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# CENTRAL IOWA WIND ENSEMBLE

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*Symphonic Band Excellence*

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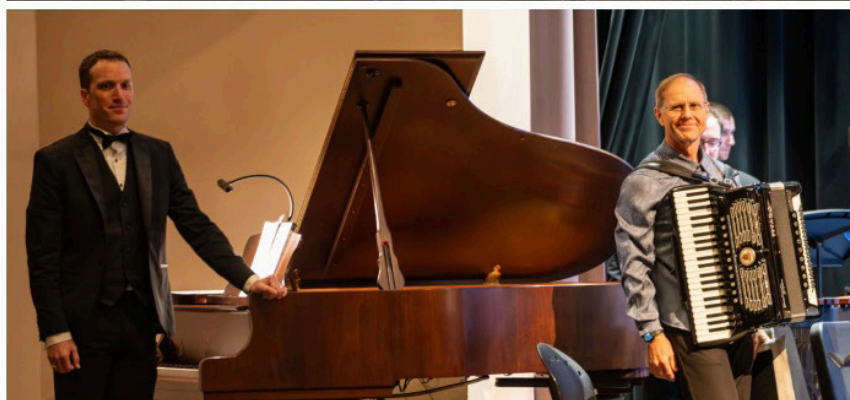


## **ANNUAL REPORT FY 2023-2024**

# Thank you for an amazing season!

“Let’s Go West!” for the 2023-2024 season opener of the Central Iowa Wind Ensemble. The audience was pleased with familiar Western tunes by the works of John Williams and Leonard Bernstein and exposed to modern takes on the concert theme highlighting some up-and-coming composers. One featured piece also included a visually engaging slideshow of breathtaking images from local photographer, Chris J. Ewan.

Let's Go West!



Holiday Spectacular - Ames

Our Holiday Spectacular weekend started off in Ames with a special mini concert for our community partner, Mainstream Living. The full ensemble performed the following day at the historic Ames Community Auditorium to an enthusiastic new crowd. In the lobby before the performance, concert goers were greeted with seasonal sounds from a talented saxophone quartet from Ames High School. Engaging with our youth and community in this way is our gift to the holidays and common for many of our concerts.

The Holiday Spectacular continued in Des Moines at Franklin Events Center. The audience left with plenty of holiday cheer after a unique program with everything from holiday hit movie themes to alternate versions of classic carols, and from wintry melodies to energetic funk. The lobby was the place to be before and after the concert with small ensemble preludes, refreshments, and a visit from everyone's favorite jolly man in a red suit.

### Holiday Spectacular - Des Moines



### Out of this World!

Our March concert delivered a truly “Out of this World” performance. Rich with multimedia visual scenes from space provided by NASA and one of our community partners for this concert, the Des Moines Astronomical Society. We were also moved by the angelic voice of our vocal soloist, soprano Sophia Pike. Music director and conductor, Dr. Christian Carichner again provides the perfect balance of music literature from both well-known composers and tunes as well as modern masterpieces.

We were honored to participate in the American Band Association's panel discussion at the Regional Connections Conference in Omaha, Nebraska. As part of this event, we were also selected to perform a concert for the membership. The president of ACB invited us to share insights with fellow community band leaders on how the Central Iowa Wind Ensemble has become such a successful organization. During the discussion, we addressed questions about our funding strategies, leadership structure, marketing efforts, audience engagement, concert programming, and the organization of our rehearsals and performances. The hour-long presentation was followed by an informal discussion with several audience members who were eager to learn more about our development. The president of ACB was highly complimentary of CIWE and informally requested that we present at the annual convention in 2025. That was a great compliment to all of us that perform and all of our supporters that have helped CIWE become such a great performing organization.

