photo: Joel Iverson Photo Design



November 25, 2025
Festival of Trees Gala

Photo: Joel Iverson Photo Design



Photo: Joel Iverson Photo Design



April 9, 2026 | Children's Concert
Guest Artist Karim Nagi



September 5, 2025 | Music Under the Stars
Peace Park West, Dearborn



Photo courtesy of City of Dearborn / Like the Planet Photography

October 3, 2025 | Myth, Motion, and Majesty
Youth Artists Solo Competition winner cellist Jisso Park



MUSIC DIRECTOR'S REPORT

As we conclude the Dearborn Symphony Orchestra's 64th season, I am pleased to report that our season theme, **Music That Moves**, proved to be an effective artistic and organizational framework that connected audiences, musicians, community partners, and guest artists through a diverse range of musical experiences. Across five distinctly different programs and two Children's Concerts, we presented music that inspired, entertained, educated, and moved audiences emotionally, while continuing to strengthen the Dearborn Symphony's role as a cultural leader in our region.

ARTISTIC HIGHLIGHTS

The season opened with *Myths, Motion and Majesty*, a program that demonstrated the full capabilities of the orchestra through a large-scale symphonic experience. The concert featured repertoire ranging from Offenbach and Strauss to Elgar and Respighi, highlighting both the virtuosity of our musicians and the talents of Youth Artists Solo Competition winner Jisoo Park. By placing musicians in the hall, concertgoers got to hear our incredible venue in a new way.

One of the season's most innovative offerings was *Rick Steves' Symphonic Europe*, which combined live orchestral performance with custom video and narration from renowned travel expert Rick Steves. This multimedia experience attracted both traditional concertgoers and new audience members interested in travel, history, and culture.

In February, the orchestra strengthened its commitment to community collaboration through a partnership with 2nd Street Dance Studio and the Dearborn Youth Symphony. The annual Side-by-Side performance provided young musicians with the opportunity to perform alongside professional and community orchestra members. The dancers were spectacular and proved to be the perfect partners whom we hope to combine forces with again in the future.

Our March program celebrated the tradition of the musical march through a creative sports-themed presentation that connected classical repertoire, popular culture, and community interests. Former Red Wing Coach, Dave Lewis, and the Michigan Marching Band Drum Major, Miguel Retro, joined the orchestra onstage to share NHL and Marching Band memories, giving a perfect cherry on top to our Pops Concert.

The season culminated with a powerful performance of Verdi's *Requiem*, presented in collaboration with Vanguard Voices and an outstanding roster of professional, mostly local, soloists. Featuring more than 150 performers on stage, this ambitious undertaking demonstrated the artistic maturity and collaborative strength of our organization.



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION

Throughout the season, the orchestra collaborated with a wide range of organizations and artists, including Rick Steves and the Rick Steves' Europe production team, 2nd Street Dance Studio, Dearborn Youth Symphony, Vanguard Voices, and guest soloists and Youth Artists Solo Competition participants.

EDUCATION AND AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT

This year the Dearborn Symphony took its annual Children's Concerts to a new level by collaborating with Egyptian musician, Karim Nagi whose knowledge of Middle Eastern instruments and music, along with his enthusiasm and command of the young audience, created a unique concert experience. 4th graders learned about all of the instruments of the traditional Western orchestra while also being exposed to traditional Middle Eastern instruments and musical ideas. Highlights also included showcasing young artists through the annual Youth Artists Solo Competition, continuing the Side-by-Side experience with the Dearborn Youth Symphony, offering pre-concert educational and participatory activities, and presenting innovative programming designed to attract new audiences.

ORCHESTRA EXCELLENCE

The success of this season reflects the extraordinary dedication and talent of the Dearborn Symphony musicians. Across a wide variety of repertoire and performance formats, the orchestra consistently demonstrated professionalism, flexibility, and artistic commitment. As the orchestra grows, as does their ability to play larger and more difficult/substantial works. This is a fact that can be celebrated by members of the orchestra and audiences alike.

LOOKING AHEAD

As we prepare for our 65th season, the accomplishments of this year provide a strong foundation for future growth. The success of our collaborative projects, educational initiatives, innovative programming, and large-scale artistic endeavors demonstrates the continued vitality of the Dearborn Symphony.

Thank you for your continued commitment to the Dearborn Symphony and for helping make our 64th season a success.

With pride for the present and enthusiasm for the future,



Steven Jarvi
Music Director
Dearborn Symphony

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

When I stepped into the role of Executive Director in 2024, my primary objective was to listen, learn, and observe. I immersed myself in the rich history of our symphony, understanding the deep roots that have sustained us for generations. But a great symphony cannot rely solely on its past; it must actively compose its future.

If my first year was about understanding where we stood, this second year has been entirely about **preparing us for where we are going.**

True visionary leadership requires building an infrastructure capable of supporting big artistic dreams. This past year, we took on the monumental task of modernizing how the symphony operates behind the scenes. We successfully migrated decades of legacy data into a modern, online CRM system, seamlessly integrating our fundraising and donor records with QuickBooks Online. Alongside this, we are launching *Arts People*, a dedicated platform connected to the Neon CRM system designed to revolutionize how patrons experience ticketing and subscriptions.

At the same time, we embarked on a comprehensive rebranding journey to ensure our visual identity matches the dynamic, world-class energy of our music.

