

Francis Winspear Centre for Music | Edmonton Symphony Orchestra

# ANNUAL REPORT 2023/2024





*The Winspear Centre and Edmonton Symphony Orchestra graciously acknowledge that we reside on Treaty 6 Territory, the ancestral and traditional lands of the Cree, the Nakoda Sioux, the Dene, the Saulteaux, as well as the Métis and Inuit who have lived on and cared for these lands for generations. We acknowledge the Traditional Knowledge Keepers and Elders, both past and present, and are grateful for their contributions that helped keep this land beautiful and for sharing with us their rich artistic, musical and cultural traditions.*

*We make this acknowledgement as an act of reconciliation.*

*On the Cover: Symphony in the Square, held at Sir Winston Churchill Square, attracted 30,000 people over two days and nights in September 2023—an overwhelming success! The free event’s accessible setting allowed many community members to enjoy a live symphony performance for the first time—38% of attendees had not experienced an ESO performance in the past.*



*The Magical Music of Harry Potter, April 11, 2024.*

*Engaged and appreciative audiences, inside and outside our venue. It's why we do what we do.*



*Symphony in the Square, September 2, 2023.*

# Transforming So Music Continues To Enrich Our Lives



The 2023/2024 season for the ESO/Winspear Centre was defined by one word: transformation.

For us, this has meant trying new things,

evolving how we operate, and slowly reshaping our view of what it means to be an arts organization in a dynamic, changing world. And while transformation is challenging, it also yields unexpected rewards. We stewarded the organization to many high points this past season, emphasizing there is a place for orchestras, music, and live events in our current world and the local Edmonton community. Indeed, our role may be more important than ever.

## Mapping the Path to Sustainability

A new strategic plan for the Winspear Centre and ESO began to take shape in January 2024. Our purpose, to fulfill the human need to make and share music, remains unchanged and the new strategic plan provides a guide to fulfilling that purpose in a changing landscape. The plan is included as an appendix to this report.

## Focusing on Fiscal Responsibility & Acoustic Excellence

While we closed out the season with an expected financial deficit, we invested in our work to adapt and thrive in a constantly changing operating landscape.

This included continued pandemic recovery and strategic investments in modernizing our acoustic and technical systems. We are confident our transformation efforts are moving the organization towards a sustainable future.

## Expanding to Better Serve a Growing Community

The Winspear Expansion continued to take shape during the year, with the base building structure now completed. We are especially grateful to the Government of Alberta for committing an additional \$12.8 million to the project, helping to significantly close the funding gap created by construction cost escalations precipitated by world events of the past few years. The Winspear Centre is now that much closer to fulfilling the ambitious musical vision of Dr. Francis Winspear over a quarter-century ago. Our organization is now readying for operations, and we look forward to welcoming the community into the completed Winspear Centre in 2026.

## Grateful to our Many Supporters

Thank you to all the governments and granting bodies that provide generous support to our organization. Thank you to the dedicated Winspear & ESO teams, to the musicians in the orchestra, and to Annemarie Petrov for her continued leadership. And of course, thank you to our valued donors, sponsors, volunteers, fellow board members, and the Young Leadership Council for your inspiring generosity.

*Sam Jenkins, Chair, Board of Directors*



# Strengthening Our Community Through Music

At the heart of our organization is its purpose: to fulfill the human need to make and share music. Over the 2023-2024 season, this belief was brought to life as we shared in the joy, celebration, and sense of community that only music can create.

The Edmonton Symphony Orchestra celebrated its 72nd season, and the Winspear Centre marked 27 years as a cornerstone for artistic excellence in Edmonton. We deepened our commitment to making music accessible to all while creating moments that resonate far beyond the concert hall.

## Summer Performance Season in the Community

Between June and September, our ESO was out in the community, sharing and celebrating music. *ESO Outdoors* brought free concerts to Devon, Fort Saskatchewan, Stony Plain, and Beaumont this year. Our four-day festival, *Symphony at Snow Valley*, (previously titled *Symphony Under the Sky*), held for the first time at Snow Valley Ski Hill proved we now have another viable outdoor venue.

The ESO returned to Churchill Square for *Symphony in the Square* in September 2023, after a hiatus of eight years. Over two nights, we presented *Disney in Concert: A Dream is a Wish* to 30,000 people.

*Symphony in the Square* was a resounding success, providing the first live orchestra experience for many who attended. Events like this, which see the community gather to share music on such a large scale create a lasting and positive community impact.

The ESO extends special thanks to the City of Edmonton and our many other sponsors and partners for their support of our outdoor concerts with relocation funding while Hawrelak Park is under renovation. We look forward to presenting more accessible summer concerts in the community.

## Collaborating with the CPO

Inside the Winspear Centre, we had a busy year even by pre-pandemic standards, with a full slate of rental and *Live at the Winspear* concerts, and an ESO



Annemarie Petrov.

season that saw many sold-out houses and landmark events. There are simply too many musical highlights in a season to cover them all here,

but a particularly proud moment for the ESO was our collaboration with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra (CPO) for *Alberta in Harmony: Moving Mahler*. It was the first time our two orchestras have performed together since the Winspear Centre opened in 1997.

## Strong Demand for Education Programming

Programming through the *Tommy Banks Centre for Musical Creativity* was in high demand this year, with many sold-out programs and long waitlists. The *Youth Orchestra of Northern Alberta* celebrated its 11th year, with 240 students accessing the benefits of free musical programming. Newer programs like “Musical Mornings” also grew in response to community demand.

## Acknowledging the Team Who Make it Happen

It takes a resourceful and tireless group of people to move our organization forward. Thank you to our orchestra musicians and leaders, including Cosette Justo Valdez, Michael Stern, and Robert Uchida, and the many local and visiting artists who have graced our stage and thrilled audience. To our dedicated Board of Directors, administration team and volunteers, our generous donors, sponsors and funding agencies – we simply couldn’t make the music we are so fortunate to share without you. Thank You.

*Annemarie Petrov, President & CEO*



# Concertmaster Reflection: A Season of Celebration & Harmony



*Robert Uchida, Concertmaster.*

Our 2023/2024 Season was special in many ways. The orchestra reached the community in new outdoor venues in our summer season, collaborated with our old friends in the Calgary Philharmonic and the Edmonton Opera, featured international soloists and conductors, and 13 soloists from within the orchestra!

## Highlights of the Year

Our concert series ranged from New Music, to Pops, to Education, to Classical Masterworks. Each series brought the ESO to new audiences and old friends with the excellence you expect from our orchestra.

Our New Music series welcomed back our former Chief Conductor, Alexander Prior; our Resident Conductor, Cosette Justo-Valdes; and Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser. It was a joy to see this series begin to grow, featuring music written by Canadian composers, many with Edmonton connections!

Our Pops series welcomed back an ESO and audience favourite, Jack Everly! I always love the old-school Hollywood sound Jack pulls from the orchestra. Music Director Emeritus, William Eddins, conducted a concert celebrating the 100th anniversary of Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*. Bill does this absolutely brilliantly, and the audience (and orchestra) was delighted! Of course, no Pops series would be complete without Bob Bernhardt, and we were thrilled to welcome him back to the podium many times this season.

