

40th Season 2016–2017

A "Miracle" of a Season!

XL

Saturday, March 4, 2017, Bel Air High School, 7:30 p.m.

Kile Smith Commissioned Work for the SSO TBA (*Premiere*) Franz Josef Haydn Symphony No. 96 in D Major, "Miracle" Sir Edward Elgar Variations on an Original Theme, Enigma, Op. 36

A Royal Ruby-Season Finale!

Saturday, May 20, 2017, Bel Air High School, 7:30 p.m.

David Osbon	. Nelson Overture
William Grant Still	. Symphony No. 1, "Afro American"
Percy Grainger	. Irish Tune from County Derry
Sir Malcolm Arnold	. Anniversary Overture
Arnold / arr. Lane	. Padstow Lifeboat
Arnold / arr. Lane	. Ballade from "Stolen Face" (from the Movie)
Sir William Walton	. Crown Imperial, Coronation March



Jusquehanna **Our 40th Season** SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA SHELDON BAIR, FOUNDER AND MUSIC DIRECTOR

The Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra was founded in 1978 by Sheldon Bair and is a community orchestra of professional and amateur volunteer musicians. The Orchestra performs a subscription series of concerts every year in addition to outdoor and chamber music concerts. The Orchestra has performed opera and ballet, as well as standard orchestral repertoire, and is known for its premieres of new works and performances of unusual repertoire.

This year marks the 40th Season of the Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra. Such longevity would not be possible without your support. We thank you for attending this evening's concert, and look forward to many more years of making music!

Our Mission

Through the diverse programming of standard orchestral literature as well as newer and lesser-known works, The Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra strives to enliven the spirit, inspire the imagination, cultivate musical appreciation, and serve the educational and entertainment needs of Harford County, Maryland and surrounding areas.

Thank You!

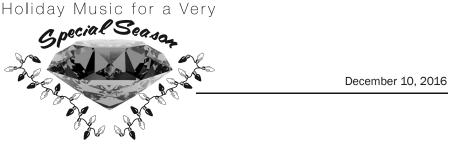
The SSO would like to thank Michael Krantz of the Town of Bel Air for his help in coordinating the Bel Air High School accommodations with Dr. James Lamb, Assistant Principal BAHS. We are also indebted to Paul Labe, Dean for Visual, Performing, and Applied Arts at HCC for providing rehearsal space. We especially thank Paul Bowden, Drama Department Chair for concert night support. We thank our donors who make sharing excellent orchestral music with our community possible and our advertisers who support the printing of this program. Please visit them and tell them the SSO sent you.

Cover Photo of SSO: Stefan Antwarg

Please Note:

- Silence pagers, cell phones, and signal watches during the performance.
- The use of cameras and recording devices is prohibited.
- Latecomers will be seated only between movements/selections.
- All children should be carefully supervised so that they are not disruptive to the musicians or the audience.
- Smoking is prohibited anywhere on school property.

Thank you for your cooperation. Please enjoy this evening's performance.



Theldon Myers (b. 1927)

Music for a Special Season

arr. Donald Raff

arr. Bruce Chase

Alfred Reed

(1921–2005)

Pat-A-Pan / Fum, Fum, Fum (Premiere)

Christmas Memories Soprano: Christa Bohdel

Russian Christmas Music

Intermission

Piotr I. Tchaikovsky (1840–1893)	March from "The Nutcracker Suite"
Piotr I. Tchaikovsky (arr. Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn / adapted for orchestra by Jeff Tyzik)	The Nutcracker Suite Overture Toot Toot Tootie Toot (Dance of the Reed Pipes) Dance of the Floreadores (Waltz of the Flowers) Sugar Rum Cherry (Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy) Peanut Brittle Brigade (March)
arr. Sheldon Bair	A Christmas Sing-Along 3 (Premiere)

The Tchaikovsky / Ellington / Tyzik work was acquired through the G. Schirmer Rental Library.

Thanks to Donald Raff for his arrangement!