I will be the first to admit that this process comes with its share of growing pains. We are still actively smoothing out the bugs and refining these new systems. But a lively arts institution will always be a work in progress, and the heavy lifting of this past year was necessary to build a frictionless, modern home for our patrons and supporters.

All of this structural and visual evolution serves a singular, thrilling purpose: it leaves us perfectly poised for our milestone **65th Season.**

Because of the foundation we laid this year, we are ready to enter our 65th anniversary not just celebrating longevity, but championing innovation. We are ready to bring breathtaking artistic programming, deeper community partnerships, and an unparalleled patron experience.

Thank you for your patience, your passion, and your unwavering support during this year of transition. The stage is set, the instruments are tuned, and the future of Dearborn Symphony continues to look bright.

With gratitude,



James Clements, Executive Director

OUR STAFF

DENNIS CARTER II | Office Manager (Principal Flute) Dennis serves as the heartbeat of the Dearborn Symphony office, providing exceptional service to patrons, musicians, and volunteers alike. Patrons who contact the office frequently comment on his helpfulness and welcoming demeanor. This season, Dennis took on significant new responsibilities, becoming the steward of our patron data while assisting with the implementation of a new customer relationship management (CRM) system and mastering new technology platforms that will strengthen our operations for years to come.

JOHN HARTWICK | Personnel Manager (Second Trumpet) John's work behind the scenes ensures that every rehearsal and performance is staffed with the talented musicians who bring our concerts to life. This season, he managed the orchestra's first fully digital Letters of Intent process, administered auditions for seven vacancies across two days, and helped fill key principal positions. In addition to hiring 65 substitute and extra musicians throughout the season and often securing last-minute replacements, he prepares the detailed reports necessary for musician payroll, union dues, and pension contributions while serving as a dedicated conduit between Maestro Steven Jarvi and the orchestra. His commitment, responsiveness, and attention to detail are essential to the success of every concert..

SETH LARSON | Music Librarian and Orchestra Stage Manager (Second Clarinet) Seth's contributions touch nearly every aspect of a Dearborn Symphony performance. As Music Librarian, he secured and prepared countless scores and parts throughout the season, dedicating endless hours to scanning music, printing materials, organizing folders, and ensuring musicians had the resources they needed to perform at their best. As Orchestra Stage Manager, he coordinated the many logistical details required for each concert, working closely with theater staff to prepare stage plots, arrange chairs and stands, and ensure every piece of equipment was in place before the first note was played.

As Seth concludes his service as Music Librarian following the 25/26 season, we extend our sincere gratitude for his years of dedication in this demanding role. He will continue serving Dearborn Symphony as our Orchestra Stage Manager, expanding this role to make sure every performance is a captivating experience for our musicians and audiences alike.

The Dearborn Symphony has a core of 55 professional musicians and engages additional local artists.

Musicians per concert:

Music Under the Stars: 25
Myth, Motion, and Majesty: 70
Rick Steves' Symphonic Europe: 57
The Nutcracker: 38
Shall We Dance?: 63
Children's Concert: 35
Mad About Marches: 56 (+6 DYS)
Verdi's Requiem: 62

This season, we:

- shared 5 dynamic subscription concerts with our community
- spotlighted 6 remarkable soloists
- amplified our sound with over 100 talented choristers
- sparked young imaginations through 2 Children's Concerts
- brought the season to life with 1 concert in the park
- accompanied 3 magical performances of a holiday classic
- provided professional musicians for meaningful community events and celebrations

A New Rhythm for the Music We Love

Our new logo is more than a visual refresh, it is a reflection of the vibrant energy and deep-rooted connections that define Dearborn Symphony. Inspired by the concept of structural harmony, this mark is built representing our orchestra and the invaluable community we serve. Each piece influences the others, proving that we are at our best when we move in unison to create something bigger, bolder, and more inspiring.

The Vision Behind the Mark

Designed with intentionality, the logo serves as a bridge between our storied history and our ambitious future:

The overall architectural shape evokes a space where musicians and listeners merge into a single, shared experience. Look closely and you will see the symphonic dark blue pieces forming a D and the slate gray pieces forming an S, grounding the mark in the heart of Dearborn.

The design incorporates soft curves reminiscent of musical notes and the fluid motion of a conductor’s baton. It breaks beyond traditional boundaries to reflect a sense of modern momentum and flow.

The subtle eighth note honors our heritage while signaling a new era of artistic excellence.

More Than a Logo

This mark is a symbol of our commitment to being an inclusive, world-class cultural anchor. It represents a Dearborn Symphony that is moving boldly into the future, inviting new voices in while continuing to provide the soaring performances our long-time supporters cherish.

This is Dearborn Symphony.
This is the music we share together.

Concept and design by graphic artist Rachael Wojciechowski.