## ACB Regional Connections Conference



## Lollipops & Posies

The season finale performance, "Lollipops & Posies", again welcomed some high school youth both for pre-concert entertainment and spotlighting the winner of our annual student solo competition, Mingzhe Wu, on clarinet with a superb performance of *Carnival of Venice*. The concert theme offered a fitting conclusion to the season with a varied mix of "pop" hits from Broadway, jazz, and the Beatles as well as a standard of wind band literature: Percy Grainger's *Lincolnshire Posy*.

# A Note from the Board President



**JR Deeds**  
Board President  
Central Iowa Wind Ensemble

After finishing another successful season, let's take a moment to appreciate the people responsible for making this season special. Our leader, Christian Carichner, continues to propel us to new heights. Rich Thimmesh keeps the organization running smoothly and properly funded! And we couldn't do it without the excellent guidance and support from our friends Paul and Holly at Ferrone Olson, our arts management team.

Thank you to outgoing board members Joe Therring, Heather Hoffman-Richeson, Derrick Hawks and Fred Lange. Fred is stepping down as board member after serving for 19 years and treasurer for the past 12! What an amazing contribution. Thank you!

Please welcome three new board members recently elected to a 2-year term. Longtime CIWE musicians Rick Eichner, Gayle Lundak, Chad Thompson. We're excited to add their energy and fresh perspective to the leadership team.

For next season, we look forward to blazing new territory with innovative programs, connections with our audience, and new venues. In November, we'll start rehearsing at Valley High School and in December we'll debut in our new concert home, Valley's Staplin Performing Arts Center. This concert hall is arguably the best in the city and it represents a fantastic upgrade for the ensemble and audience. We can't wait to see you there!

Every year, each CIWE musician contributes over 100 hours of their time and talent towards our mission. It's a labor of love for all of us and we are very grateful for the support from our community of donors and supporters. **THANK YOU!** Your efforts allow CIWE to continue making a tremendous impact in our community – and great music!

Sincerely,

JR Deeds  
Board President  
Central Iowa Wind Ensemble

# Central Iowa Wind Ensemble Board Members

## **Music Director & Conductor**

Dr. Christian Carichner

## **Executive Director**

Rich Thimmesch

## **Board of Directors**

J.R. Deeds

*President*

Rose Kundel

*Vice President*

Justin Wells

*Secretary*

Fred Lange

*Treasurer*

Brian Kinan

*Director*

David Naylor

*Director*

Joe Thering

*Director*

Derrick Hawks

*Director*

Heather Hoffman-Richeson

*Director*

The Central Iowa Wind Ensemble (CIWE) is an adult symphonic band with musicians drawn from the greater Des Moines area. The ensemble was founded in 2003 by a group of central Iowa music educators under the leadership of Dr. Evan Feldman, who led the group until 2005. To this day, the ensemble maintains a strong contingent of educators, but membership has expanded to include musicians from a wide variety of musical backgrounds and occupations.

Recent recognitions include performing under the director of Colonel Jason Fettig, former director of “The President’s Own United States Marine Band” in May 2023 at the Iowa Bandmasters Association Conference and in April 2024 will perform by invitation at the Regional Conference of the Association of Concert Bands in Omaha, Nebraska.

CIWE annually performs a series of four concerts plus special events. CIWE has expanded its audiences to reach underserved constituencies by partnering with various local human services agencies. CIWE also sponsors a competition for high school music students that awards an honorarium for first, second and third place and a performance opportunity for the first-place winner.

The Central Iowa Wind Ensemble is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization registered as a corporation in the State of Iowa.

## **MISSION**

To build lifelong engagement in the arts by providing meaningful and challenging concert band experiences.

## **VISION**

The Central Iowa Wind Ensemble will be the Midwest’s premier wind ensemble performing conscientious programming to appreciative, loyal, and diverse audiences.

## **VALUES**

We believe in the power of music to positively impact people.

We believe our performances should be accessible to everyone.

