Dear Friends,

As we all enter a new, refreshing and re-energizing springtime in Minnesota, we are pleased to present The MacPhail 2021 Annual Report. It looks back over a turbulent year and shares stories of resilience, ingenuity, and perseverance.

MacPhail kept students, teachers, and guests safe through a second year of COVID challenges. We avoided any furloughs or layoffs and maintained student engagement and quality ratings at pre-pandemic levels. MacPhail faculty members, recognized as experts at online learning through years of experimentation and continuous improvement, nimbly adopted new tools and techniques to enhance learning without missing a beat.

MacPhail didn’t just respond to the pandemic, we moved forward with new initiatives and programs creating a more student-focused organization.

• We effectively merged Madeline Island Chamber Music into MacPhail, successfully running our first 6-week chamber music summer program on the pristine Wisconsin island in Lake Superior.
• We unveiled our new MacPhail state-of-the-art music facility in Austin, Minnesota, already serving 1,500 students across the southern part of the state.
• MacPhail launched two new and exciting programs, Electronic Music and Recording Arts (EMRA) and Global Music Initiative (GMI), both exploring music education through a new lens.

Finally, an annual report isn’t complete without a look at financials. In fiscal 2021 MacPhail achieved a remarkable milestone, its 20th straight year of a balanced operating budget. This involved consistent and focused effort by faculty and staff, assisted by access to forgivable government Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans. But it was also the result of your generosity. Friends like you, who value thriving arts programs and music education keep the music alive at MacPhail. **Your generosity makes music happen.**

We invite you to take some time and explore the following collection of stories and performances where you will witness resilience, ingenuity, and perseverance in action…at MacPhail.

With Gratitude,

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**Mission**
Transforming lives and strengthening communities through music learning experiences that inspire.

**Vision**
MacPhail Center for Music provides students of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities access to inspiring and enduring music learning experiences through extraordinary faculty, relevant programs, and integrated learning technology to create successful outcomes.

Kyle Carpenter  
Chief Executive Officer

Kate Cimino  
Board Chair
Sing Play Learn with MacPhail®

Established in 1968
Ages 6 weeks - 8 years
5,000 students
40 locations

Sing Play Learn with MacPhail® helps children build school readiness skills in a playful environment.

Over the past two years, the Sing Play Learn with MacPhail® team revised their entire curriculum to support online learning. **The tools used to enhance programming for young children such as videos, podcasts, and parent education information have now become part of their ongoing teaching curriculum.**

Watch the video of MacPhail teaching artist Sarah Hruska Olson bringing music and joy to students at Riverview West Side School of Excellence in Saint Paul.

Riverview Principal Nancy D. Páez values MacPhail's partnership; she knows Sarah has eased some of the challenging feelings Riverview students experienced over the past 2 years. **“Being part of Miss Sarah’s class helps students with their social and emotional development. They learn how to pause, listen, and pay attention to what the rest of the group is doing.”**
Dedicated and experienced teaching artists providing individual lessons are the “secret sauce” to MacPhail student success. MacPhail is uniquely positioned to offer myriad performance, class, and ensemble opportunities to encourage and promote student growth.

Online teaching continued to evolve through the year as MacPhail uncovered innovative ways to work with individuals and groups. To celebrate students’ goals and achievements, we strengthened our livestreaming capabilities so families and friends close by and far away could partake in recitals and concerts.

Despite all the change students and teachers experienced this year, the annual student survey results stayed consistent: **97% of students were satisfied with the quality of their instruction.**

With studios in Minneapolis, Chanhassen, Apple Valley, White Bear Lake, and Austin, Minnesota, plus live online instruction, MacPhail brings music learning opportunities to communities where our students live and work.

“I came to MacPhail a couple of years ago. I have participated in the Crescendo program and taken private lessons. I hope to continue with my love of music. The award of a MacPhail Instrument Scholarship gives me the opportunity to pursue even more that MacPhail has to offer.”

Leo M., student of Tim De Prey, Spring Honors Recital
MacPhail Suzuki students, teachers, and parents enjoy a long-term, collaborative learning experience. Only at MacPhail can students experience a summer strings camp that includes a joint concert with a Suzuki Cello Rock group and a Suzuki Vivace Strings group. It’s a lively combination! The MacPhail Suzuki program is a close-knit community where students build lifelong friendships along with their musical skills.

“I have been studying classical piano through the Suzuki program since I was 4 years old, participating in the Suzuki Piano Institute for 8 years now. I play in my high school jazz band and hope to pursue a degree in music. Receiving the J. Rudolph Scholarship has given me encouragement and drive to continue toward this goal.”

Leo G., Suzuki piano student
Group Instruction

Ages 5 years - Adults
650 students

From chamber music to rock bands, choirs to jazz combos, MacPhail provides over 90 group ensembles for those who learn best and enjoy music together. The MacPhail North Side Youth Orchestra (MNYO) and MacPhail Community Youth Choir (MCYC) are two MacPhail groups that are free for teens to participate in. Both rehearse in North Minneapolis, bringing instruction to where many of the group’s members live.