COLORS

THEMES

music,
movement,
excitement

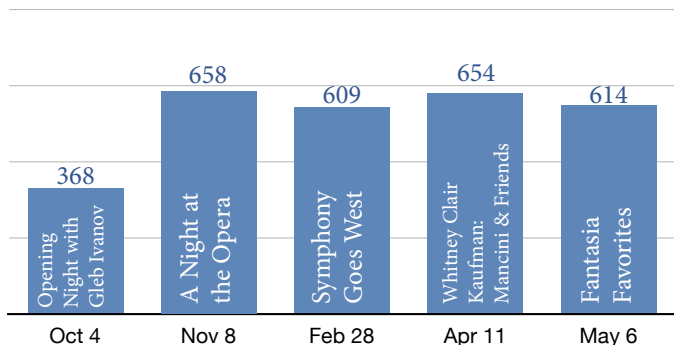
FONT

“Capitolina” &
“ASAP Extended”

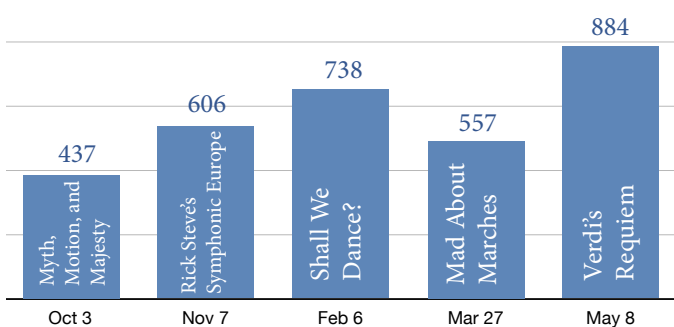
SEASON STATISTICS

Audience Attendance

2024-2025 Tickets



2025-2026 Tickets



2025-2026 Tickets numbers include:

- **201:** returning Subscribers
- **36:** NEW Subscribers
- **85:** average number of tickets per concert distributed to musicians, soloists, special guests
- **195:** discounted tickets offered to collaborating organizations
- **24:** WRCJ ticket winners
- **18:** redeemed vouchers/certificates

Music Under The Star

A special outdoor candlelight concert at Dearborn's Peace Park West. Featuring popular classics along with *Peter and the Wolf* narrated by Vanessa El-Zein Lai.

Friday, September 5, 2025 at 8:00 p.m.

Presented by the City of Dearborn

The Nutcracker

An annual collaboration with the City of Dearborn and Ballet Americana to present this iconic ballet.

Saturday, December 6, 2025 at 2:00 & 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 7, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

1,813 tickets over three performances

Fundraising

We have yet to identify a chairperson for our Fund Development Committee who would head up fundraising events, sponsorships, grants, and membership initiatives. We raised a little extra money with ongoing programs:

- Travel With Us
- Kroger Rewards
- Grants
- Holiday Party
- VIP Cocktail Reception
- Giving Tuesday

Marketing/Advertising

30 Sponsors/Advertisers

16K Season Brochures & Concert Postcards

1.3K Facebook Followers

Radio Spots & Ticket Giveaways

YouTube - Symphony Notes - Cable TV

1.4K+ Email Newsletter Subscribers

Press Releases

Website

Certificates/Awards/Vouchers

Cross Promotions:

Vanguard Voices

Friends of the Opera of Michigan

Dearborn Youth Symphony

Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce

Fair Lane Music Club

Exchange Club

Players Guild of Dearborn

FCPAC

Cherry Hill Presbyterian

WHFR Radio

Press & Guide Newspaper

Times Herald Newspaper

Motor City Brass Band

DINNER & A CONCERT

Thanks to our restaurant partners who offer dining discounts to our ticket holders:

Antonio's Restaurants/Roman Village

Mint 29

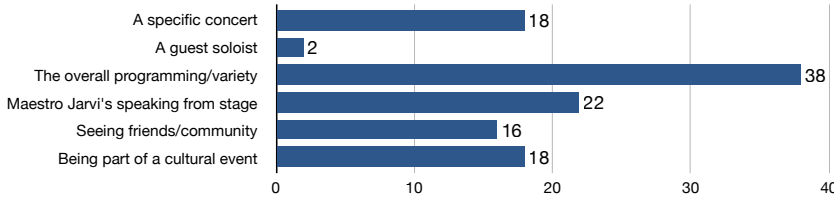
TRIA

The Great Commoner

SEASON SURVEYS

Audience: 46 responses

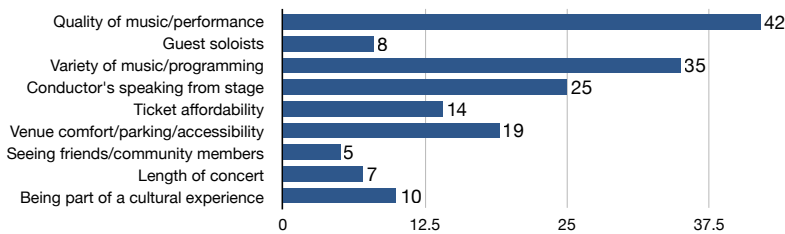
What was your favorite part of this season?



Most important parts of the concert experience:

- Quality of music/performance
- Variety of music/programming
- Ticket affordability/venue

Which parts of the concert experience are most important?



How did you hear about our concerts?

- Season brochure
- E-newsletter
- Family/friend
- WRCJ

Overall concert experience:

Average rating: 4.89 / 5

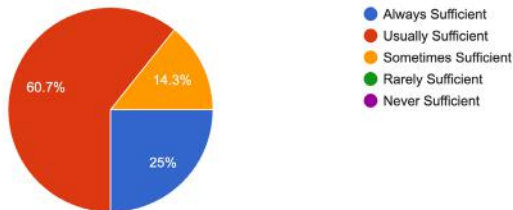


"[You've] risen the 'bar' up a notch or two." • "Don't be afraid to challenge us...innovate and experiment."