Our Education and Symphony for Kids series played for packed houses of kiddos hearing the ESO for the first time. We featured a show written by the marvellous conductor of the Edmonton Youth Orchestra, Michael Massey. Mr. Massey's Heavenly Mozart program was a huge hit, and a great reminder of the wonderful work he and others do in musical education here in Edmonton!

Our Masters Series included a huge range of repertoire – audience favourites, and pieces the ESO hasn't performed in years. Michael Stern served as our Artistic Advisor for a second season, and led the orchestra in three magnificent concerts, including the Haydn Sinfonia Concertante featuring Ewald Cheung, Julie Hereish, June Kim, and Bianca Chambul – all members of your ESO!

## Alberta in Harmony: Moving Mahler

The collaboration with our friends in the Calgary Philharmonic was an uplifting and inspiring event. Playing Mahler's *Third Symphony*, being part of the sound, sharing this monumental repertoire with our audience, and mostly feeling the humanity on-stage, was a truly incredible experience.

## Farewell to Colleagues

Our dear colleagues, John McPherson (Principal Trombone) and Zoë Sellers (Second Violin) both retired at the end of the season after 41 and 39 years respectively. We wish them all the very best in their next chapters!

Thank you,

Robert Uchida, Concertmaster,  
The John & Barbara Poole Family Concertmaster Chair



# Musician Reflection: A Memorable First Season

The ESO's 23/24 season was my first season with the orchestra, and it was nothing short of amazing. There were many highlights that made the season very special for me, but three of the biggest highlights were *Symphony in the Square: Disney in Concert*, *Alberta in Harmony: Moving Mahler*, and *Brahms' Symphony No. 3* with guest artist Anthony Trionfo.

Performing *Disney in Concert* for audiences of thousands, with Broadway calibre singers, movie projections and even fireworks, was a true spectacle. It's the closest I've ever come to how I would imagine rockstars must feel! The vast reach and scope of this concert felt incredibly special, as it drew crowds of people from all over the city, a whopping 38% of whom had never been to an ESO concert before. It was community outreach at its finest, as well as incredible advertising for the symphony, and I hope that it inspires the ESO to do more shows like this in the future.

*Alberta in Harmony: Moving Mahler* had a similar effect on the community, drawing people from all over Alberta. As a new member of the orchestra, I was already starstruck to be working in the ESO, but then to have the opportunity to perform such a colossal work in collaboration with another top-tier Canadian orchestra, all within my first few weeks on the job, had me practically pinching myself to make sure I wasn't dreaming! Touring and performing in another city was also a thrill in itself, and to present the ESO to new audiences across the province gave me feelings of intense pride. I strongly believe that introducing the ESO to new audiences on a provincial, and maybe someday even a national, scale, whether through touring, making recordings, etc. is an exceptional way to advertise our excellence as an organization and as an orchestra to the broader Canadian public.



As a flutist I would be remiss if I didn't mention *Brahms' Symphony No. 3*, featuring guest flute soloist Anthony Trionfo performing CPE Bach's *Flute Concerto in D minor*. I think it's wonderful that the orchestra invites so many renowned guest artists and conductors from around the world to perform with us each season. It certainly keeps up on the world stage and draws crowds to our concerts. But I also think it's excellent that the orchestra gives its own members opportunities to shine. The *Music of Courage and Resistance* concert was another example of this, which featured our musicians Ewald Cheung, Julie Hereish, June Kim, and Bianca Chambul as soloists. Concerts like this help our audience get to know and become fans of us as individuals, similarly to sports teams, and it demonstrates the excellence and pride in our own musicians. Anthony Trionfo invited Liz Koch and myself to perform his encore piece with him as soloists at the front of the stage, and that was an incredibly thrilling and special moment that I'll never forget.

*Sarah Pollard,  
Assistant Principal Flute & Piccolo*



# Meet the Musicians: Edmonton Symphony Orchestra 2023/24

From Mahler to movie music, our resident artists play it all. They're a team of 56 dedicated musicians who played a total of 86 ESO concerts during the season, engaging a combined total audience of more than 100,000.

## RESIDENT CONDUCTOR

Cosette Justo Valdés

## ARTISTIC ADVISOR

Michael Stern

## VIOLIN I

Robert Uchida, Concertmaster  
*The John & Barbara Poole Family*  
*Concertmaster Chair*

Eric Buchmann, Associate  
Concertmaster  
*Arliss and Tevie Miller Associate*  
*Concertmaster Chair*

Broderick Olson  
Ewald Cheung  
Joanna Ciapka-Sangster  
Laura Veeze  
Anna Kozak  
Aiyana Anderson-Howatt  
Anita Walsh

## VIOLIN II

Dianne New (1)  
Susan Flook (2)  
Heather Bergen  
Yue Deng  
Zoë Sellers  
Yeeun Ha  
Danielle Green  
Buon Park

## VIOLA

Keith Hamm (1)  
Ethan Filner (2)  
Clayton Leung  
Rhonda Henshaw  
Stefan Jungkind

## CELLO

Rafael Hoekman (1)  
*The Stuart & Winona Davis Principal*  
*Cello Chair*  
Julie Hereish (2)  
Ronda Metszies  
Meran Currie-Roberts  
Derek Gomez  
Victor Pipkin

## BASS

Hilda Cowie (1)  
Chris Jones (4)  
Max Cardilli (5)  
Janice Quinn (4)  
Doug Ohashi  
Chantel Leung  
Rob Aldridge

## FLUTE

Elizabeth Koch (1)  
Sarah Pollard (2)

## OBOE

June Kim (1)  
Paul Schieman (2)  
*The Steven & Day LePoole Assistant*  
*Principal Oboe Chair*

## CLARINET

Julianne Scott (1)  
David Quinn (2)

## BASSOON

Bianca Chambul (1)  
Edith Stacey (2)

## HORN

Allene Hackleman (1)  
Megan Evans (2)  
Ryan Garbett (2)  
Donald Plumb (2)

## TRUMPET

Robin Doyon (1)  
Frédéric Payant (2)

## TROMBONE

John McPherson (1)  
Kathryn Macintosh (2)

## BASS TROMBONE

Tyler Cairns (1)

## TUBA

Scott Whetham (1)

## TIMPANI

Barry Nemish (1)

## PERCUSSION

Martin Bui (1)

## HARP

Nora Bumanis (1)

(1) Principal  
(2) Assistant Principal  
(3) Acting Principal  
(4) Acting Assistant Principal  
(5) On Leave

## LAUREATE & EMERITUS ARTISTS

William Eddins, Music Director  
Emeritus  
Uri Mayer, Conductor Laureate  
Charles Hudelson, Principal Clarinet  
Emeritus  
Alvin Lowrey, Principal Trumpet  
Emeritus

## ORCHESTRA PERSONNEL

Eric Filpula, Orchestra Personnel  
Manager  
Chole Geller, Librarian

## RETIRING MUSICIANS

Zoe Sellers, Violin II  
John McPherson, (1), Trombone

## RESIGNING MUSICIANS

Max Cardilli, (5), Bass  
Doug Ohashi, Bass



# Decades of Music Making: Saluting Two ESO Retiring Musicians



*Zoe Sellers, Violin II.*

The Edmonton Symphony Orchestra said goodbye to two musicians with more than 80 years of combined tenure with the ESO at the end of the 2023/24 season.

