



MacPhail
CENTER FOR MUSIC

ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2024



Dear MacPhail Community,

MacPhail’s powerful vision to transform lives and strengthen communities was on full display in fiscal year 2024, a year of continuity and new beginnings as we ushered in a new chapter of leadership.

Thanks to the generosity of donors and partners like you, we brought the joy and power of music to 15,000 students across the Minneapolis/St. Paul metro area and throughout Minnesota and Wisconsin. From bustling city neighborhoods to close-knit communities, MacPhail reached students in 83% of Twin Cities zip codes and half of the counties in the state.

More than 6,000 of these students participated because of financial assistance or partnership subsidies—a tremendous 33% increase over the past two years. Behind each number is a young person discovering their voice, building confidence, and experiencing the magic of music, all made possible by the support of our donors and partners. Thank you for ensuring that every student, regardless of circumstances, has the opportunity to learn, grow, and shine through music.

After 13 years as CEO, Kyle Carpenter retired, and on July 1, 2025, the transition to new leadership began. Kyle leaves a remarkable legacy as a champion for MacPhail. He played a significant role in expanding access to music education and ensuring that financial barriers never stand in the way of a

student’s musical journey. His leadership has been a guiding light, and we are grateful for his vision and dedication.

Looking ahead, we are committed to building on this momentum—listening to and learning from our community, expanding access, and ensuring that every program we offer is relevant and transformative. Our extraordinary teaching artists, whose passion and expertise are our core strength, continue to shape the future of MacPhail.

Thank you again for your ongoing support and partnership. Because of you, music continues to uplift, inspire, and bring people together. Music is a vital force in our community, and your commitment ensures that every note played and every voice raised contributes to a more vibrant, connected community—one where music is not just heard, but truly felt.

With gratitude and excitement for the future,



Paul Babcock

Paul Babcock
CEO, MacPhail
Center for Music



Hudie Broughton

Hudie Broughton
Board Chair, MacPhail
Center for Music

THE POWER OF YOUR SUPPORT:
TRANSFORMING LIVES
THROUGH MUSIC

Your support this past year helped MacPhail reach more people, remove obstacles to access, and inspire lifelong learning. Your generosity has fueled scholarships, financial assistance, tuition-free programming, innovative programs, and partnerships that ensure every student—regardless of age, background, or ability—has access to the life-changing power of music.

MacPhail
now serves
students in



83% of Minneapolis
and Saint Paul
zip codes.

In the last
two years, we
increased
the amount
of financial
assistance
available by



48%



42 OF 87
COUNTIES
in Minnesota are receiving
MacPhail programming



In the last 3 years,

6,720

K-12 students have
received no-cost music
education from MacPhail
reflecting their background,
cultures, and interests.



In 2023,

33% more students received
financial assistance
than in 2021.



CONNECTING THROUGH MUSIC: STORIES OF IMPACT

From inspiring students to exceptional educators, MacPhail fosters community, excellence, and opportunity through music.



MACPHAIL THROUGH AND THROUGH: CLAIRE MILLER EXEMPLIFIES TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Claire Miller’s musical journey began at age 4 when she and her sister started on violin in the Suzuki program at MacPhail, soon after adding piano. “I always knew I wanted to teach Suzuki because it worked so well for me. My sister and I are different learners, but the method worked for both of us,” she said. “MacPhail has one of the

NEW PROGRAM BUILDS STUDENT CONFIDENCE & IDENTITY

This past year, MacPhail added teaching artist Shonte Carter to the roster of Project Amplify, a program to bring no-cost residencies by artists from diverse cultural backgrounds to Title 1 and Greater Minnesota K-12 schools. Carter is an expert in the show style drumline of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU). The offering was a huge hit, with Marcy Arts Elementary, Ascension Catholic School, and Minneapolis South High quickly booking residencies.

“At first kids may think this style is too hard to learn, but I tell them to give their best effort, have good focus, and

listen attentively, and that works,” says Carter. “HBCU show style drumline builds culture, confidence, identity, and belonging, plus it catapults opportunities for scholarships and careers, as it did for me.”

In addition to HBCU drumline, MacPhail’s K-12 artist residencies include beat boxing, Korean drumming, and West African drumming and dance. “Our goal is to bring talented professional musicians into classrooms to provide meaningful learning opportunities outside the classical canon,” says MacPhail Director of School Partnerships Elizabeth Winslow.

Recently, Claire was promoted to Suzuki Department Manager, solidifying her role as a pillar of teaching excellence at MacPhail. Teaching excellence was a commitment of the recent Up Tempo! campaign, and thanks to donor support we continue to grow and develop our outstanding faculty.



ANNA’S MUSICAL MASTERY AT MACPHAIL

When sixth grader Anna and her family moved to Minnesota from Ukraine in June 2022, she brought with her a remarkable talent for piano. After moving, continuing lessons became a challenge. “I continued to study online with my teacher, but due to the time difference and constant shelling of Ukraine, it was almost impossible,” says Anna.

It was then that family friends recommended Dr. Julia Elkina, piano faculty at MacPhail. “From the first days of working with Julia, I felt her 100% involvement in the process of my learning. She helps me find balance and develop my skills quickly. There is complete understanding and trust between us,” Anna shares.

In just two years, Anna has achieved remarkable success, winning first place in two categories at the 2024 International Piano Competition Carmel Klavier and earning a spot in MacPhail’s Concerto and Aria competition, where she performed with a full orchestra. “MacPhail, knowing about our difficulties, including financial ones, provided financial assistance for my studies, without which my lessons would not have been possible,” Anna says. “I appreciate that MacPhail gives me a chance to realize my dream.”