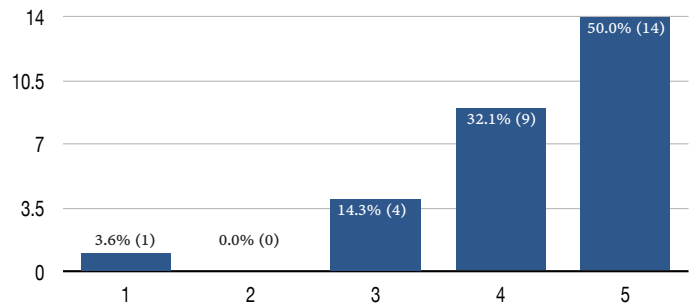
Musicians: 28 responses

Was the rehearsal time generally sufficient for concert preparation?

28 responses

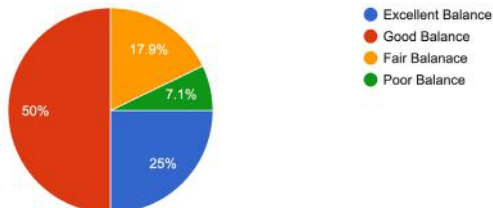


Overall, how satisfied were you with the 2025-2026 Season?

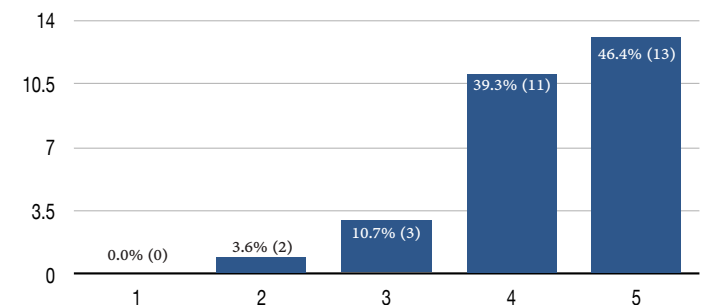


Please rate your satisfaction with the balance of repertoire:

28 responses



How would you rate the overall artistic quality of the performances?



Do you feel respected as a musician within the orchestra? 50.0% Always, 42.9% Usually, 7.1% Sometimes

Youth Artists Solo Competition: Uplifting the Next Generation

This season, we are proud to honor cellist Brandon Gajek of Farmington Hills as the first-place winner of the 2026 Youth Artists Solo Competition. Brandon captivated the audience with a masterful performance of the first movement of Kabalevsky's Concerto No. 1. As the competition's top honoree, he will receive the **Ben & Anina Bachrach Award** of \$500 and has been invited to perform his winning piece as the featured soloist during our 26/27 Season Opener on Friday, October 2, 2026.

Brandon's remarkable achievement reflects six years of dedicated study, currently under Dr. Amir Eldan at the University of Michigan. His extensive training includes positions with the Detroit Symphony Youth Orchestra and as principal cellist of the 2025 Michigan All-State Orchestra, alongside summers at Interlochen, Bowdoin Music Festival, and the Meadowmount School of Music. Also an avid chamber musician and member of the Trouville Quartet, Brandon has earned multiple honors from the MSBOA, including consecutive Outstanding Soloist nominations. We extend our warmest congratulations to Brandon and look forward to his solo debut this fall.

This competition, sponsored by Dearborn Symphony and the Dearborn Orchestral Society Endowment Fund, is one of the ways we remain committed to our mission. We are grateful to the families and individuals whose trust funds and gifts help make this opportunity possible, including the enduring legacies of Anina and Ben Bachrach, Sandra and Paul Butler, Mary and Frank Padzieski, and many other generous supporters.



Inspiring a Love for Music

Dearborn Symphony proudly welcomed local youth for our Annual Children's Concerts, an enduring tradition designed to inspire wonder, curiosity, and a lifelong love of music. Under the leadership of Music Director Steven Jarvi, the orchestra delivered a vibrant, educational program tailored to align with classroom learning while making symphonic music deeply engaging.

Presented in close partnership with **Dearborn Public Schools** and the **City of Dearborn**, the concerts brought nearly 1,600 fourth-grade students into the Ford Community & Performing Arts Center. This year's performance was uniquely enriched by a collaboration with Egyptian musician **Karim Nagi**, bringing a beautiful cross-section of cultures directly to the stage. For many students, this was their very first time hearing a live orchestra, and their enthusiastic reactions reminded us all why this tradition matters.

More than just a field trip, the Children's Concerts remain a cornerstone of our mission. Supported generously by our city leadership, patrons, dedicated musicians, and the **DTE Foundation**, we continue to give young people the tools to dream bigger and see a world full of creative possibility.

"The concert was just fabulous and adding Kareem Nagi was delightful. I loved the variety of pieces and our students at Maples came away with lots of positive comments. Best concert so far."

—Liz Arthur-Meyes, teacher

Enriching Our Community Through Collaboration

Collaboration is more than a strategy; it is a philosophy that defines how Dearborn Symphony enriches the cultural life of our region. This past season, we embraced meaningful partnerships that brought new voices to the stage, deepened community ties, and expanded access to live music.