Maryland State Arts Council





This performance is supported in part by a grant from the Maryland State Arts Council through Harford County Cultural Arts Board.

Music Director

Sheldon Bair is the Founder and Music Director of the Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra (Maryland), a community orchestra of over 90 members. He holds a Bachelor's degree from Elizabethtown College (Pennsylvania) where he studied conducting with Otis Kitchen and composition with James McVoy and Darrell Douglas, and a Master's degree from Towson University (Maryland). In addition, his postgraduate studies include classes at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey. Sheldon Bair has studied conducting with Witold Rowicki in Vienna, and Marc Mostovoy, William Hudson, and Leonid Grin.



Bair is adjunct faculty for Harford Community College, is on the conducting staff for the Elizabethtown College Music Camp, and is often invited to conduct and adjudicate youth orchestras and soloists. In November 2000, Bair was bestowed the Paderewski Award for Contributions to Society and Culture at the Polish Embassy in Washington, D.C. He has conducted orchestras in Texas, Oklahoma, and Toronto, Canada. Bair participated in the Sixth Malcolm Arnold Festival in Northampton, UK, in the fall of 2011 by introducing Arnold's 9th Symphony at the final Gala Concert.

Bair, a member of ASCAP, has written a number of works for student string orchestra and church choir.

In June 2016, Maestro Bair retired from Harford County Public Schools after 40 years of music making with young musicians. In retirement, Bair has

taken the opportunity to speak about the SSO with local community organizations and to act as a panel member on WBJC's "Face the Music." Bair continues to compose and is presently putting the finishing touches on a work commemorating APG's 100th Anniversary. The work, entitled "This We'll Defend," will be performed at the SSO's June 2017 alfresco concert.



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SSO Cancellation Policy

In the event of a cancellation of a concert due to weather emergencies, patrons may redeem their cancelled ticket for a ticket at the next concert.

About the Composer



Theldon Myers is an ASCAP award winning composer. He has written for orchestra, band, chorus, and chamber groups, with performances, recordings, and publications of his works being featured throughout the United States, Canada, and Europe. Born in Illinois, he earned his B.S. degree from Northern Illinois University, his M.A. from California State University at Fresno, and his D.M.A. from the Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University.

His composition studies were with Wayne Bohrnstedt, Arthur Bryon, Nadia Boulanger, Sandor Veress, and Stefans Grove. As Professor Emeritus of Composition and Theory at Towson University, Dr. Myers is presently active as a free-lance composer and arranger. His compositions are recorded on the Vienna Modern Masters and Contemporary Recording Studios labels.





Harford Youth Orchestra (grades 9-12) and Harford String Orchestra (grades 6-8) are offered as noncredit classes through Harford Community College.



Our Guest Performer



Christa Bohdel is a resident of Harford County and a student at Towson University, majoring in Biology, Functional Biology of Animals, and minoring in Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, and Bioinformatics. She has been actively involved in the musical community from a young age, both in vocal and instrumental music. Vocally, Christa studies classical voice under the instruction of Madeleine Gray and participates in a number of choirs. Choirs she performed in include All-County Choir 2013, under the direction of Dr. Arian Kaehfi; All-State Choir 2013,

under the direction of Dr. Jon Hurty; Towson's High School Honors Choir in 2012 and 2013, under the direction of Dr. Arian Kaehfi; and solo performances of the National Anthem at Ripken World Series games in 2013 and 2016. Instrumentally, Christa studied viola under Sheldon Bair at Southampton Middle School and currently performs with the Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra. Other notable performances include roles in many local musical productions and singing the National Anthem with the SSO at the bandshell concert in 2015. Christa is a cantor for St. Ignatius Catholic Church in Hickory, Maryland.