# A Note from the Music Director and Conductor



**Christian Carichner**  
Music Director & Conductor  
Central Iowa Wind Ensemble

This past season has been nothing short of extraordinary, marked by a significant increase in audience attendance, an enhanced quality of performances, and a heartening rise in donations and giving. Your unwavering support has been instrumental in these successes, and we are deeply grateful for your continued commitment.

One of the highlights of our journey is the announcement of our new performance venue - the Staplin Center at Valley High School - starting this fall! This state-of-the-art facility will not only provide an exceptional acoustic experience but also allow us to connect with even more members of our community. We cannot wait for you to join us in this beautiful new space and share in the magic of live music!

Looking ahead, the 2024-2025 season promises to be one of our most diverse and exciting yet. Our programming will feature a rich tapestry of concerts, showcasing everything from timeless classics to contemporary masterpieces. We are confident that there will be something for everyone, and we invite you to embark on this musical journey with us. Our season finale - "Live Music Trivia" - promises to be the event of the year in central Iowa - don't miss it!!

As we continue to grow and reach new heights, we kindly ask for your continued support. Your generosity has been the cornerstone of our success, enabling us to bring high-quality music to Central Iowa. We encourage you to attend our concerts, spread the word about our performances, and consider making a donation to help us sustain our artistic endeavors.

Together, we can ensure that the Central Iowa Wind Ensemble remains a vibrant and integral part of our community. Thank you for being an essential part of our journey. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming concerts and celebrating the power of music with you!

With deepest gratitude and excitement,

Dr. Christian Carichner  
Music Director and Conductor  
Central Iowa Wind Ensemble

# Central Iowa Wind Ensemble Musicians

## Music Director & Conductor

Christian Carichner

## Flute

Elysia Crecelius

Sara Danielson - Piccolo

Elly Hartbecke

Sarah Howell

Joni Kinnan

Rose Kundel - *Flute Section Leader, Board Vice President*

## Oboe

Kristin Rasmussen

Colleen Schulze

## Bassoon

Janet Benest - *Double Reed Section Leader*

Emily Castelline

## Clarinet

Lauren Cassaidy

Nick Gardner

Christopher Goodson

John Kahrl

Gayle Lundak

Elizabeth Peterson

Bryce Sederburg

Katie Seehusen

Carrie Siepel - *Clarinet Section Leader*

Sura Smadi

Dana Thacker

Esther Ware

Garrett White

## Bass Clarinet

Laura Appenzeller

Anthony Pappas

## Saxophone

Samantha Gardner (Alto)

Jacob Lemons (Tenor)

Joseph Thering (Alto) - *Saxophone Section Leader, Board Director*

Jennifer Williams (Baritone)

## Trumpet

Brian Burke

Hans Decker

Dan Giesinger

Rebecca Gomez

Lynn Lange

Eric Layden

Sarah McEntee

Steve Newman - *Trumpet Section Leader*

Rich Thimmesch - *Executive Director*

## French Horn

Greg Barton

Kristy Carter-Mauss

Cristina Deeds - *Horn Section Leader*

Heather Hoffman-Richeson - *Board Director*

Spencer Marsh

## Trombone

James Deeds - *Board President*

Rick Eichner

Derrick Hawks - *Board Director*

Fred Lange - *Trombone Section Leader, Board Treasurer*

Ryan Rowley

Colton Sleister

## Euphonium

Sara Reichart

Justin Wells - *Personnel Manager, Board Secretary*

## Tuba

Brian Kinnan - *Low Brass Section Leader, Webmaster and Board Director*

Chad Thompson

## Percussion

Collin Bell

Kate Cassaidy

Josh Grant

Jaxson Mrzena

David Naylor - *Percussion Section Leader, Board Director*

Jeff Norton

Harris Rogerson

# A Note from the Executive Director



**Rich Thimmesch**  
Executive Director  
Central Iowa Wind Ensemble

*“It was an absolute pleasure to have the opportunity to make music with this marvelous band. We were able to do a clinic together and show a wildly enthusiastic ensemble just how an ensemble and a conductor gets to know each other and tries to find that special magic in music making. This is a one-of-a-kind group and a gem in this community.”*

- Colonel Jason Fetting, The President's Own Marine Band

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we reflect on the past year, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the incredible journey we have shared. Our collective efforts have not only advanced our mission but also strengthened our community in ways we could have only dreamed.