**Zoë Sellers** began her musical career in Edmonton with studies at age three. She played with the National Youth Orchestra of Canada before auditioning for the ESO in 1985 and winning a position in the 2<sup>nd</sup> violin section.

Highlights of her 38-year career with the ESO include sharing the stage with Luciano Pavarotti, performing Mahler 8 with the Calgary Philharmonic, and the opening of the Winspear Centre in 1997. Tours with the ESO also stand out as favourite memories: the tour to Expo 86 in Vancouver; The Northern Tour in 1994; and the ESO's celebrated performance at Carnegie Hall. Many ESO audiences will remember Sellers' tradition of bringing a fully lit mini Christmas tree onstage at holiday concerts to sit on the stage beside her chair.



*John McPherson, Principal Trombone.*

**John McPherson**, Principal Trombonist for 44 seasons is a native of Edmonton. Before joining the ESO, he played with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra, Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony, National Ballet of Canada Orchestra, and the Canadian Chamber Ensemble.

At the ESO he served as a soloist, arranger, and the orchestra's fourth Composer-in-Residence. The ESO performed eight of his compositions and at least 50 of his arrangements. In 2020, McPherson had his ESO conducting debut, leading a small ensemble in his "Concerto for Two Horns." In addition to works composed for the ESO, he was commissioned by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, I Musici de Montréal, Edmonton Recital Society, Debut String Quartet, and Northwestern Polytechnic (formerly Grande Prairie Regional College). His works have been performed by the ESO, Toronto Symphony Orchestra, I Musici de Montréal, Victoria Symphony Orchestra, Mark Fewer, Robert Uchida, Caroline Stinson, William Eddins, Lidia Khaner, Hammerhead Consort, NOWAge Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra of Edmonton, and the Debut, Beau, Polyphonie, and XIA string quartets.

# The ESO 2023 Summer Season

ESO Outdoors, Symphony at Snow Valley, and Symphony in the Square

*The ESO's 2023 summer season was filled with shared musical experiences that brought people together. It takes the ESO out of the concert hall and into communities in and around Edmonton.*

*ESO Outdoors*, initially a pandemic initiative led by our musicians, has become a key part of our summer season. Summer 2023 saw *ESO Outdoors* bring free concerts to Devon, Fort Saskatchewan, Stony Plain and Beaumont. These concerts were programmed with light and accessible classical favourites by well-known composers like Handel, Mozart, and Bach. Attendance doubled from Summer 2022, a sign that that these concerts are becoming a beloved fixture in the Greater Edmonton Area.

2022 marked the last year of *Symphony Under the Sky* in Hawrelak Park before a three-year park rehabilitation closure. In summer 2023, we piloted a replacement event at the Snow Valley Ski Club. Moving to a new location took great planning across our organization, and ultimately led to a resounding success. Audiences warmly received *Symphony at Snow Valley* over four nights and two programs, led by fan-favourite guest conductor Bob Bernhardt. *Summer Favourites* featured well-known selections

from the light classics and pops repertoire, and *Beethoven, Mozart & Mendelssohn* featured the ESO debut of violin soloist Angela Ryu.

Summer 2023 closed out with the return of the ESO to Churchill Square for the first time since 2016.

*Symphony in the Square* presented *Disney in Concert: A Dream is a Wish* to a total audience of nearly 30,000 people, far beyond expectations. Conducted by Bob Bernhardt, the concerts featured Broadway-caliber vocalists performing Disney hits with film clips of the Disney shows projected on a screen. Thanks to generous support from the City of Edmonton and other funders, we provided a concert experience to many first-timers to the ESO—38% of attendees had never seen the ESO perform before.

The overwhelming success of *Symphony in the Square* underscores the community's desire to hear professional music in an accessible setting. It was a beautiful reminder of the power of music to bring people together.



*The audience at Symphony at Snow Valley.*



# Edmonton Symphony Orchestra 2023/24 Season

*The ESO's indoor concert season included concerts across styles and genres for people of all ages, interests, and musical backgrounds.*

The season kicked off with two performances of *Hans Zimmer: Phenomenal Film Scores* to sold-out audiences. Next, we welcomed back Music Director Emeritus Bill Eddins to conduct the orchestra as well as play Olga, our Canadian-built harpsichord for *Eddins Plays Bach*.

## Movie Music: By Popular Demand

The enthusiastic reception to previous movie music concerts, and consistent passionate pleas to feature more film composers, led to the pilot of an unofficial movie music series this season. We featured the music of John Williams, Ennio Morricone, and James Horner, and three concerts of *The Magical Music of Harry Potter*. These concerts were popular and accessible, and brought new audiences to the ESO.

## ESO-Calgary Phil Co-Production

November brought a very special concert to our hall. The co-production between the ESO and the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra of *Alberta in Harmony*:

*Moving Mahler* marked the first time in 27 years that our two orchestras have performed together. The large force of musicians required to play Mahler's *Symphony NO. 3* made it the perfect opportunity for collaboration – neither the ESO nor Calgary Phil have enough musicians on their own.

Dubbed the "*Ballad of Alberta*," the sold-out Winspear concert audience included Albertans from Edmonton, Calgary, Grande Prairie, Athabasca, Bragg Creek, and other rural areas. We heard from many patrons that it was their first return to the symphony since the pandemic. It was a can't-miss event that strengthened the ties between our orchestras.

## Christmas at the Winspear

The holidays are always a special time for ESO audiences. Audience favourite *Handel's Messiah* returned once again featuring the Richard Eaton Singers; a program of traditional carols at *A Lightly Classical Christmas*, *A Very Merry Pops* featured vocal



*Members of the ESO and Calgary Phil at Moving Mahler, November 11, 2023.*

soloist Dee Donasco; and *Hollywood for the Holidays*, returning for the second year.

### A Diverse Line-up of Concerts

ESO Special *A Tribute to Joni Mitchell* welcomed acclaimed Canadian singer and songwriter Sarah Slean to perform orchestral Joni Mitchell arrangements by Grammy Award-winning artist Vince Mendoza. Artistic Advisor Michael Stern was at the baton for *Stern Conducts Music of Courage & Resistance*, a unique program that featured uplifting and reflective music composed in times of struggle. The Davis Concert Organ alongside the orchestra, was featured in a program aptly named *The Organ Concert*.

### New Music, Emerging Composers

Our New Music series provides a platform for living, female, Indigenous, LGBTQ+, and young artists and composers, with concerts curated by guest conductors and artists. New Music concerts highlighted collaboration, featuring artists and ensembles of other disciplines; *Of Time and Flames* featured spoken word poet Wakefield Brewster, and *The Wolf of*

*Lafontaine: Song & Dance* welcomed Ballet Edmonton and Chronos Vocal Ensemble to the stage. Another unique collaboration, *Celeigh Cardinal with the ESO*, hosted Edmonton's own folk-soul songstress for an evening of orchestral arrangements of her own music.