Musicians of the Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra

First Violins ‡

Wendy Bohdel, Concertmaster Joan Beckett-Armstrong Elizabeth Caughey Sam Creighton Shannon Eaton Timothy Kelly Emily Kumpf Enid McClure Andrew Nowakowski Terry O'Neill Christine Robbins William Spencer Kim Stiles

Second Violins ‡

Manfred Reek, Principal Katelyn Baill Breanna Byrd George Cowman Colleen Grotke Rebecca Leadmon Kaitlyn Lee Samantha Litvin Sara Michlin Ed Rosenberg Martha Schmidt Amy Wilkinson Jennifer Yeager

Violas ‡

Viktor Khodyko, Principal Jessica Conklin Will Conway Fran Eisma Karyn Hetmanski Cammie Jennings Whitney McConkey Ashley Simmons Violoncellos ‡

Lewis Blandon, *Principal* Elaine Bundy Kim Damian Walter Garner Mark Grotke Barbara Hill Kevin Klein Michele Martin Shannon Raum Jasmine Reeves Carol Scanlan

Basses ‡ Alyson McMenamin Principal Carol Benck Alicia Farrell Brian Folus Katherine Romano Beth Weed

Harp Ashley Powers

Flutes

Doris Reinhardt Carol Thompson Phyllis Fowler Marjorie Roberts, *Piccolo*

Oboes

Barbara Bair Cathy Zink Wendy Nesbitt, *English Horn*

Clarinets Fiona Sparks

Kelly Rhodes Margaret Holmes, Bass

Bassoons Alicia Bourassa Benjamin Schuhart Victoria Carpenter

Horns

Timothy Byrnes Dawn Zipay Kelley Moorman Mike DeZearn

Trumpets

David Stauffer Robert Storey Brandon Powers Casey Knell Kelly Hall Matthew Pierce

Trombones

Liz Antwarg Scott Murray Donald Raff, Bass

Tuba Donald McClure

Timpani Allan Andreycak

Percussion Mary Eilerman Welles Still Meredith Katsu Dan Vaughan, Drum Set Kim Damian



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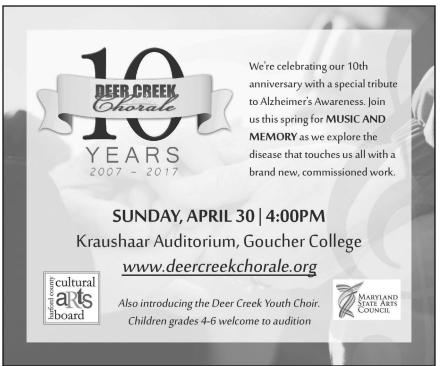
Program Notes

Music for a Special Season Theldon Myers (b. 1927)

Music for a Special Season was commissioned by the Baltimore Chamber Orchestra to premiere at their annual Holiday Concert in 1999. Program notes for those concerts, by Kenneth Viant, describe the piece as "...a modern setting of four traditional Old English songs and Christmas carols, some fairly wellknown and some not. [The piece] opens with an introductory section in which brief allusions are made to the melodies of all four of the carols and songs. Next comes a setting of the familiar *Coventry Carol* from the 15th century. The piece continues with treatments of the gentle *Lute-Book Lullaby* from the 17th century and the lively *My Dancing Day* from the 19th century, and concludes with a festive realization of the equally lively *Gloucestershire Wassail.*"

Pat-A-Pan / Fum, Fum, Fum arr. Donald Raff

Pat-A-Pan is a French Christmas carol from the Burgundy region, written by Bernard de La Monnoye (1641–1728). It was first published in 1720 with the original title, *Willie, Bring Your Little Drum*. The "pat-a-pan," meant to mimic the sound of the drum, was modified in the contemporary carol *The Little Drummer Boy*, with its chorus of "pa-rum-pa-pum-pum."

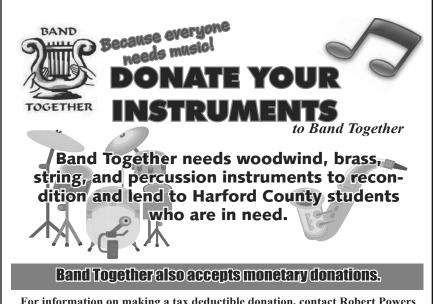


Fum, Fum, Fum probably originated in the Catalan region of Spain in the 16th or 17th century. There are various interpretations of the meaning of "fum," including the Catalan word for smoke, the sound of a drum, or perhaps the strumming of a guitar. The popular version in the English-speaking world was created by Alice Parker and Robert Shaw in 1953.