**Achievements and Milestones:** This year has been one of remarkable progress and growth. With each concert, we take our audience on an emotional and educational journey, using the vehicle of music to transport us. One audience member shared,

*“I was completely captivated by the coordination of the video with the music. It made me feel like I was actually there, taking a trip to another planet.”*

Such feedback underscores the impact of our work and inspires us to continue innovating. We have invested for the future while navigating an increase in costs. One of our investments has been a promotional video telling the story and experiences of the Central Iowa Wind Ensemble. This video will be a key component of our institutional marketing plan for years to come and represents a significant investment in our future.

We are also proud to continue supporting outstanding young musicians in our area. The Amy Krug solo competition drew many student entries this year and we awarded \$1750 to three outstanding instrumentalists.

**Overcoming Challenges:** While we experienced a budget shortfall this season, it was partially offset by a 29% increase in donations collected at concerts, coupled with a 23% increase in the size of our audiences. This tremendous growth is a testament to the unwavering support from our community and the hard work of our team.

Sincerely,

Rich Thimmesch  
Executive Director  
Central Iowa Wind Ensemble

# Community Partners



## **BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF CENTRAL IOWA**

The Central Iowa Wind Ensemble (CIWE) partnership with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Iowa provided amazing drawings for the Ensemble to use during the October 29, 2023 performance of “Let’s Go West”. Students had the opportunity to listen to the selections from the Central Iowa Wind Ensemble and interpret those pieces in their art.

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CIWE has partnered with Knock and Drop Iowa for the past three years for the Holiday Spectacular concert in December collecting food donations for Des Moines’ Latinx community. Latinx Immigrants of Iowa have also joined us for this concert along with the Des Moines Public Library - both providing information and books for our attendees.

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CIWE partnered with Mainstream Living of Ames, Iowa for their “Holiday Spectacular” performance on Friday, December 15 at the Ames City Auditorium. Since 1975, Mainstream Living has provided residential and community support services to individuals with disabilities.

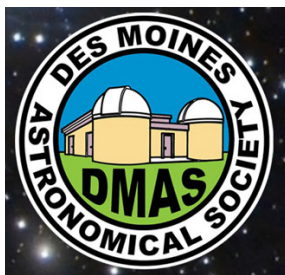
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## **Big Brothers Big Sisters®** OF CENTRAL IOWA

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Iowa develops positive relationships that have a direct and lasting effect on the lives of young people making them an excellent Community Partner for the Central Iowa Wind Ensemble. The Ensemble believes that music should be accessible to everyone and in the power of music to positively impact people of all ages and stages.

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The Des Moines Astronomical Society is a club of amateur astronomers dedicated to sharing their passion for astronomy with visitors to Ashton Observatory located in the dark skies northeast of Des Moines. Our “Out of This World” concert on Sunday, March 3, 2024 provided an excellent opportunity for us to partner with DMAS making a musical connection with images from outer space.

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The Central Iowa Wind Ensemble partnered with Families Forward for the May 5, 2024 performance of “Lollipops & Posies”. Families Forward has a food pantry that serves over 17,000 Iowans and a Child Development Center. We collected food items for the pantry as well as much needed items for the Child Development Center. We look forward to partnering with them again next year.