MACPHAIL PRESENTS LAUNCHES TO SPOTLIGHT EXTRAORDINARY TALENT

This fiscal year, we launched *MacPhail Presents!* – a pay-what-you-can model for our student and faculty spotlights and performances, designed to make the magic of music more accessible to our entire community. These unforgettable performances included dynamic events like *Salsa del Soul*, where the audience was up on their feet, dancing and celebrating together, and a thrilling live-recording session showcasing MacPhail’s Global Music Initiative, the 29:11 International Exchange Artists-in-Residence, Suzuki strings students, and local musicians. This unique event spotlighted the power of jazz and the art of collaborative music-making.

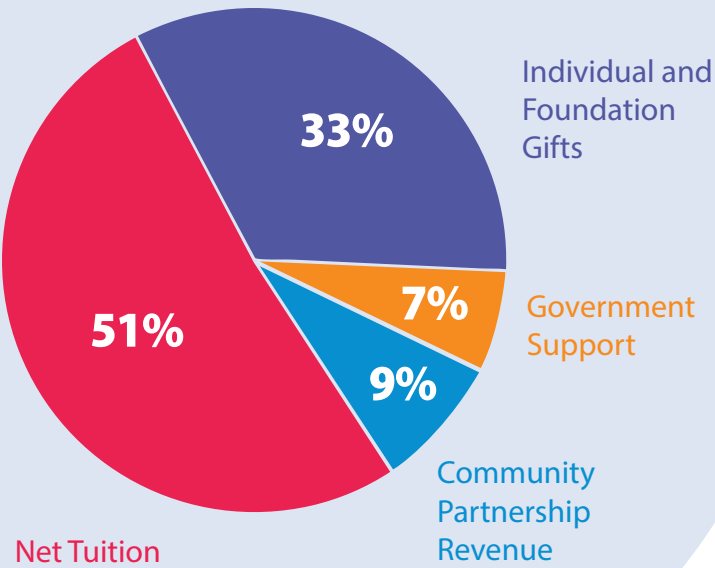
We also had the privilege of hosting donors at our fundraising events, including the impactful *Music Matters Luncheon* and the enchanting *Midsummer Night Music* fundraiser in Bayfield, WI, in support of the Madeline Island Chamber Music program.



FISCAL YEAR-END OPERATING RESULTS

SEPTEMBER 1, 2023–AUGUST 31, 2024

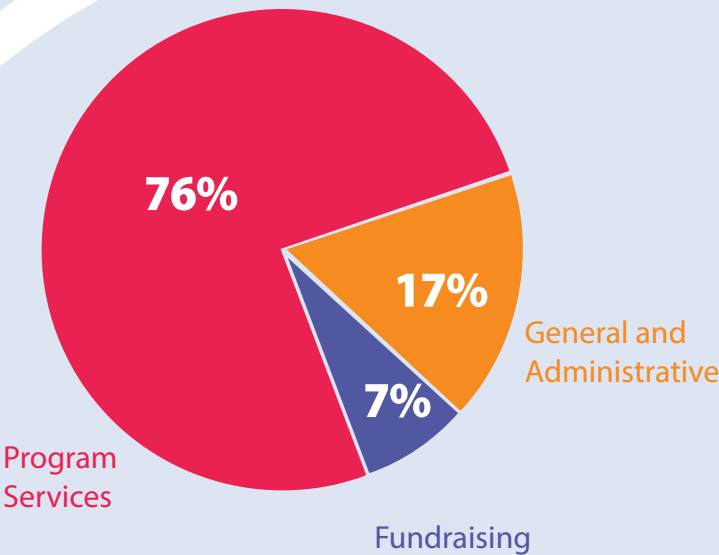
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE



MacPhail Center for Music ended the fiscal year 2024 with \$11.5 million in total Operating Revenue. Your financial support is essential in enabling us to fulfill our mission to bring the power of music to our community.

Complete audited financial statements for fiscal year 2024 and prior years can be found at macphail.org.

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE



SUSTAINING MACPHAIL'S FUTURE

MacPhail Center for Music is the fortunate beneficiary of several endowment funds. As of August 31, 2024, the value of the endowment funds for the benefit of MacPhail Center for Music was \$14.4 million, including \$2.8 million for student scholarships. Our endowment is critically important for organizational strength and sustainability, providing funding to students who need support to access music education.





TOGETHER IN MUSIC:
HONORING OUR GENEROUS
SUPPORTERS

At MacPhail, we witness every day how music brings people together, opens doors, and creates opportunities that might not otherwise exist. None of this would be possible without the generosity of donors and funding partners like you.

Your support ensures that anyone who wants to grow through music has the opportunity to do so—through experiences of joy, connection, and community that only music can bring. Whether it’s a child taking their first lesson, a student receiving

financial assistance, or a community partnership making music more accessible, your generosity makes it possible.

In this Annual Report, we are honored to recognize and celebrate those who make this work possible. Below is a list of our most generous donors and partners for Fiscal Year 2024 (September 1, 2023 - August 31, 2024). For a full list of supporters and ways to give, visit macphail.org.

ENCORE SOCIETY

Special thanks to our fiscal year 2024 supporters

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The William S. MacPhail Society celebrates donors who have included MacPhail Center for Music in their estate plans. Their vision and thoughtful generosity ensure that people of all ages, abilities, and circumstances will have access to exceptional music learning for generations to come.

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Mary Streitz

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A special thanks to our supporters in fiscal year 2024

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