WORCESTER CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY

Annual Report 2019 — IMPACT

September 1, 2018 – August 31, 2019
Dear Friends,

As I look back on the highlights of our 2018-2019 season, I am overwhelmed at the generosity of our patrons, donors, and volunteers. Your enthusiasm for local, classical chamber music is what keeps this “little engine that could” running!

Thank you to Music Worcester for inviting us to be a part of their season. Our Mechanics Hall performance of Appalachian Spring under the baton of Worcester Chorus conductor Christopher Sheperd was a highlight indeed.

Our popular Café concerts were full, several selling out months in advance. We added two new venues: Arts Worcester and the Fitchburg Art Museum. Our 10th free Family Concert was once again packed with parents and children. Neighborhood Strings now serves 75 at-risk youth in 3 sites across the city, and many of them participated in our ChamberFest music camp for the first time.

We are fiscally healthy as we seek to grow our endowment at the Greater Worcester Community Foundation and to build a strong foundation for our education work. We were successful this year in attracting outside sources of funding, and those funders look to see that we have strong local support.

Your support allows us to fulfill our mission to engage people of all ages through the transformative power of music.

With gratitude,

Tracy Kraus
Executive Director
2018-2019 CONCERT HIGHLIGHTS

Special Performances:

2018-2019 season highlights included a performance with Simone Dinnerstein and the opportunity to play Copland’s Appalachian Spring with Worcester Chorus conductor Christopher Sheperd. Two spring concerts saw collaborations with well-known arts organizations Arts Worcester and the Fitchburg Art Museum, the latter funded in part by the Fitchburg, Gardner, and Templeton Cultural Councils. As a result, 40 seniors from North Central Massachusetts were able to attend the concert for free.

Our Vampires and Crocodiles free Family Concert at Mechanics Hall was performed to a full house with special guests Crocodile River Music. The collaboration featured Bamako Beyond, a new work composed for the two ensembles by Derek Jordan. African inspired art created by students from Worcester’s East Middle School was shown during the musical performances. We are grateful to all our sponsors: Worcester Arts Council, Bay State Savings Bank, Country Bank, Reliant Medical Group, Saint Vincent Hospital, Karen Amlaw Music, and UniBank, for making this popular community event possible.

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Neighborhood Strings performs at Music on Main concert November 7, 2018

Students performed publically 11 times last season including three performances at the Family Health Center of Worcester. These performances were part of an NS Teen Club project designed to measure the impact of live classical performances on audiences. The students performed in the lobby for FHCW patients and staff. Those in attendance were asked to share how they felt before and after the performance.

Ariana Falk, Director/cello
Peter Sulski, Asst. Director/violin
Debby Greenebaum, Site Manager/violin
Rohan Gregory, violin
Rajan Kapoor, cello
Luke Morrissey, cello

Neighborhood Strings is an intensive strings program intended to make a long-term impact on the lives of youth living in Worcester’s Main South and Downtown neighborhoods. The program offers private and group lessons, ensembles, and a teen leadership group seeing each child an average of 3-5 hours a week. Last year, the program served 75 youth (ages 7-16) at three sites across Worcester: Woodland Academy, Seven Hills Public Charter School, and Clark Street Elementary School.
Neighborhood Strings continued

Newest site serves recent refugees

At the Clark Street School, our newest site, we worked with children who take part in the Worcester Public School’s “New Citizens” program. The students are all recent refugees from Puerto Rico, Nepal, Iraq, Chad, Tanzania, Congo, Somalia, El Salvador, Liberia, and Côte D’Ivoire. Many speak little-to-no English. The children are grouped together for three years, where they are taught necessary skills such as reading, writing, and arithmetic. WCMS teaching artist Deborah Greenebaum worked intensively with these children twice a week in both private lessons and ensemble.

Our first graduate

Many of you will recognize Melanie Aguilar by her blue cello. Melanie graduated from Claremont Academy in June and is now attending Worcester State University where she is majoring in Communications. We are so proud of all that she has accomplished and equally pleased to report that Melanie has joined the ranks of our college mentors who help weekly in our program.