# Our Contributors

## GRAND BENEFACTORS \$5,000 and above

Bravo Greater Des Moines  
Iowa Arts Council/National Endowment for the Arts

## BENEFACTORS \$1,000 and above

Farm Bureau Financial Services  
Fredrikson & Byron Foundation  
JR & Cristina Deeds  
KCL Engineering  
Polk County Board of Supervisors  
Chad Thompson  
Heuss Printing - In-kind

## SPONSOR \$500 - \$999

Greater Iowa Credit Union  
West Bancorporation Foundation  
Rick Eichner & Gayle Lundak  
Donald Lamberti  
Tony Pappas-Garton  
Richard & Karen Thimmesch  
Brian & Joni Kinnan - In-kind

## PATRON \$250 - \$499

Brokers Clearing House  
Data Power Technology - In Kind  
Rieman Music  
Mr. & Mrs. Ronnie Hallenbeck  
Fred & Lynn Lange  
Donald Lee  
Renee & Steven Newman  
Peter Stoltenow  
Justin & Emily Wells

## CONTRIBUTOR \$100 - \$249

Emerson Electric  
First National Bank  
Jeannie Balk  
Greg Barton  
Karla & Paul Brizzi  
James & Jean Deeds  
Jeremy & Elly Hartbecke  
George & Linda Hertz  
Richard Hoenig  
Sam James  
Rose Kundel  
Jacob Lemons  
Jay & Cherri Nugent  
Norma Pappas  
Susan Pelka  
Linda Robbins Coleman

## CONTRIBUTOR \$100 - \$249

Darren Sleister  
Adam Thimmesch  
Jeffrey & Carolyn Wells

## FRIEND \$50 - \$99

Jane Arts  
Angie Balk  
Julie Bruns  
Julie Cassaidy  
Elysia Crecelius  
Phillip De Lorimer  
Diane Drake  
Jeffrey Dvork  
Brent Engelbert  
Samantha & Nick Gardner  
Gary Lemons  
Andrea Spoelstra  
Sally Walsh  
Steve Wiederin  
Jennifer Williams  
Heather Hoffman-Richeson - In-kind

## Honors & Memorials

Jane Arts - In Honor of Heather Hoffman-Richeson  
Ginger Laidlaw - In Honor of Lynn Lange

IOWA ARTS COUNCIL



GREATER DES MOINES



POLK COUNTY  
Board of Supervisors



FARM BUREAU  
FINANCIAL SERVICES



Fredrikson

Foundation

KCL  
ENGINEERING

# Financials



## BALANCE SHEET - JUNE 30, 2024

### ASSETS

Cash	\$25,571.09
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$25,571.09</b>

### LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Deferred Revenues	\$3,337.50
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$3,337.50</b>