In writing this arrangement I feature two different drums: tenor and snare, supported by bass drum and timpani in *Pat-A-Pan*. In the first verse of *Fum*, *Fum*, *Fum*, the string section will strum pizzicato, suggesting the strumming of guitars. There are three verses of each carol preceded by a rhythmic introduction to each. *Pat-A-Pan's* third verse is a modified round with bass accompaniment. The third verse of *Fum*, *Fum*, *Fum* combines it with motives from *Pat-A-Pan* superimposed, and is followed by a coda also containing motives from both carols.

Christmas Memories arr. Bruce Chase (1912–2001)

Arranger/composer Bruce Chase has successfully written and arranged numerous works for school and amateur music groups, especially strings and orchestra. *Christmas Memories* is one of several holiday medleys he has arranged and includes: *Frosty the Snowman* by Nelson and Rollins; *Santa*



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Claus is Comin' to Town by Coors and Gillespie; Here Comes Santa Claus by Gene Autry and Haiderman; I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus by T. Connors; and Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas by Martin and Blane.

Russian Christmas Music Alfred Reed (1921–2005)

Alfred Reed started his musical training at age ten, eventually studying at Baylor University and Juilliard. During World War II he was a member of the 529th Army Air Force Band, where he composed and arranged over one hundred works for that medium. Included among these compositions was *Russian Christmas Music*. It was subsequently arranged for orchestra in 1995 by Clark McAlister, under the composer's supervision.

An impression of Old Russia during the Christmas season, the work is cast in a continuous movement, but four separate sections can be discerned. The first is a setting of an old Russian carol, *Carol of the Little Russian Children*. The second section, *Antiphonal Chant*, features responses between different sections of the orchestra, and features an extended recitative for the English horn. The third section or *Village Song* is in a gently swaying 6/4 time, with a walking pizzicato bass line. The closing *Cathedral Chorus* features sonorous brass and bells and brings the work to a jubilant conclusion.



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March from "The Nutcracker Suite" Piotr I. Tchaikovsky (1840–1893)

Tchaikovsky made a selection of eight of the sections of the ballet before the ballet's December 1892 premiere, forming *The Nutcracker Suite, Op. 71a*, intended for concert performance. The suite premiered in March 1892, long before the ballet's first performance became instantly popular. However, the ballet did not begin to achieve its great popularity until after the George Balanchine staging became a hit in New York City. The familiar march is the second of the eight sections.

The Nutcracker Suite

Piotr I. Tchaikovsky, arranged for jazz orchestra by Duke Ellington (1899–1974) and Billy Strayhorn (1915–1967), adapted for symphony orchestra by Jeff Tyzik (b. 1951)

When Tchaikovsky composed his famous ballet *The Nutcracker* and the symphonic suite derived from it, it is doubtful that he imagined that some day that suite would be arranged for a type of popular music played by a "jazz band." But that is exactly what the great jazz man Edward "Duke" Ellington and his pianist/arranger Billy Strayhorn did in 1960. They even jazzed up the titles



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of the movements, so the Dance of the Reed Pipes became Toot, Toot, Tootie Toot; March became Peanut Brittle Brigade; Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy became Sugar Rum Cherry; Russian Dance became The Volga Vouty; Chinese Dance became Chinoiserie; Arabian Dance became Arabesque Cookie; and Waltz of the Flowers became Dance of the Floreadores.

In 1998 Jeff Tyzik, orchestral "pops" conductor and arranger, went a step further and adapted the overture and four of these jazz movements for the symphony orchestra. It is this adaptation that will be performed tonight.

The SSO played this arrangement in the December 2003 concert and it was repeated in 2005, 2012, and 2014 by popular request. As we continue to have requests to perform it, we are glad to bring it to you once more.