Our collaborative spirit was on display from the start. In September, we kicked off the season with **Music Under the Stars**, bringing neighbors together for an evening of music in the open air. By November, we embarked on an innovative project with travel icon **Rick Steves**, helping develop a multimedia performance package for orchestras nationwide that pairs live music with pre-recorded narrations and footage from his PBS shows.

December saw the return of a beloved holiday tradition with our annual production of *The Nutcracker*. We carried this momentum into February, joining forces with the **Downriver Dance Academy** and choreographer **Spencer Genrich** to blend the grandeur of the orchestra with a captivating variety of dance styles.

In March, we celebrated our musical future with a side-by-side concert featuring the **Dearborn Youth Symphony**, offering talented young musicians the opportunity to perform alongside our professionals in a mentorship-rich environment. And no one will forget the contribution of **G. Kevin Dewey** and the **Vanguard Grand Chorus** for Verdi's *Requiem*.

These collaborations remind us that when we come together, the music becomes even more meaningful and the impact on our community far more lasting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Artistic

Wendy Baggett, Chair

A special thank you to the members of the Artistic Committee—comprised of the orchestra's principals, musician representatives from the Board of Directors, and Music Director Steven Jarvi. Their time, insight, and expertise were invaluable in shaping an exceptional season for the coming year.

Guided by a commitment to stewardship through the use of music from our library and the public domain, the committee focused on programming that engages and inspires audiences, broadens musical horizons, and celebrates our community. Working collaboratively, committee members carefully evaluated individual works and thoughtfully reviewed concert programs curated and presented by Steven Jarvi.

The result is a cohesive season, *Worlds of Sound*, that explores the music of the sea, nature, the seasons, the planets, and the galaxy. Each concert is designed to appeal to a broad audience while also offering meaningful connections for specific interests and communities. Through these shared musical experiences, we hope to bring diverse groups together in celebration of the season's unifying theme.

Scholarship & Education

Jane Mykytenko, Chair

The Dearborn Symphony again offered a string clinic for instrumental students in the Dearborn Public Schools.

Sean O'Connell, Brandon Cota, Mauricio Bentanzo, Joe Deller, and Jessica Lipon taught students at Woodworth, Lowrey, Unis, Bryant, Stout, and STEM middle schools.

I have received positive input from students and staff.

This is a great outreach to encourage instrumental students.

It would be beneficial to provide these clinics again next year.

Committees

These teams are the heart of our organization, where dedicated volunteers come together to share ideas, solve problems, and shape the future of Dearborn Symphony. Whether your strengths are creative, strategic, financial, or educational, there's a place for you to make a meaningful impact. With eight standing committees including Fund Development, Marketing, Finance and Budget, and others outlined in our Bylaws, there are many ways to get involved. Right now, we especially welcome you to our **Fund Development Committee** as we strengthen our capacity for growth. If you're passionate about our mission and ready to lend your time and talents, we invite you to join us in this important work.

In Memory

Throughout the season, Dearborn Symphony paused to remember and honor members of our family whose contributions enriched our organization and community.

We mourned the loss of longtime board member **Al Holmes**, whose dedication and service helped strengthen the Symphony for many years. We also remembered acclaimed pianist **Robert Conway**, a cherished friend whose legacy was recognized during our October 2025 concert. In May 2026, we honored the memory of beloved flutist and educator **Donna Olkowski**, who performed with Dearborn Symphony for 57 years, with a special musical tribute featuring a 30-member flute choir celebrating her lasting impact on generations of students and fellow musicians.

Their passion, generosity, and commitment to music continue to inspire us.

Thank You

After more than 20 years of service as Dearborn Symphony's program annotator, **Ava McDowell** is retiring from this role. Her insightful and engaging program notes have enriched the concert experience for generations of audience members, and we are deeply grateful for her dedication, scholarship, and lasting contribution.

FRIENDS OF THE DEARBORN SYMPHONY

Founded 1962 // Incorporated 1983

Board of Directors

President, Linda L. Freitag
VP Administration, Anne Witkowski
VP Fundraising, John Matthews
VP Education & Community Outreach,
Jane Mykytenko

VP Membership Development, Linda L. Freitag
Treasurer, Brenda Lemecha
Recording Secretary, Patti Mack
Allegro Editor & Parliamentarian, Patti Mack
Website Administrator, Don Mack

The 2025-2026 fiscal year for Friends of the Dearborn Symphony included numerous monthly board meetings held at the Tournament Players Club throughout the season. Friends hosted the 4th Season of fabulous Music Medleys held at the First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn. Our dedicated VP of Education and Community Outreach, Jane Mykytenko, worked diligently in scheduling a wide range of medleys. Snacks and beverages were provided to all attendees after each concert from various volunteers. All attendees genuinely appreciated receiving the variety of offerings.

Unfortunately Friends lost a dedicated volunteer this past year, Andre Mykytenko, Jane's husband. He was always there to lend a helping hand and prepare his version of handmade snacks for the Music Medleys. He will be greatly missed by Friends, along with the symphony musicians. Andre assisted Jane on every dress rehearsal night by providing beverages and snacks for the musicians. We are always looking for volunteers to assist Jane for the dress rehearsal nights, along with volunteering for other Friends events.

Two successful events occurred during this season. First Taste of Music was hosted by Yasmin Eloian in her beautiful Wyandotte home on November 1, 2025. We held our Second Annual Friendship Tea on April 26, 2026. Both events were well received by all attendees and are looking forward to more in the 2026-2027 season. We are always looking for volunteers willing to host a Taste of Music in their home.