### Family-friendly Music

There were many opportunities for children and families to engage with the ESO through our *Symphony for Kids* series and our Family Day Weekend concert, which featured a partnership with Classical Kids Live! for *Gershwin's Magic Key*.

### Featuring Our Own

The season closer was a three-concert run of *Marvelous Melodies: Dvořák's Cello Concerto*, conducted by Alain Trudel and featuring young Canadian cellist Stéphane Tétreault, as well as a composition by ESO Principal Trombone and past Composer-in-Residence John McPherson. This moving concert was a fitting conclusion to a season that highlighted the talent, culture, and vibrancy that Edmonton is lucky to call its own.





# Our Dedicated Winspear & ESO Volunteer Team

*Our Volunteers play a vital role enhancing the concert and hospitality experience of all those who come through our doors. Together, they contributed more than 60,000 hours of volunteer service in 2023/24. Thank you, Volunteers, for all you do!*

## The Winspear Centre & ESO Board of Directors

**Sam Jenkins, Chair**

**Oryssia Lennie, Past Chair**

**Craig McDougall, Secretary**

**David Yee, Treasurer**

**Ravine Basahti Dirks, Director**

**Sheryl Bowhay, Director**

**Joanna Ciapka-Sangster, Director**

**Ethan Filner, Director**

**Kara Flynn, Director**

**Robin Heard, Director**

**Darren Jordan, Director**

**Maureen McCaw, Director**

**Ronda Metszies, Director**

**Mark Moran, Director**

**Lewis Nakatsui, Director**

**Joe Rosselli, Director**

**Jia Wang, Director**

## The Winspear Centre & ESO Volunteers

Aiden Macpherson

Amanda Dang

Anatasia Cipko

Andrea Carnell

Andrée Aston

Angela Seery

Anna Linetsky

Breanne Van Herk

Brenda Voyce

Brieanne Graham

Carissa Fedoruk

Carmelle Cooper

Carol Pawlenchuk

Carol and Frank Rudat

Cathy Clement

Chantelle Behrens

Claire Bradner

Coleen Braun

Colleen Phillips

Corinne Warwaruk

Corri Allison

Dan Germain

Dave Walkowski

Dean Cooper

Debbie Snell

Dominique Chalupa

Donna Krucik

Drew Delbaere

Elizabeth Hryciw

Erica Kath

Ethel Birse

Florence Borch

Gail Aboughoche

Georgette Bourgeois

Heidi Diamond

Mrs. Helene Berg

Inna Dymouriak

Isabelle Petilea

Janet Effa

Jay Johnson

James Smibert

Joanne Christie

Johann Barnard

John Ottewell

Jolene Wong

Joyce Liska

Juli Cun

Karin Vail

Kate Schmidt

Kathleen Corrigan

Katie Lundin

Kayla Bruce

Kendra James

Kyra Droog

Laura Taylor

Lidwina Patra

Linda Smibert

Liz Frig

Loveth Bradley

Lu Rintoul

Lynda Dolinsky

Lynda Downie

Madeleine Stout

Magda Schouten

Maria Buchegger

Marianne Ouwehand

Marla Narten

Marlis Heppner

Marnie Gomez

Marty Cender

Megan Schmelzle

Michael Otto

Michelle Lacoursiere

Monica Molina Ayala

Monica Lomeland

Nadja Merali

Nancy Colpitts

Mrs. Nicole J. Bouclin-Graves

Norm Hill

Pat Berger

Patricia Blinzer

Rachel Glessing

Ralphina McLeod

Rhiannon Nelson

Rita Macdonald

Roberta Ruecker

Sandra Wiese

Saoirse Cipko

Scott Palmer

Sharon Styles

Sheila Sirdar

Sheila Basford

Sukhjit Saimbhee

Susan Binnington

Tony Ouwehand

Valerie Smart

Valerie Graham

Walter Kehl

Winnie Cheung

# Volunteer Program Continues to Grow

The Winspear Centre & ESO volunteer program continues to grow at an exceptional rate. We now have 120 regular volunteers who supported the organization with 61,000 volunteer hours in 2023/24 - far above the national average of 50,000 hours in comparable organizations. Volunteers each served an average of over 200 hours, also above the national average.

Volunteers support us at concerts by greeting patrons, handing out programs, staffing information tables, and making the Winspear a welcoming environment for our patrons. Our volunteer teams also take on specific and ongoing tasks including *YONA*, *Music Box Babies*, *Musical Mornings*, gardening, poster and flyer distribution, data entry/cleanup, marketing phone calls, donation appeal phone calls, and donation thank you calls. In fact, they made thousands of phone calls, providing a valuable personal touchpoint between our organization and its many supporters.

Our volunteers played an integral role staffing two casinos during the year which raised many thousands of dollars for the Winspear Centre/ESO.

Our Summer Performance Season was also enabled by their support, including the vital role of ensuring public safety and controlling crowds at these large outdoor events. The volunteer hours at these concerts comprise more than half of the total hours given over the entire ESO season.

Our volunteers are dependable, generous and zealous in their support for our organization. We're now looking at more ways to harness their talents and abilities, as well as ways to create more community among members of this vital group.



*Ralphina McLeod, volunteering at Symphony in the Square, Sept. 2, 2023.*



# The Winspear Centre & ESO Staff and Production Team

*Responsive. Adaptive. Collaborative. Working every day to give the community great music, education and event experiences. Thank you to all the team members (full-time, part-time, and hourly) who contributed to our success in 2023/24.*

Ashdeen Ally	James Cockell	Tyra Heise	Elizabeth McHan
Ayrton Alvarado	Jesse Cunningham	Lisa Hennig	Tanya McLean
Sherry Alvaro	Donna Daly	Tegan Herron	Dave McMath
Amir Moghaddam	Amanda Dang	Kerry Ho	Alex McNaughton
Miriam Ayles	Thacylla Da Silva	Kenneth Hoeffling	Jameela McNeil
Taren Bai	Alisha Dean	Kevin Hogstead	Jacquie McNulty
Keala Banford	Alyssa De'Ath	Jenn Hope	Olivia Menard
Myles Bartel	Mark Dela-Cruz	Heidi Hovis	Diane Meyer
Jason Baskier	Jennifer Delainey	Rudy Howell	Sokhana Mfenyana
Naomi Batiancila	Justine Dennis	Kevin Humphrey	Dina Milivojev-Dokic
Dree Beaudry	Diana De Sousa	Elise Hyrak	Derek Miller
Lilian Belknap	Booker Diduck	Jade Jacques	Stacy Mitchell
Salix Bell	Lesley Dolman	Sarah Jacques	David Moore
Jim Bennett	Will Drake	Mary-Anne Janewski	Isye Morland
Emma Bersamina	Alex Draper	Hannah Jarvis	Turlough Myers
Warren Bertholet	Kyra Droog	Stephanie Jolly	Madi Myhre
Brenda Biddiscombe	Jonas Duffy	Cosette Justo Valdés	Alyson Neufeld
Kate Blechinger	Lauren Dykstra	Pearl Kapitzke	Denise Neumann
Adrienne Bode	Teddy Edwards	Niabi Kapoor	Jude Nwankwo
Catherine Boissonneau	Jerrold Eilander	Inez Kasprzyk	Lisa Nwaribe
Natalie Boisvert	Sopulu Ephraim	Hyun Kyung Kim	Michael O'Grady
Yvonne Boon	Calla Erhkamp	Olena Kotova	Biboye Onanuga
Lisa Bourque	Graham Fast	Laura Koyata	Micha Oostenbrink
David Bowden	Megan Fath	Jared Koziol	Joanna Pacarynuk
Dawn Branton	Emily Filice	Alicia Krips	Tara Paterok
Dorina Brown	Eric Filpula	Charlotte Kruszewski	Alyssa Paterson
Sydnee Bryant	Patrick Fraser	Maria Kruszewski	Mike Patton
Jessica Bulger	Linda Gabber	Jacob Kryger	Clare Pellerin
Colleen Bunyan	Fatima Gallardo-Henriquez	Valorie Kukovica	Jodi Penner
Grace Byun	Chloe Geller	Konstantine Kurelias	Annemarie Leenhouts-Petrov
Colin Campbell	Connie Gibeault	Travis Kutz	Brian Pev
Kathryn Thomson	Laura Gillespie	Olha Kyselova	Leanne Persad
Katherine Carr	Hannah Green	Man-Wui Leung	Emilie Piodos
Nathan Chan	Viktoriia Grynenko	Eric Luong	Finly Plopinio
Shirley Chaytor	Zeratsion Hagos	Michelle Luong	Chloe Pohl-Robins
Joshua Ching	Ashleigh Hamilton	Robert MacDougall	Christine Pritchard
Hanna Choi	Sandy Haslam	Mahima Sood	Doug Radford
Anastasia Cipko	Hassen Hassen	Ally Mandrusiak	Zillur Rahman
Saoirse Cipko	Erik Heise	Rob McAlear	Cody Ramsbottom