### EQUITY

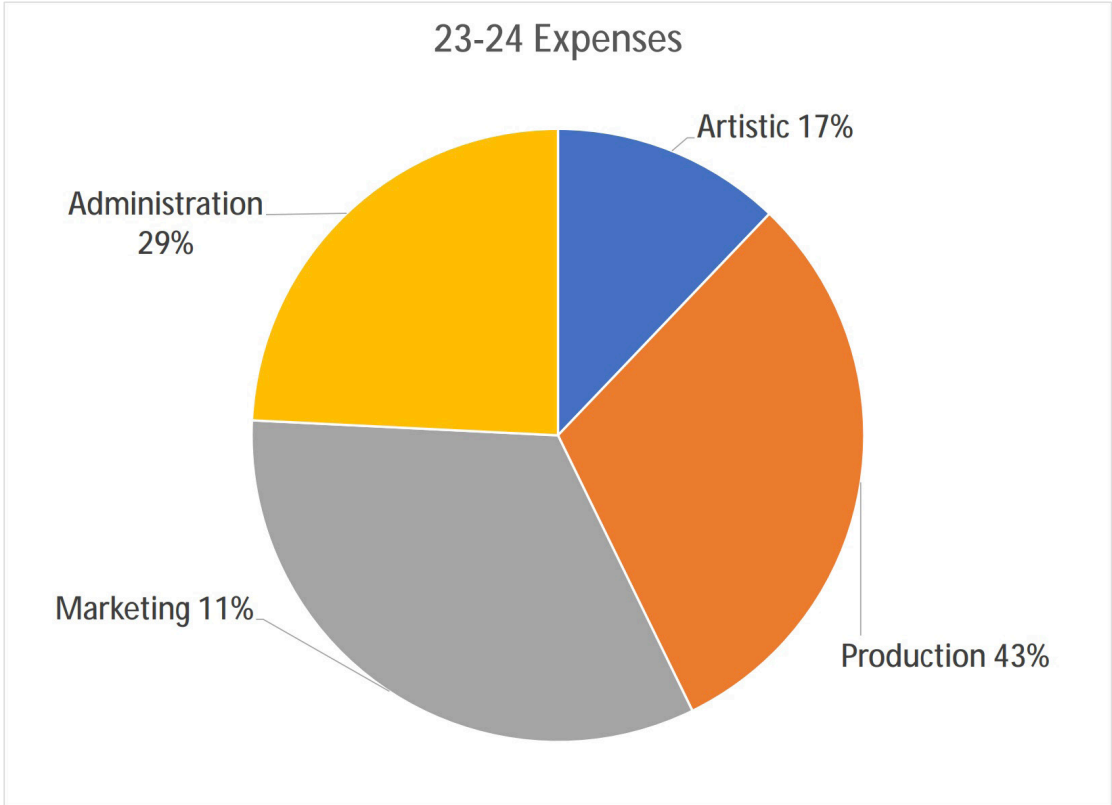
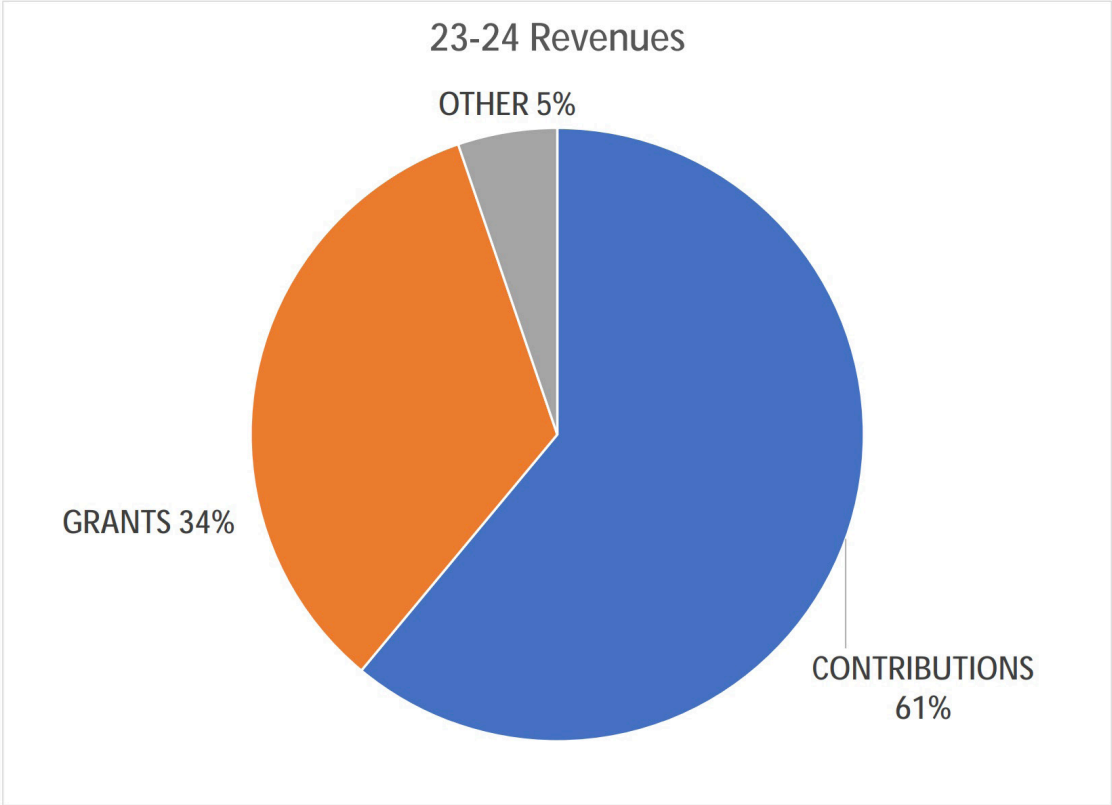
Opening Balance Equity	\$3,291.83
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$24,575.71
Net Income	(\$5,633.95)
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$22,233.59</b>