We continue to offer our ongoing fundraiser of the excellent FODS Blanket at \$55.00 each. Please contact me if you are interested in purchasing a blanket.

Friends of the Dearborn Symphony Annual Meeting will be taking place on Sunday, July 19, 2026 12:30 P.M. at The Tournament Players Club in Dearborn.

I cannot thank our board members enough for all of their hard work and dedication to Friends in making sure that we have a smooth-running operation and creating fun and exciting fundraisers.

I personally want to thank all of our Friends members for their support during this season. If you are not a member, I encourage you to take the time and become a member. Feel free to contact me with any questions, etc. you may have.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda L. Freitag
President of Friends of the Dearborn Symphony



NOMINEES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Newly nominated for the Board of Directors with a term ending in 2029:

- Vanessa El-Zein Lai
- Mohamed Ali Hammoud
- Roger Frank
- Michael Lopez

Incumbents up for election for a 3-year term ending in 2029:

- Brigitte Anouti
- Alice Putrus
- Brenda Lemecha
- Francene Sanak
- John Matthews, Jr.

Composition of the Board of Directors with the above nominees:

<u>Term End 2027</u>	<u>Term End 2028</u>	<u>Term End 2029</u>
Wendy Baggett	Mary Bugeia	Brigitte Anouti
Jan Huang	Sandy Butler	Vanessa El-Zein Lai
Kim Ismail	Yasmin Eloian	Roger Frank
Charles Miller	Linda Freitag	Mohamed Ali Hammoud
Jane Mykytenko	Mary Kosch	Brenda Lemecha
Jennie Somers	Donald Mack	Michael Lopez
	Patti Mack	John Matthews, Jr.
	EmmaJean Woodyard	Alice Putrus
		Francene Sanak

Remembering Al Holmes for his many years of generosity and dedicated service.

A special Thank You to “retiring” board member Mustafa Hawily for his years of leadership and support.

Vision The Dearborn Symphony will be Michigan’s Premier Community Orchestra. Mission The Dearborn Symphony inspires, uplifts, and enriches its audience and musicians by presenting high caliber and engaging orchestral performances and educational programs.	The Role of the Board of Directors The Board of Directors provides strategic leadership and oversight for Dearborn Symphony. Its responsibilities include governance, policy development, and fiduciary stewardship to ensure the Symphony’s long-term sustainability. Board members help shape and uphold the organization’s vision, guide strategic direction, and serve as ambassadors for our mission.
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Annual Report 2025-26 Fiscal Year

Board of Directors

Brenda Lemecha, President
Sandra Butler, Vice-President and Secretary
Yasmin W. Eloian, Vice-President
Ben Bachrach, Treasurer

Anina Bachrach, Trustee
Paul Butler, Trustee
Michael Lopez, Trustee
John Matthews, Jr., Trustee
Alice Putrus, Trustee

The Dearborn Orchestral Society Endowment Fund (DOSEF), established in 1992, continues to fulfill its mission of providing a perpetual foundation of support for the Dearborn Symphony and safeguarding its artistic and financial stability. The Fund is carefully managed with a disciplined longterm approach that prioritizes preservation of principal while generating the income to support a concert each season and advance youth musician development.

The Board of Directors has recently approved the addition of Michael Lopez to join the DOSEF membership. His participation in recent meetings and his demonstrated commitment to the Symphony's longterm success make him a valuable addition to the Board.

The DOSEF Board meets monthly via Zoom to oversee portfolio management, review investment performance, and identify opportunities for growth and income generation. Board members contribute their time, expertise, and fiduciary oversight to ensure the continued strength and viability of the portfolio.

In addition to investment growth and income generation, the DOSEF relies on donations to expand the portfolio. I extend my sincere gratitude to the individuals who provided generous support during this fiscal year. Cash and securities may qualify for income tax deductions, and individuals considering charitable giving are encouraged to consult their tax advisor, broker, or Treasurer Ben Bachrach.

The DOSEF portfolio is diversified across individual stocks and exchange-traded funds to safeguard the principal and maintain the income necessary for annual distributions to the Symphony. The 2025-26 DOSEF financial report and fiscal year distributions will be presented in the forthcoming Annual Financial Report.

The Board of Directors envisions a successful 2025-26 season for the Dearborn Symphony.

Brenda Lemecha, President DOSEF

DEARBORN ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY ENDOWMENT FUND, INC.

Annual Meeting Minutes June 24, 2025

The annual DOSEF members' meeting was called to order at 6:48 PM by President Brenda Lemecha, following the annual meeting of the Dearborn Orchestral Society. Trustees present included Brenda Lemecha – President, Sandy Butler – Vice President & Secretary, and trustees Paul Butler and Alice Putrus. Others present included Wendy Baggett, Mary Bugeia, Dennis Carter, James Clements, Yasmin Eloian, Maya Liljegren, Francene Sanak, EmmaJean Woodyard and Patti & Don Mack via zoom.

The minutes of the 2024-25 annual meeting of the DOSEF held on June 25, 2024 were approved unanimously as submitted following motion by Alice Putrus, second by Paul Butler.

President's Report: Brenda Lemecha read the 2024-25 annual report for the DOSEF into the record. She further explained the purpose of the DOSEF and distribution of income as stipulated by the DOSEF bylaws.