Mia Ramsbottom  
Avelina Rathbone  
Naomi Reitzin  
Gabiella Richmond  
Ana Rodas-Garza  
Renato Ronabio  
Joshua Ryu  
David Salmon  
Jerry Sanchez  
Kaja Sangster  
Chissa Schmuhl  
James Schutz  
Nathan Schutz

Casper Seely  
Jordan Smale  
Robert Smale  
April Snelson  
Evan Sprout  
Wade Staples  
Syke Stein  
Elaine Stepa  
Jack Stevenson  
Alexandra Stout  
Madel Sumagang  
Anne-Marie Switzer  
Chun-Ho Tai

Trena Taralson  
Saint Jackson  
Miles Thomsen  
Sherri Tiedemann  
Bryan Tower  
Liam Trimble  
Cynthia Valencia-Hegedes  
Alex Valle  
Sabrina Van-Cleave  
Kira Vanderveen  
Denis Vaugeois  
Hunter Verge  
Cheryl Vinge

Kim Walker  
Keri Walmsley  
Kai Warszynski  
Meghan Wearne  
Andreas Wegner  
Ben Whittier  
Barb Wilkes  
Nathaniel Wong  
Katherine Woodman  
Nava Yamach  
Andy Young  
Sandra Young  
Nadia Zamora-Hernandez





# Young Leadership Council

## Growing Our Audiences through Youth Engagement & Programs

The Young Leadership Council (YLC) launched the *ESO Encounters* (EE) program in the 2023/24 season with great success. EE is a free membership program for patrons aged 18-35, to introduce them to the ESO and Winspear, and enhance their access to arts and culture programming. EE allows members to buy reduced price tickets to all ESO performances.

The EE program attracted 300 members within its first month and over 750 members by the end of the year, far surpassing the YLC's goal of 150 members. Among our 2023/24 season achievements:

- **Boosted Performance Attendance:** 467+ tickets sold to 62 ESO performances; EE members bought 1061 tickets to *Live at the Winspear* and third-party events
- **Fostered Future Audiences:** Early 20s and early 30s represent the largest EE member age demographic

The YLC hosted events at the Winspear throughout the season including four pre-concert receptions and

a Tour & Trivia Night. Efforts were supported through a \$5,000 grant from the Alberta Civil Society Emerging Leaders Microgrant Program (ACSEL), funded by Canada Service Corps and supported by Volunteer Alberta. The YLC engaged conductors and musicians as guest speakers, promoted/partnered with local businesses, and earned presence in Edmonton media. The YLC will continue to host EE events next season and build positive relationships with the next generation of patrons and donors. A focus for the YLC will be to explore ways to introduce and instill the philanthropic spirit among EE members.

The YLC said farewell to long-serving Co-Chair Rhiannon Nelson and YLC Advisor Michelle Luong, now succeeded by Kayla Bruce and Hannah Jarvis. Drew Delbaere continues to serve as Co-Chair alongside Kayla. The YLC thanks the ESO and Winspear staff for their continuous support, especially Micha Oostenbrink for her unwavering leadership and dedication.



*ESO Encounters reception, October 28, 2023, John Williams concert.*

# Winspear Lighting Crew

## Behind the Scenes

The focus in our beautiful performance hall is often the artists on stage. But behind the scenes, our production crew works tirelessly to ensure those artists shine. Two members of this crew, Head Lighting Technician Warren Bertholet and Assistant Lighting Technician Doug Radford, are retiring after 25+ year careers with the Winspear.

One thing Warren and Doug wanted to do before retiring was upgrade the critical parts of our lighting system - the console and the movers - and they've done just that. With the support of a Community Facility Enhancement Program grant, new movers and a console were installed that have elevated lighting in the venue beyond what was previously possible.

A demonstration of our new lighting capability this season was 'Mothership' by Mason Bates, which

incorporated moving lights to accentuate the electronic beat. Our audiences are not used to dynamic lighting, and the gasps were audible when the lighting flashed across the audience, timed perfectly with the beat drop. One audience member commented that the piece was "A real surprise – we always expect colour and verve from the ESO, but these program pieces appeared almost unknown to us, and each was exciting and deeply emotional, multi-sensory, and so pleasing."

We thank Warren and Doug for their many years of combined service and wish them both a happy and fulfilling retirement!

The ESO and Winspear Centre work in proud partnership with IATSE Local 210.



*Doug Radford, left; Warren Bertholet, right.*



# Speaker System Upgrade Brings State-of-the Art Technology to the Winspear

The Winspear Centre entered a new era of acoustic excellence in 2024 with the installation of a state-of-the-art L Series loudspeaker system designed by the French professional audio manufacturer L-Acoustics. This exciting upgrade will modernize our concert hall's sonic capabilities, significantly enhancing the experience of audiences and performers. The brand-new technology brings a whole new level of quality and performance to the Winspear Centre.

Audio upgrades throughout our facility represent the most significant investment in professional audio equipment in our history. The Winspear Centre is grateful to Prairies Economic Development Canada for helping fund a portion of this milestone project.

## What is the L Series?

The L Series features the latest advancements in line array technology—a series of loudspeakers stacked on top of each other and facing slightly different

angles to consistently cover a greater depth of field than a single speaker. L Series is a breakthrough concept in concert sound made possible through 30 years of intensive research and development in software modelling, loudspeaker technology, and electronics.