<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>\$25,571.09</b>
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## PROFIT & LOSS - JUNE 30, 2024

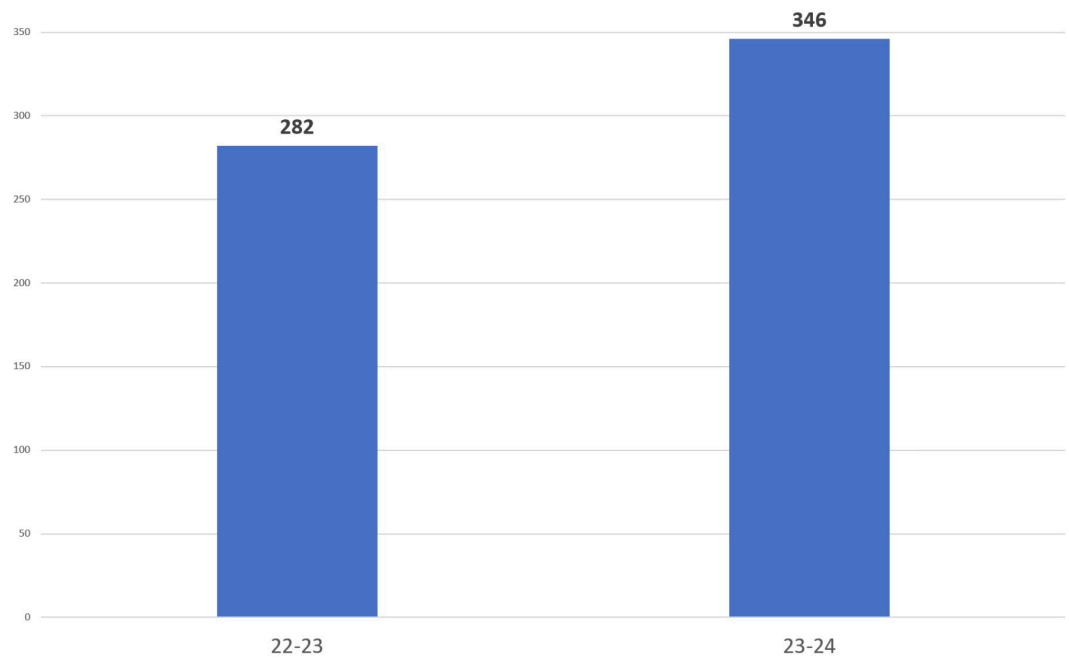
	22-23 ACTUAL	23-24 BUDGET	23-24 ACTUAL
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Contributions - Members	\$4,640	\$4,300	\$7,309
Contributions - Concerts	\$2,484	\$3,750	\$4,145
Contributions - Individuals	\$2,117	\$4,280	\$3,285
Contributions - Business	\$7,842	\$4,500	\$6,100
Contributions - Foundations	\$6,250	\$3,500	\$2,500
Contributions - Government	\$13,238	\$13,000	\$12,900
Interest Income			\$430
Miscellaneous Income			\$1,429
Scholarship Fees	\$42		\$141
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$36,612</b>	<b>\$33,330</b>	<b>\$38,239</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Artistic Expense	\$3,725	\$5,200	\$5,325
Concert Production Expense	\$19,313	\$10,750	\$13,436
Marketing Expense	\$5,706	\$10,255	\$14,490
Administrative Expense	\$5,992	\$7,125	\$10,623
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$34,736</b>	<b>\$33,330</b>	<b>\$43,873</b>
<b>NET REVENUE (EXPENSE)</b>	<b>\$1,876</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>(\$5,634)</b>