Brenda reported that the DOSEF trustees meet monthly to manage the portfolio that is allocated between stocks and ETFs but noted that the dedicated and knowledgeable board members work between meetings to determine the continued suitability of current holdings and identify potential stocks and/or ETFs for purchase. She reported that the DOSEF BOD has invited Paul Toby and Paul Monacelli, UBS Senior VP's Wealth Management, to join the DOSEF BOD. They have submitted the request to the UBS compliance board for approval.

Treasurer's Report: Paul Butler, acting on behalf of Treasurer Ben Bachrach, presented the DOSEF annual financial report for the fiscal year from June 1, 2024 to May 31, 2025 as submitted. The report showed total assets beginning the period 6/1/2024 — \$1,832,238.36. Value on 5/31/25 — \$1,896,630.88. Today's value is \$1,942,503. Dividends for the year were \$70,632.43 vs. \$59,285.22 last FY. Total FY donations \$5,161.00. Distributions totaled \$41,661.00 (\$500 children's concert, \$30,100 DOS Operating Fund, \$10,000 School Clinics, \$1,000 YASC). Expenditures were \$61.00 for government filing fees.

The DOSEF portfolio continues to include a mix of approximately 50% ETFs and 50% individual stocks with an emphasis on dividends to fund yearly distributions to the DOS. Board members continue to manage the individual equities. Realized capital gains were \$35,691.91; unrealized capital loss \$5,430.82.

The Treasurer's report was accepted for filing upon motion by Sandy Butler, second by Alice Putrus.

Motion to Adjourn: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM, motion by Wendy Baggett, second by Paul Butler, approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandy Butler, Secretary

DOSEF Meeting Minutes – June 2025 – May 2026

June 10, 2025

Approval of Minutes of meeting May 15, 2025. Motion to approve by Alice, seconded by Ben. Passed.
The Treasurer's report was accepted unanimously for filing upon motion by Paul, seconded by Sandy, passed.
The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm on motion of Paul, seconded by Alice.

July 8, 2025

Approval of Minutes of meeting June 10, 2025. Motion to approve by Anina, seconded by Ben. Passed.
The Treasurer's report was accepted unanimously for filing upon motion by Sandy, seconded by Paul.
The following transactions were made in the stock portfolio:
Buy 300 shares WEN, Anina moved, seconded by Sandy; passed.
Sell 300 shares COPX Paul moved, seconded by John; passed.
Board elections — Sandy moved, seconded by Brenda to elect John Matthews to the board; motion passed.
Motion by Paul, seconded by Ben to elect Sandy Butler as VP & Secretary. Anina, Paul, and Alice will remain on the board as Trustees at Large.
The meeting adjourned at 3:55 pm on motion by John, seconded by Anina.

September 5, 2025

Approval of Minutes of meeting July 8, 2025. Motion to approve by Ben, seconded by Anina. Passed.
The Treasurer's report was accepted unanimously for filing upon motion by Sandy, seconded by Brenda.
The following transactions were made in the stock portfolio:
Sell 750 shares of AEO at market; Paul moved, seconded by Brenda – passed.
Sell 250 shares of SIMO at market; Paul moved, seconded by Alice – passed.
Buy 1,000 shares of HUN with limit order at \$10.15; Ben moved, seconded by Paul – passed.
The meeting adjourned at 3:55 pm on motion by Anina, seconded by Alice.

October 9, 2025

Approval of Minutes of meeting September 5, 2025. Motion to approve by Anina, seconded by Alice. Passed.
The Treasurer's report was accepted unanimously for filing upon motion by Paul, seconded by Brenda.
The following transactions were made in the stock portfolio:
Buy PFE 100 shares at market; Paul moved, seconded by Ben – passed.
Buy CAG 100 shares at market; Paul moved, seconded by Yasmin – passed.
The meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm on motion of Yasmin, second by Sandy.

December 18, 2025

Approval of Minutes of meeting October 9, 2025. Motion to approve by Ben, seconded by Anina – passed.
In the interim between meetings, Nov. 24, via email, Anina moved, seconded by Paul to sell DOSEF rights to SEVNR, 3,766 shares. Responding members: Ben, Anina, Sandy, Paul, Brenda, John. All voted to sell.
The Treasurer's report was accepted unanimously for filing upon motion by John, seconded by Sandy.
The meeting adjourned at 7:07 pm on motion by Yasmin, seconded by Sandy.

February 3, 2026

Approval of Minutes of meeting December 18, 2025. Motion to approve by John, seconded by Anina. Passed.
The Treasurer's report was accepted unanimously for filing upon motion by Sandy, seconded by Paul.
The following transactions were made in the stock portfolio:
Buy LYB 100 shares; Alice moved, seconded by Anina – passed.
Buy CAG 100 shares; Paul moved, second by John – passed.
Buy WES 200 shares; Ben moved, second by Paul – passed.
The meeting adjourned at 7:11 pm on motion of Alice, second by Brenda.

March 5, 2026

Approval of Minutes of meeting February 3, 2026. Motion to approve by John, seconded by Paul. Passed.
The Treasurer's report was accepted unanimously for filing upon motion by Alice, second by Sandy. Passed.
The following transaction was made in the stock portfolio:
Sell UAN – CVR Partners. Ben moved to sell 30 shares, seconded by John. Passed.
The meeting adjourned at 7:01 pm on motion of Paul, second by Ben. Passed.