A Christmas Sing-Along 3

arr. Sheldon Bair

Maestro Bair writes, "The problem with arranging a medley of well-known Christmas tunes, like my three sing-alongs, is not composing the introduction and interludes, which are fun to do. The problem is orchestrating the carols in a way that have not been done before by the likes of Leroy Anderson and other great arrangers. I just hope that I have succeeded in adding fresh and different flourishes to these carols.

Can't think of a gift for that person who has everything, that person who lives to the beat of a different drummer? Want to give an unusual gift that "sounds like fun"?

A donation of \$25 will buy two pairs of drum sticks or a set of triangle beaters or a woodblock or a drum head or xylophone mallets.

A donation of \$50 will buy a pair of timpani mallets or vibraphone mallets or a triangle or finger cymbals.

The Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra would like to thank local advertising agency SR&B Advertising for their outstanding services this season. With their support, the SSO hopes to bring the sound of music to new ears. The Orchestra has a sound population of fans and is greatly pleased to see it grow to include various attendees of all ages.

Keep your eyes open for more online interaction with our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts, and our E-Newsletter (sign up in the lobby to receive the newsletter).

With the assistance of SR&B Advertising, the SSO is making great strides to further its mission to provide opportunities for local musicians to challenge themselves. The SSO thanks them again for their services.

"As with the other two sing-alongs, *A Christmas Sing-Along 3* strives to be fun to sing and is hopefully orchestrated in a way so that the orchestra can hear the audience! I have chosen tunes that I haven't used before, except the last carol, *O Come, All Ye Faithful*, the same in all three works. I hope you enjoy *A Christmas Sing-Along 3*. (There may be one more in the future!) Please find the words printed in your program below, and please sing with gusto!"

Program Notes compiled by Don Raff with thanks to Donald McClure and Sheldon Bair

O Come, O Come Emmanuel (Instrumental)

Coventry Carol

Lully, lullay, thou little tiny child By, by, lully, lullay Lully, lullay, thou little tiny child By, by, lully, lullay

Joy to the World

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king; Let every heart, prepare Him room, And heaven and nature sing, And heaven and nature sing, And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night

While shepherds watched their flocks by night, All seated on the ground; The angel of the Lord came down, And glory shone around, And glory shone around.

Deck the Halls

Deck the halls with boughs of holly, Fa la la la la la la la la. 'Tis the season to be jolly, Fa la la la la la la la la. Don we now our gay apparel, Fa la la la la la la la. Troll the ancient yuletide carol, Fa la la la la la la la.

See the blazing Yule before us, Fa la la la la la la la la. Strike the harp and join the chorus, Fa la la la la la la la la. Follow me in merry measure, Fa la la la la la la la. While I tell of yuletide treasure, Fa la la la la la la la.

Angels From the Realms of Glory

Angels from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o'er all the earth; Ye who sang creation's story Now proclaim Messiah's birth. Come and worship, Come and worship, Worship Christ the newborn King.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King; Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!" Joyful, all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies, With angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant! O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; Come and behold Him Born the King of Angels: O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord! usquehanna HONY ORCHESTRA FOUNDER AND MUSIC DIRECTOR

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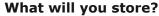
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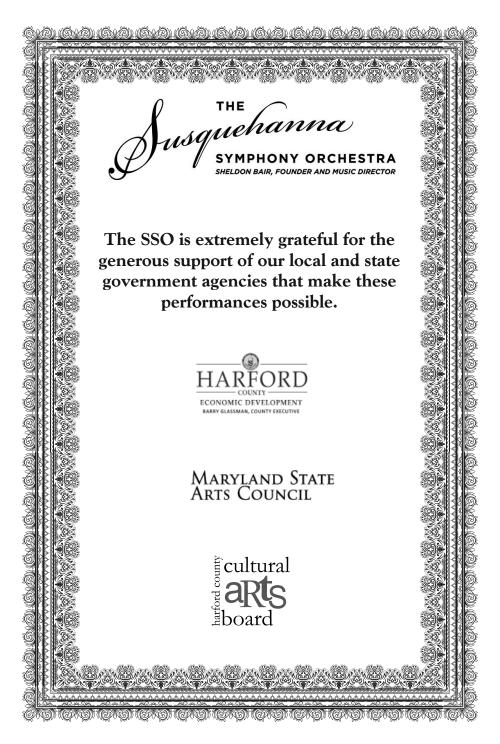
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Dr. Donald Henry "Skip" Ruth SSO Board Member 2003–2016