## Time for a Change

The L Series is the Winspear Centre's third loudspeaker system since opening in 1997. It replaces the Meyer Sound M'elodie installed in 2007. That system was nearing end-of-life and struggling to remain above stage volume for many touring performances, preventing us from hosting certain high-amplification events.

## A Series of Firsts

The Winspear is the first venue in North America to receive the L Series and the first venue in Canada to install the system. It will take the venue forward for a



*The new L-Acoustics L Series loudspeaker array, installed in the Winspear.*

long time and can accommodate the sound needs of virtually every live performing act.

### Unique Features

The L Series is able to reach a maximum of 155 decibels (dB). Most rock concerts measure between 95 and 100 dB, while orchestra concerts measure between 70 and 85 dB. This means there is enough headroom to eliminate loudspeaker failure. As word spreads to the touring community, the L Series will attract other acts that want to use the new PA due to its high quality.

The system also features L-Acoustics Panflex™ technology, which provides audio technicians with nuanced abilities to direct the shape of the sound



*The L Series control panel.*

coverage to match the audience, and an integrated cardioid feature, which will help artists and musicians hear precisely what they want to hear on stage without impacting the audience.

These features result in a “natural” sound. Compared to similar products from other manufacturers, the L Series loudspeakers have minimal impact on sound as it travels from its source point, such as a voice or an instrument, to the ears of the audience via the PA.

### Additional Upgrades

In addition to the L Series, the Winspear also purchased 51 loudspeakers and 17 subwoofer loudspeakers from L-Acoustics for the stage, orchestra loge, dress loge, orchestra terrace, choir loft, viewing room, control booth, control console, main lobby, and upper lobby. This equipment will enable a broader frequency range in loge seating, improve coverage and intelligibility for choir singers, and ensure all chamber rows are targeted with balanced sound from the PA. The coverage of the previous system started at approximately the fifth row of orchestra seating, which meant rows 1-4 primarily heard stage volumes.



## Live at the Winspear

*Live at the Winspear presented 10 performances showcasing local and international artists to a total season audience of about 10,000 people.*

Audiences want to experience more of the Davis Concert Organ, Canada's largest concert pipe organ; so, we created a series of four organ concerts featuring five renowned organists: Dennis James, Paul Jacobs, Mark McDonald, Jeremy Spurgeon, and Nathan Laube.

Other performers included Edmonton-based singer-songwriter Martin Kerr, whose local roots and dynamic stage presence have earned him a dedicated audience. Indigenous Canadian, two-spirit, Juno award-winning artist Jeremy Dutcher made his Winspear debut.

Nova Scotian Celtic folk-rock group The Barra MacNeils kicked off the holiday season with a festive and multidisciplinary evening, joined by performers from the Brady Academy of Irish Dance.

We also welcomed back Ukrainian folk group DakhaBrakha, who last performed at the Winspear in 2019.

Ontario folk-rocker Bahamas returned to the Winspear stage for another well-received concert. American folk-punk legends Violent Femmes made their Winspear debut to a sold out and enthusiastic audience.



*An exuberant audience at Violent Femmes May 8, 2024.*

## Winspear Centre Rental Events

*Winspear Centre hosted 65 rental events in 2023-24. These extended our reach within the community and brought over 43,000 people into our facility.*

The 2023/24 season saw the Winspear welcome back many annual rental clients, like the *Salute to Vienna* New Years concert (1,702 tickets sold), the University of Alberta, 5 Artists 1 Love, CRESCENDO, and the Richard Eaton Singers. Our long-standing clients are a joy to work with, and the strong relationships we have built ensure the success of their events.

Strategic outreach efforts also led to new events in our building. Examples include Syrian-Lebanese duo Georges Wassouf & Wael Jassar, the Edmonton

Chinese Community's *Spring Festival Gala*, and a comedy performance by Zakir Khan, which was the first Winspear event in the Hindi language. *ONES – The Beatles #1 Hits* and the Royal Canadian Artillery Band's free holiday concert *Sounds of the Season*, each sold 1,595 tickets.

Our Events and Box Office teams rose to the hosting challenge with skill and enthusiasm. These events brought new audiences into the Winspear and helped forge wider community connections.

# Tommy Banks Centre for Musical Creativity

*The Tommy Banks Centre for Musical Creativity encourages people from all walks of life to discover the joy of music. It delivers musical arts enrichment programs that are catalysts for musical discovery and exploration. It saw continued growth and strong community demand for its programming in 2023/24.*

## Highlights:

*194 sessions across 23 programs / 32,566 total participants Hosted / 22,000+ children on school field trips*

### Musical Mornings

This new pilot concert series for toddlers sold out eight concerts with a total of 1,036 attendees. Families attended a casual performance in the Upper Lobby with host Ms. Kate, featuring members of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra in instrument demonstrations, sing-a-longs, stories and movement.

### Education Concerts

These met with extremely high demand; 12 nearly sold-out concerts were attended by 20,169 Division One and Two Students. Educators appreciated the opportunity for students to experience a live ESO concert that was age-appropriate and designed to support their learning goals.

Junior High and High School students also had the opportunity to hear the ESO in a series of Open Dress Rehearsals. Over 980 students observed an ESO rehearsal with the help of a live blogger who shared insights into the program and rehearsal process.

### Adopt-A-Player Program

ESO players partner with school music teachers to support a class in composing and performing an original musical work. The program doubled in size during the year, with six Grade 4-6 classes and a total of 146 students from Edmonton and St. Albert. The students presented their pieces at the Winspear on May 7, 2024.

### Additional School Programming

These include bestseller *Science of Sound*, *Inquiring Minds Sound School*, *Wee Ones at the Winspear*, and *Create Your Own* Program. Family programs included *Music Box Babies*, running 10 classes per week from

October to June with a total of 353 participants. Summer Camps were held in Violin, Flute, and Ukelele. "Orchestra Explorers" Spring Break Camp introduced 30 participants to all the instruments in the orchestra over the course of four days.

### Young Composer Debut Performances

The 2023 Young Composer, 16-year-old **Ben Gartly**, received a standing ovation when his piece, *Redemption Sought*, was performed by the ESO at the New Music Concert at the Winspear. **Daniel Mator**, the 2024 Young Composer, will have his piece, *Syrah*, performed on the 24-25 ESO Season as the Young Composers Project heads into its 30<sup>th</sup> year.

### Flute Day

This collaboration with the Edmonton Flute Association featured a Masterclass with visiting artist Anthony Trionfo and six flute players from the community. The day also included workshops, a flute choir, performances and vendors. About 60 students attended a Prelude talk and ESO Concert featuring Anthony Trionfo the same evening.

### Adult Programs

Post-concert Instrument Discovery activations were held as part of the ESO Pairings Series. Audience members tried instruments from String, Wind, Brass and Percussion families. These events were extremely well received, with patrons gathering in the lobby following performances. The Rusty Musicians "B-Sides" and Summer Camp returned with a combined total of 69 adult non-professional musicians participating in music making in collaboration with ESO musicians.



