



OPERA MONTANA



Nathan Norby

DEAR FRIENDS,

As I look back at our 2024-25 season, I am filled with gratitude and pride for all we've accomplished together. Our mainstage productions—*Maria de Buenos Aires*, *Sweeney Todd*, and *Hansel & Gretel*—drew standing ovations, packed houses, and record-breaking ticket sales. Beyond the stage, the third season of *Wheels of Harmony*, our innovative school tour, continued its mission of sharing Indigenous culture and music with young audiences across the region.

In addition to our mainstage and educational work, we're proud to have expanded our community programs and partnerships. The Veterans Chorus continues to provide a meaningful space for camaraderie and service through song, while *Hansel & Gretel* offered professional performance experience for 20 youth choristers, deepening our commitment to the Youth Chorus. The *Opera for All* free ticket program made opera and musical theatre accessible to those who face financial barriers, reaffirming our commitment to making opera and musical theater a space for everyone. And along the way, we collaborated with no less than 12 community partners in performance, free public talks, and engagement opportunities.

None of this would be possible without you, our community of patrons, volunteers, and supporters. Thank you for showing up and for standing by our side. Take a look in the following pages to witness your impact!

With gratitude,



Susan Miller, General Director



MAINSTAGE PRODUCTIONS

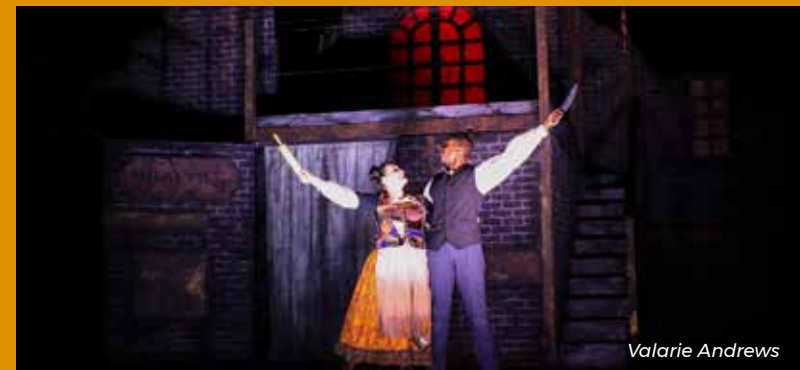
This season our 16 mainstage performances brought a vibrant mix of opera and musical theatre to Montana. We welcomed over 5,120 audience members, deepened community engagement, and inspired a broad range of patrons – from life-long opera lovers to first time theatre attendees! These mainstage productions remain central to our mission of community and collaboration through the arts.



Nathan Norby



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Valarie Andrews

BY THE NUMBERS

PERFORMANCES

16

Mainstage

35

Wheels of Harmony

8

Veterans Chorus

14

Community

73

TOTAL
PERFORMANCES



AUDIENCES

5,120

Mainstage

3,076

Wheels of Harmony

4,700

Veterans Chorus

1,720

Community

14,616

PEOPLE SERVED

WHEELS OF HARMONY

Wheels of Harmony is Opera Montana's touring ensemble. These artists brought students together throughout the state to learn about Indigenous culture, music and traditional opera. Traveling over 1,353 miles, Wheels of Harmony educated 3,076 students in 35 performances around Montana. Through school visits and public concerts Wheels of Harmony fosters dialogue, celebrates cultural heritage, and expands access to the arts to mostly rural and tribal schools.



VETERANS CHORUS



Opera Montana is proud to serve those who served by providing free voice and music lessons for members of the Veterans Chorus.

The Opera Montana Veterans Chorus brings together local veterans in song, building community through shared musical expression. The chorus performs at commemorative events throughout the year, including Veterans Day, Memorial Day, and Independence Day. This season, the ensemble gave 8 performances – including appearances at Shakespeare in the Parks and the Bozeman Bucks game – reaching over 4,700 people. Through music, the Veterans Chorus honors service, fosters camaraderie, and shares the voices of those who served with audiences across Montana.



Shawn Raeke

OPERA MONTANA YOUTH CHORUS

Opera Montana's Youth Chorus offers young singers the opportunity to perform alongside professional artists in fully staged productions. This season, over 20 children took the stage in our mainstage production of *Hansel and Gretel* and performed at our Block Party Event in August. Through this experience, participants gained valuable performance skills, built confidence, and developed a deeper connection to the performing arts. The Youth Chorus plays a vital role in nurturing the next generation of performers and arts supporters.



Nathan Norby

OPERA FOR ALL

Opera/Musical Theatre For All is a new program designed to keep Opera Montana's performances accessible to anyone who would like to see them, but finds the cost of a ticket prohibitive. This season, we provided 61 tickets for individuals and families to get the opportunity to experience the magic of live performance! This program reflects our commitment to inclusivity and our belief that opera and musical theatre should be experienced by all.



“Due to the OPERA FOR ALL program, I have been able to attend some wonderful performances, that I never would have been able to manage, with my tight, financial budget.

Also, I was able to introduce friends to the joys of opera, who had never previously attended. Now they, too, are lifetime fans.

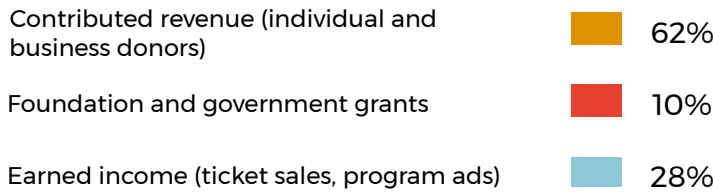
Thanks again, so much.”

-Patrick O'Neil

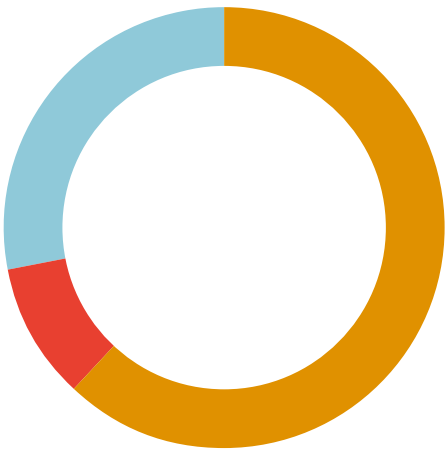
FINANCIALS

Amounts represent unaudited financials

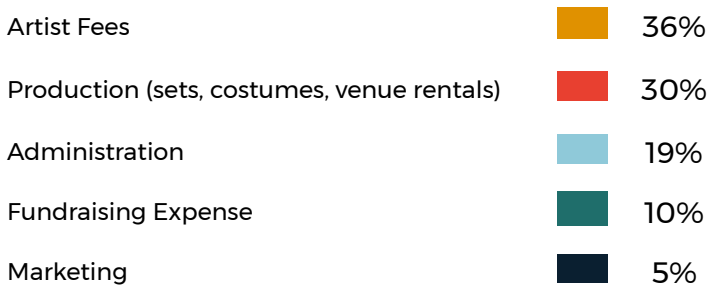
REVENUE



Total Revenue
\$990,330



EXPENSES



Total Expense
\$982,431



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Valarie Andrews



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THEY ARE VITAL TO OUR MISSION!**

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OUR MISSION

Opera Montana inspires and creates community and collaboration through world-class opera, musical theater, and educational engagement.

OUR WORKING VALUES

People First
Excellence
Accountability & Integrity
Curiosity & Growth Mindset
Embracing Challenges

Opera Montana is committed to the principles of Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in everything we do.

Nathan Norby