April 14, 2026

Approval of Minutes of meeting March 5, 2026. Motion to approve by Alice, seconded by Ben. Passed.

The Treasurer's report was accepted unanimously for filing upon motion by Sandy, seconded by Paul. Passed.

The following transactions were made in the stock portfolio:

Buy AMCR – Amcor plc. Anina moved to buy 100 shares with limit order of \$38.05, seconded by Sandy, passed.

Buy HTGC – Hercules Capital. Sandy moved to buy 500 shares with limit order of \$14.05, seconded by Alice, passed.

Buy TRIN – Trinity Capital. Alice moved to buy 500 shares with limit order of \$14.95, seconded by Paul, passed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm on motion of Ben, second by Sandy.

May 5, 2026

Approval of Minutes of meeting April 14, 2026. Motion to approve by Anina, seconded by Brenda. Passed.

The The Treasurer's report was accepted unanimously for filing upon motion by Paul, seconded by John.

The following transactions were made in the stock portfolio:

Sell STX - Seagate: Sell 50 shares; motion by Paul, seconded by Ben, passed.

Sell SIMO – Silicon Motion: Sell 100 shares; motion by Paul, seconded by Brenda, passed.

Buy SEVN – Seven Hills Realty Trust: Buy 234 shares; motion by Alice, seconded by John, passed.

Buy CAG – ConAgra: Buy 200 shares; motion by John, seconded by Sandy, passed.

Buy HTGC – Hercules Capital: Buy 500 shares; motion by Alice, seconded by John, passed.

Buy TRIN – Trinity Capital: Buy 500 shares; motion by Sandy, seconded by Brenda, passed.

Buy PNNT – Pennant Park: Buy 500 shares; motion by Paul, seconded by Alice, passed.

Buy TRMD – Torm plc: Buy 100 shares; motion by Alice, seconded by Sandy, passed.

Buy BBDC – Barings BDC: Buy 100 shares; motion by Paul, seconded by Ben, passed.

Buy KHC – Kraft Heinz: Buy 100 shares; motion by Ben, seconded by Anina, passed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm on motion of Alice, seconded by John.

Submitted by:

Sandra Butler, Secretary

Brava, Brenda!

Our warmest congratulations to **Brenda Lemecha** on receiving the **2026 Mayor's Arts Volunteer Award**, a well-deserved honor personally presented by Dearborn Symphony President Emeritus Sandy Butler. We are incredibly grateful for Brenda's many years of meticulous dedication as our treasurer and her unwavering commitment to ensuring the Symphony's long-term success.



Photo: Andrew Kilburn

Dearborn Orchestral Society Endowment Fund, Inc.

Fiscal Year - June 1, 2025 through May 31, 2026

Start of Period

FUND BALANCES

Unrestricted		\$ 1,636,869.88	
Padzieski Trust		137,090.50	
Bachrach Trust		18,193.06	
Boase/Friends Trust		10,488.67	
Butler Trust		93,988.77	
Total Equity	6/1/2025		<u>\$ 1,896,630.88</u>

ASSETS

Schwab Cash Accounts		<u>\$ 118,703.65</u>	
Marketable Securities		<u>\$ 1,777,927.23</u>	
Total Assets start of year	6/1/2025		\$ 1,896,630.88

ANNUAL ACTIVITY

Investment Income	5/31/2026	<u>\$ 71,765.05</u>	
		\$ 71,765.05	
Donations			
Sandra and Paul Butler		\$ 5,000.00	
Annual Fund Raising		<u>\$ 211.00</u>	
Total Donations		\$ 5,211.00	
Total Revenue	5/31/2026	\$ 76,976.05	
Distributions			
Children's Concert		\$ (500.00)	
Operating Fund Annual Donation		\$ (30,000.00)	
School Clinics		\$ (10,000.00)	
Solo Artist Competition		<u>\$ (1,000.00)</u>	
Total Distributions	5/31/2026	\$ (41,500.00)	
Government Filing Fees		<u>\$ (61.00)</u>	
Total Expenses		\$ (41,561.00)	
Net Operating Income			\$ 35,415.05
Investments			
Realized Capital Gains		\$ 117,265.76	
Unrealized Gains		<u>\$ 335,574.77</u>	
Net Market Changes			\$ 452,840.53
Total Assets end of year	5/31/2026		<u>\$ 2,384,886.46</u>

End of Period

ASSETS

Cash		\$ 218,325.57	
Marketable Securities		<u>\$ 2,166,560.89</u>	
Total Assets end of year	5/31/2026		<u>\$ 2,384,886.46</u>

Prepared by: B.I. Bachrach, Treasurer DOSEF

Reviewed by: DOSEF Board 6/09/2026

Save the Dates!

2026-2027 Season WORLDS OF SOUND

October 2, 2026	<i>Symphony at Sea</i>
November 6, 2026	<i>Forces of Nature</i>
February 5, 2027	<i>The Four Seasons</i>
March 19, 2027	<i>Interstellar Incredibles</i>
May 7, 2027	<i>The Planets</i>

All regular season performances begin at 7:30 p.m.

Ford Community & Performing Arts Center
15801 Michigan Ave. | Dearborn, MI 48126

2025-2026 Season Sponsors



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