Like all ensembles during the pandemic, creativity was essential to keep the groups going. For many months the MYNO students were unable to meet in person, but that didn’t prevent them from making music together.

Chi-Chi Bestmann, Artistic Director and Conductor for MNYO, has a clear vision for this program: **spread music far and spread music wide**. That’s what separates MNYO from other programs. Find out how MNYO teens find confidence with music.
MacPhail partners with K-12 band, orchestra, choir, and general music teachers throughout Minnesota to provide education support and resources. Thanks to our highly qualified faculty, relevant programs, and integrated learning technology in person or live online, MacPhail has developed long-term relationships with schools throughout Minnesota, benefiting their students in unique ways.

Case in point: 100 miles northwest of Minneapolis, MacPhail partners with the Kerkhoven-Murdock-Sunburg Schools, providing online lessons and sectionals for band students. When the pandemic shuttered her band program, Band Director Pam Diem knew how to shift to online teaching. As she said, “For 10 years, I had been watching my students and MacPhail teaching artists learn through live online lessons.” Pam knew how to proceed, due in large part to the MacPhail partnership.
With individual lessons, group ensembles, and enlightening classes, the MacPhail Music for Life™ program enables older adults to gather, engage and create music. MacPhail has a cadre of experienced teachers poised to work with this fast-growing Minnesota demographic at MacPhail and at community partnership locations.

During the darkest days of the pandemic, the MacPhail Music for Life™ team used ingenuity to reach our students and support these programs. The Broadway Sing Along series culminated with an in-person event at the new Water Works Park, just down the street from MacPhail. The Voices of Experience Choir met outdoors throughout the summer to sing among the traffic noise and birdsong. Constant adaptations enabled MacPhail faculty member to not only maintain but to enhance partnership connections.

“It’s been such a delightful experience. I’ve been challenged, I’ve made dear friends... it’s just been a great source of joy in my life,”
Mary Ann Palmer, adult choir member

“It’s been in the Voices of Experience choir for over ten years, and it has been one of the most wonderful experiences of my life,”
Mary Jelinek, adult choir member
MacPhail Music Therapists use the power of music to accomplish individualized, non-musical goals based on a client’s physical, emotional, cognitive, and/or social needs. Our therapists also provide adaptive lessons for individuals who have difficulty learning music in traditional ways due to physical, cognitive, or emotional challenges.

Yue Wu is one of MacPhail’s 10 dedicated Music Therapists. This past fall she presented *Light in the Well*, a multi-sensory event highlighting stories about people with disabilities.

Wu’s life has been enriched by her clients. She hopes the *Light in the Well* project is a conversation starter, getting people to think, “who around me in my life is affected by disabilities? Is there someone I can get to know and be part of their life?”
Summer camps offer students a variety of opportunities to explore music with a group in a relaxed and fun environment. **In 2021, the big tent pitched near the front entrance at MacPhail Minneapolis welcomed students back to live music instruction after a year-long pandemic hiatus.** And Madeline Island Chamber Music, a new program of MacPhail, welcomed students to the island for 6 weeks of intensive chamber music learning and performing.

"I am grateful that the songwriting camp for children was offered virtually. It was incredible to watch young children learn to be innovative and write their very own songs, learning about everyone from Beyonce to Mozart."

Parent of a young summer camp student

"The quality of musicians present in both the faculty and student body is astounding. Through this unique and wonderful experience, I have progressed as a musician, and I have proven to myself that I belong in the music world."

Corley Friesen-Johnson, Madeline Island Chamber Music viola student
Global Music Initiative (GMI)

Established in 2020
2 groups of Artists-in-Residence selected

GMI is an exciting new MacPhail program creating inclusive curricula, teaching methods, and performance opportunities outside of the classical canon. The GMI Artist-in-Residence Program offers musicians MacPhail residencies to foster cultural change through passion and creativity in music. The program is a commitment to become a deeply anti-racist organization by giving diverse voices a platform to share their creative stories, challenge ideas, and question the nature of existence.

Violinist Ernest Bisong is one of MacPhail’s current Artists-in-Residence. He is using his violin as a vehicle of exploration for his GMI residency. Developing a series of master classes named Music as a Language for elementary aged students, Ernest hopes to “humanize the ideas and concepts around improvisation using melody, harmony, and rhythm.” As a second step in his residency, Ernest will create a jazz camp for violin students.
The music world continues to evolve. MacPhail launched EMRA to offer students a creative workspace with tools and techniques to help create, produce, and realize their musical ambitions.

MacPhail EMRA faculty members teach everyone from beginners to seasoned professionals to use industry standard software, applications, and technologies to create their own music. Students also learn electronic music production, multitrack recording, DJing, mixing, mastering, and more.

“Music has the power to bring diverse people together. Horizons are broadened by a music teacher or instructor who can guide you on your artistic path.”

Isaac Rohr, EMRA faculty member
## Financials: Summary as of August 31, 2021
(Consolidated All Funds)

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<td>$702,936</td>
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*Miscellaneous income included Paycheck Protection Program funds

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