# Youth Orchestra of Northern Alberta (YONA)

Celebrating 11 Years of Mentorship

*YONA is where students develop their artistic voice, connection to music, and a sense of belonging within the YONA community. It supports students and families from priority neighbourhoods & communities, actualizing the ESO's mission to create positive community impacts. Its 2023-24 season saw continued growth with 240 students served, opportunities to come together, and mentorship of emerging musicians.*

*YONA 2023/2024 Quick Facts:*

*72 new students welcomed / 5 YONA sites / 10 YONA performances*

## Three Levels of Student Learning

**Junior (new students)** spend their year learning instrument fundamentals in dedicated group instruction time.

**Community Orchestra (intermediate orchestra)** students from our three school-based sites assemble monthly for Tutti (combined) rehearsals. The number of Tutti rehearsals increased this year by more than double – these are a wonderful opportunity for intermediate students to mentor each other and build connections.

**La Bruyère Orchestra (senior orchestra)** students rehearse weekly in the lobby of the Winspear Centre.

## Formal Mentorship Opportunities

Mentorship occurs in the classroom, at rehearsals and performances, and in everyday YONA moments. Over the years, YONA Alumni have given back to the YONA community by returning to support current students. Through mentorship, all students (mentees and mentors alike) gain confidence in themselves in a mutually supportive environment.



# Transforming for the Future: Winspear Expansion Update

*The Francis Winspear Centre for Music is transforming from a world-class concert hall into a community music centre for everyone. The completed Winspear Centre will realize the vision of Dr. Francis Winspear by becoming a true cultural hub for Northern Alberta—a place where artists, families, youth and community groups gather to make and share music.*

## The Music Box

This is the jewel of our expansion – a 550-seat, state-of-the-art performance space that matches the acoustic standards of our existing hall, while meeting the needs of a more diverse range of performers and cultural organizations.

## Places for the Community

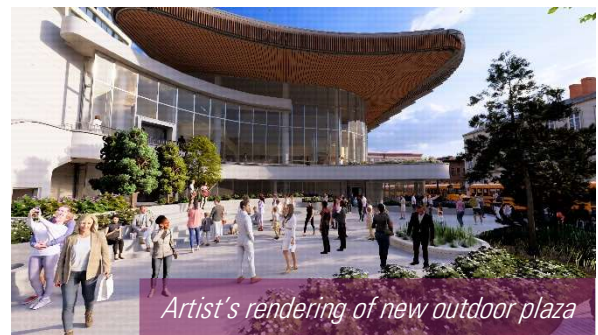
The Winspear Expansion will also feature multipurpose community spaces, a purpose-built classroom, and accessible indoor and outdoor programming spaces that will be alive with activity every day.

## Closer to Completion

Edmontonians can now see the base building structure rising on 97<sup>th</sup> Street next to our long-standing concert hall. The free-standing Music Box structure is finished, completely isolated from sound

and vibration through neoprene pad suspension technology.

Next to be completed are the renovation of the original Winspear Studio, and the construction of a purpose-built education classroom within the existing facility. Access to these spaces is expected beginning in late 2025.



## Expansion Capital Campaign

- *\$12.8M allocated to the project in the Government of Alberta's Budget 2024*
- *\$1.6M supplement from the Canada Cultural Spaces Fund*
- *Capital Campaign silent phase now complete; public campaign launched August 2024*

## Construction Milestones 2023-24:

- *Glass installation: **almost complete***
- *Structural steel for Music Box catwalk: **in place***
- *District Energy Plant: **complete and transferred to EPCOR***
- *Underground Parkade: **complete***
- *Gala Lift retractable seating system: **arrived and ready for installation***
- *Seat replacements & enhancements to existing concert hall: **complete***

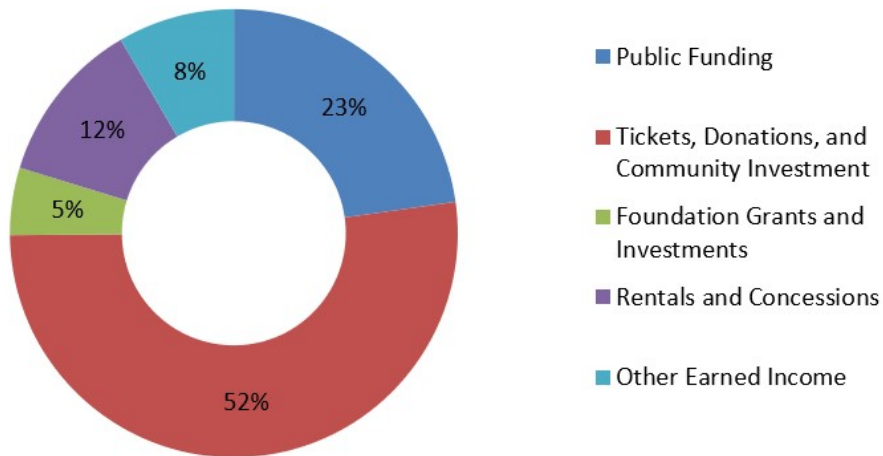


# Financial Highlights

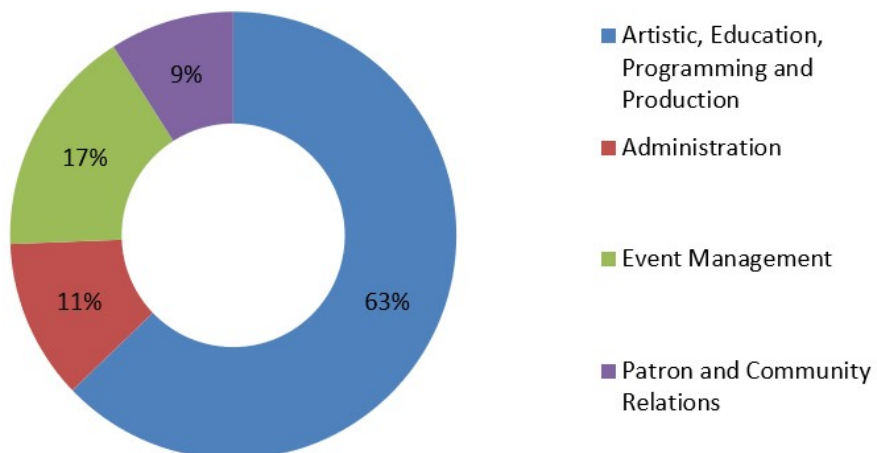
## COMBINED ESS & FWCM FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

	June 30, 2024	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>	<b>15,124,468</b>	<b>14,365,674</b>	<b>12,374,152</b>
Total Operating Expenses	17,390,254	15,666,459	12,463,435
<b>Operating Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>(2,265,786)</b>	<b>(1,300,785)</b>	<b>(89,283)</b>
Internal Fund Transfers	159,946	258,357	139,416
<b>Change in Operating Fund Balances</b>	<b>(2,105,840)</b>	<b>(1,042,428)</b>	<b>50,133</b>
Total Assets	104,362,485	95,379,330	84,689,314
Total Liabilities	25,992,359	23,234,693	19,847,966
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>78,370,126</b>	<b>72,144,637</b>	<b>64,841,348</b>
ESO and FWCM Endowment and Investments	5,428,456	5,628,396	5,062,683
Edmonton Symphony and Concert Hall Foundation Endowment and Investments	14,354,247	15,028,456	12,772,315
<b>Total Endowment and Investments</b>	<b>19,782,703</b>	<b>20,656,852</b>	<b>17,834,998</b>
Number of Live Concerts	120	120	145
Number of Digital Performances	-	-	42
Free Tickets	9,774	8,721	3,900
Paid Tickets	76,365	76,974	57,913
<b>Number of Tickets</b>	<b>86,139</b>	<b>85,695</b>	<b>61,813</b>