On Sunday, October 9, 2016, Dr. Donald Henry "Skip" Ruth, 81, died at home surrounded by his loving family. He waged a valiant battle against both renal and prostate cancers for over 10 years. Dr. Ruth graduated from Lansdale High School, Lansdale, Pennsylvania; graduated with a BS degree from Ursinus College, Collegeville, Pennsylvania; earned his M.D. degree from University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and was an intern at the Allentown General Hospital in Allentown, Pennsylvania where he met and married the love of his life Ethel Stein. He joined the U.S. Navy and trained at the School

of Aviation Medicine in Pensacola, Florida where he soloed in their flight school and received his wings being designated a Flight Surgeon. He served in the USN for three years being stationed at Naval Air Station Midway Island, Hawaii and Willow Grove, Pennsylvania. After leaving the U.S. Navy, he had a private medical practice in his home in Souderton, Pennsylvania for 10 years. He worked as a faculty member of the Family Practice Residency Program at the E.W. Sparrow Hospital in Lansing, Michigan and its branch office in Mason, Michigan; was Director of Family Practice Residency Program at the Deaconness Hospital in Buffalo, New York; and was founder and director of the Family Practice Residency Program at The Medical Center in Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania from 1978 to 1991. To accomplish his life-long dream of an office with computerized medical records, billing, and appointments, he opened a private practice in Midland, Pennsylvania from 1992 to 1999 and worked in Occupational Medicine and locum tenens work until he retired in 2005. Dr. Ruth was honored by the Pennsylvania Medical Society for 50 years in Family Practice, was inducted into the Hall of Fame with the North Penn Alumni Athletic Association for his participation and accomplishments in Track and Field events while in high school, and was a musician and lover of music throughout his life. After moving to Maryland, he actively supported the Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra in Harford County, Maryland by being a member of the Board of Directors.

The SSO is incredibly grateful for his many years of service and dedication to the promotion of the arts in Harford County. Skip's leadership, wisdom, and friendship have left a significant impression on everyone here at the SSO. We are better because of his efforts. He will be greatly missed.

Jusquehanna ORCHESTRA OUNDER AND MUSIC DIRECTOR

Did You Know?

- At our first concert in April 1978, we performed Schubert's Unfinished Symphony as the Harford Community Orchestra.
- We weren't the Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra until the early 80s!
- In July of 1984, SSO members played in London, England, twice.
- Theldon Myers became our composer in residence in the early 90s – which piece of his are we playing tonight? Post your answer to our Facebook wall for a chance to win a prize!
- The Edinburgh String Quartet from Scotland was our guest twice in the 90s.
- In March 2000, Emmy award winning composer Sir Malcolm Arnold joined us for 10 days for the U.S. premier of his Ninth Symphony.
- In 2007, we played at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City to a standing room only house!
- ✓ It took six choirs, three soloists, and our entire symphony orchestra to perform ...



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(The SSO is currently accepting applications for Board Membership)

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INCOME

Ticket Sales	\$24,000
Grants	\$39,000
Donations	\$10,000
Fundraisers	\$4,000
Advertising	\$2,000
Other	\$1,000
TOTAL INCOME	\$80,000

EXPENSES

Music Rental/Purchase	\$5,000
Instrument Rental/Purchase	\$3,000
Advertising/Marketing	\$26,000
40th Commissioned Work	\$8,000
Venue Rental	\$6,800
Artists' Stipends/Fees	\$24,000
Insurance	\$1,800
Dues/Licenses/Fees	\$1,400
Office/Admin	\$4,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$80,000

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