# Financials

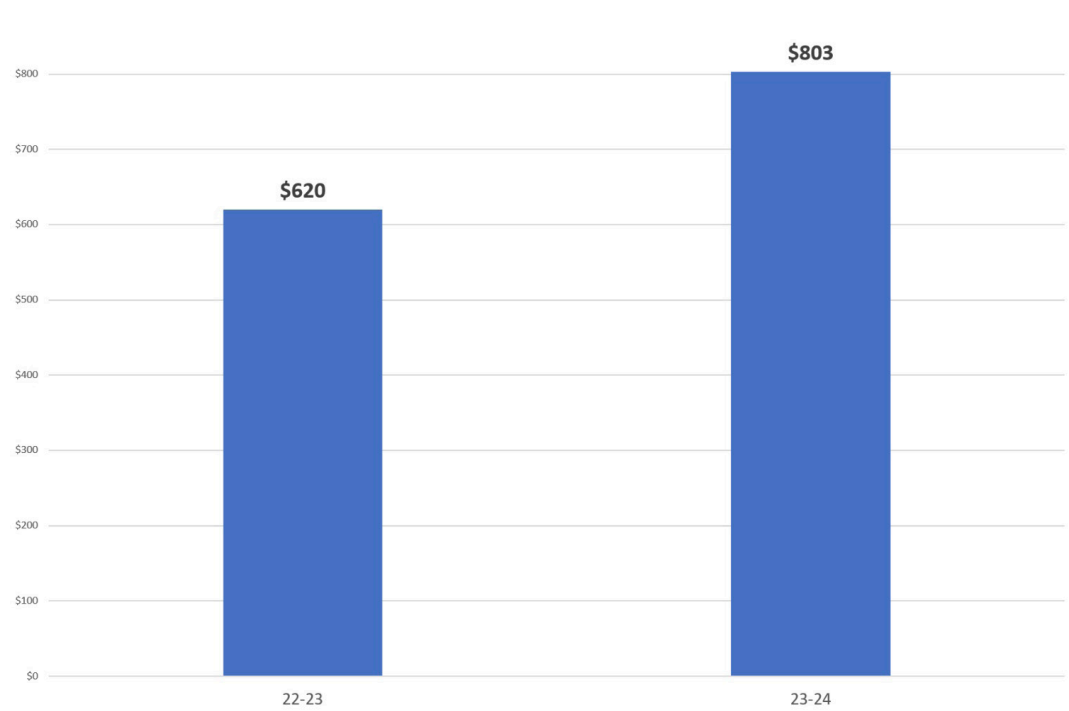


# Concert Statistics

**Average Concert Attendance**



**Average Concert Contributions**



# 2024-2025 Season

# *Join Us!*



Christian Carichner, Music Director & Conductor

*Join us for the*  
**2024-2025  
SEASON!**

RESERVE YOUR  
**FREE TICKETS**  
AND GET MORE  
INFORMATION AT  
[CIWE.ORG](http://CIWE.ORG)

## A SOUSA SPECTACULAR

Sunday, October 27, 2024 • 3 p.m.  
Franklin Events Center

## DECK THE HALLS

Saturday, December 14, 2024 • 7:30 p.m.  
MET Recital Hall, ISU

Sunday, December 15, 2024 • 3 p.m.  
Staplin Performing Arts Center

## EPIC!

Sunday, March 2, 2025 • 3 p.m.  
Staplin Performing Arts Center

## LIVE MUSIC TRIVIA

Sunday, May 4, 2025 • 3 p.m.  
Staplin Performing Arts Center

# [www.ciwe.org](http://www.ciwe.org)