## Operating Revenues



## Operating Expenses



# 2023/2024 Season: By the Numbers

## ESO Outdoors

Date	Location	Attendance
August 17, 2023	Centennial Park, Devon	532
August 18, 2023	Castle Downs Park, Edmonton	N/A – Rain Out
August 19, 2023	Legacy Park, Fort Saskatchewan	617
August 20, 2023	Four Seasons Park, Beaumont	643
August 27, 2023	Pavilion at Heritage Park, Stony Plain	746

## Symphony at Snow Valley (ESO)

Date	Program	Attendance
August 24, 2023	Summer Favourites	1,270
August 25, 2023	Beethoven, Mozart & Mendelssohn	1,171
August 26, 2023 (Matinee)	Beethoven, Mozart & Mendelssohn	498
August 26, 2023	Summer Favourites	1,337

## Symphony in the Square (ESO)

Date	Program	Attendance
September 1, 2023	Disney in Concert: A Dream is a Wish	13,000
September 2, 2023	Disney in Concert: A Dream is a Wish	15,000

## Live at the Winspear

Date	Name	Performances	Attendance
October 22, 2023	Martin Kerr	1	1,122
October 23, 2023	Jeremy Dutcher	1	818
October 31, 2023	Nosferatu	1	984
November 21, 2023	Jacob Plays Bach	1	460
November 22, 2023	The Barra MacNeils Christmas	1	994
February 27, 2024	McDonald Plays the Planets	1	950
March 31, 2024	DakhaBrakha	1	846
April 23, 2024	Bahamas	1	1,214
May 8, 2024	Violent Femmes	1	1,496
May 14, 2024	Laube Plays Liszt	1	569



## Edmonton Symphony Orchestra 2023/2024 Indoor Season

Performance	Date(s)	Series	Performances	Attendance
Hans Zimmer: Phenomenal Film Scores	October 4 & 5, 2023	ESO Special	2	3,113
Bill Eddins Plays Bach	October 12 & 13, 2023	Classics	2	1,574
The Hockey Sweater	October 22, 2023	Symphony for Kids	1	989
The Magnificent Music of John Williams	October 27 – 29, 2023	ESO Special	3	3,972
Tchaikovsky & Mozart	November 2 & 4, 2023	Classics	2	1,517
Mozart & Delight	November 3, 2023	Pairings	1	510
Moving Mahler	November 11, 2023	ESO Special	1	1,581
Britten & Dvořák	November 17 - 19, 2023	Classics	3	1,567
Sinatra and Beyond with Tony DeSare	November 24 & 25, 2023	Pops	2	2,218
Of Time & Flames	November 30, 2023	New Music	1	327
Handel's Messiah	December 8 & 9, 2023	Holiday	2	2,736
A Lightly Classical Christmas	December 15 & 16, 2023	Holiday	2	2,107
A Very Merry Pops	December 22 & 23, 2023	Holiday	3	4,324
Hollywood for the Holidays	December 28 & 29, 2023	Holiday	3	3,247
Ennio Morricone: A Fistful of Film Scores	January 20 & 21, 2024	ESO Special	2	2,546
A Joni Mitchell Tribute: Sarah Slean with the ESO	February 2, 2024	ESO Special	1	1,392
Mozart & Mendelssohn	February 8 & 10, 2024	Classics	2	1,605
Mendelssohn & Hope	February 9, 2024	Pairings	1	733
Gershwin's Magic Key	February 17, 2024	ESO Special	2	958
Stern Conducts Music of Courage & Resistance	February 24 & 25, 2024	Classics	2	1,278
Gershwin, By George! Rhapsody in Blue's 100 <sup>th</sup>	March 1 & 2, 2024	Pops	3	2,700
Brahm's Symphony No. 3	March 8 & 9, 2024	Classics	2	1,368
Castles & Warriors: Transcendent Sounds	March 14, 2024	New Music	1	313
Charlotte & the Music Maker	March 16, 2024	Symphony for Kids	1	1,004
Kevin Chen Plays Beethoven's Emperor	March 23 & 24, 2024	Classics	2	1,788
The Organ Concert	April 4 – 6, 2024	Classics	3	2,113
The Magical Music of Harry Potter	April 10 -13, 2024	ESO Special	3	4,513
Latin Fire	April 12 & 13, 2024	Pops	2	2,084
Tchaikovsky & Folksong	April 19, 2024	Pairings	1	766
Angela Cheng Plays Clara Schumann	April 20 & 21, 2024	Classics	2	1,249
The Wolf of Lafontaine: Song & Dance	April 25, 2024	New Music	1	697
Celeigh Cardinal with the ESO	April 26 & 27, 2024	Pops	2	1,911
Schubert's Unfinished Symphony	May 2 – 4, 2024	Classics	3	1,756
M is for Music	May 11, 2024	Symphony for Kids	1	1,100
Rachmaninoff & Dance	May 17, 2024	Pairings	1	696
Fantastic Dances: Rachmaninoff & Ravel	May 18 & 19, 2024	Classics	2	1,380
From Broadway to Hollywood	May 31 – June 1, 2024	Pops	2	2,545
James Horner: A Voyage of Immersive Film Scores	June 7 & 8, 2024	ESO Special	2	1,923
Marvelous Melodies: Dvořák's Cello Concerto	June 13 – 15, 2024	Classics	3	1,854

## 2023/2024 Tommy Banks Centre for Musical Creativity Program Overview

<b>Program</b>	<b>Number of Sessions</b>	<b>Total Attendees</b>
Adopt-A-Player	6	146
Afterthoughts	6	1,200
Band Clinic / Customized Program	14	350
Classroom Without Walls	1	30
Day Camps – Spring Break & Summer	7	89
Education Concerts (Division 1 & 2)	12	20,169
Masterclass	2	88
Music Box Babies	30	353
Musicians in the Making	16	38
Mini Organ Activations	9	900
Musical Mornings	8	1,039
Open Dress Rehearsals	6	983
PD Sessions	2	19
Preludes	21	4,200
Rusty Musicians B-Sides	1	27
Rusty Musicians Camp	1	42
Symphony for Kids – Pre-concert Activities	15	1,650
Science of Sound	25	750
Sound School	7	210
Wee Ones at the Winspear	2	30
Young Composers Project	1	1
Youth Songwriting Workshop	1	15
YONA-Sistema	1	240

## GRATITUDE REPORT

Thank you to everyone who contributes to our work fulfilling the human need to make and share music. This report celebrates the people and organizations who have contributed philanthropic gifts, funded, or sponsored our work. This support includes sustained pledges, contributions to an endowment for our benefit, and gifts to our capital campaign. Donors who gave between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2024, are recognized in these pages for their support. We strive to acknowledge everyone appropriately; if you notice any errors or omissions, please contact Alex Draper at [adraper@winspearcentre.com](mailto:adraper@winspearcentre.com).

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