“Neighborhood Strings made a huge impact on my life because I met new people, learned how to play the cello and learned about classical music - I knew very little about either one. Neighborhood Strings has been a wonderful journey that I hope to take with me as I move into the next phase of my life.”

2018-2019 AT A GLANCE

$7477 scholarships awarded for ChamberFest Music Camp students

75 youth attended Neighborhood Strings at 3 program sites

15 concerts performed in Worcester, Fitchburg, and Harvard

25 Neighborhood Strings students attended ChamberFest Music Camp

$40,000 (net) raised for Neighborhood Strings at the One World Celebration

One World
LEADERSHIP CIRCLE
(Angel, Virtuoso, Encore & Suite)

Angel ($10,000 or more)
Amelia Peabody Foundation
Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation
Greater Worcester Community Foundation
Nora Keil+
Tracy & Morey Kraus+
Massachusetts Cultural Council
PEACE Fund of the Greater Worcester Community Foundation

Virtuoso ($5,000 or more)
Bay State Savings Bank
CDQ Foundation
Lisa Kirby Gibbs and Peter Gibbs
Claire Ellis & Charles Greenberg+
Klarman Family Foundation
Mildred H. McEvoy Foundation
Ramsey McClusky Foundation
David Schnare and Lisa Piehler+
Sarah and Joe Riberio
Ruth Westheimer+

Encore ($2,000 or more)
Associated Chamber Music Players Foundation+
Raluca Buttner
Ted D. Conna, Jr.
C. Jean McDonough
D’Addario Foundation
DCU for Kids Foundation
Ruth H. and Warren A. Ellsworth Foundation
J. Irving England & Jane L. England Charitable Trust
Fred Harris Daniels Foundation
David Getz+
Johnson Strings Foundation+
Ellen More and Micha Hofri+
Karen Keefe and Jeffrey Paster+
Thomas and Elena Powers++
Gerd Reining
Mark and Linda Sagor
Stoddard Charitable Trust
Conrad and Lisa Voellings
Phyllis and Richard Whitten+
Jane S. Young Charitable Trust

Suite ($1,000 or more)
Linda Foxworthy and Alan Brown
Cahn Fund for Social Change
Carol Seager Associates, Inc.
Eleanor Lang Cliford Fund of the Greater Worcester Community Foundation
Henry Vincent Cooper Charitable Foundation
Country Bank
Deborah Feingold and David Dimenstein+
Doris Gould and David Fields
William Kadish & Marie Hobart
James and Emily Holdstein
Interstate Specialty Products
Patricia and Ben Keefe
Kinder Morgan Foundation
Barbara and Roger Kohin+
Learning First Foundation
Catherine Levine+
Jeanne B. Lynch+
Reliant Medical Group
John and Ellen Savickas
Carole L. Seager+
Schwartz Charitable Foundation
Barbara and Edward Scolnick
Richard and Glena Sisson+
Saint Vincent Hospital
Joanna Bauer and Joseph Styborski+
TJ Woods Insurance

Sostenuto ($500 or more)
Anthony Smith and Andrea Erickson
Victor Evdokimoff+
Christopher Rajitkar and Adrien Finlay
Elena Rudavsky and Avi Fischer+
Scott Hayman
Stephen Heard
Howard and Frances Jacobson+
Honey Hess and Phil Magnusson+
Gary Keilson and Sue Miller+
The Guru Tax and Financial Services

Thank you!

SUPPORTERS September 1, 2018 – August 31, 2019

Phyllis and Richard Whitten+
Jane S. Young Charitable Trust

Suite ($1,000 or more)
Linda Foxworthy and Alan Brown
Cahn Fund for Social Change
Carol Seager Associates, Inc.
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Mountain, Dearborn and Whiting, LLP
Dianne and Wayne Paradis
Joel and Zenie Popkin+
Krista Buckland Reisner and Andrew Reisner
Lance and Melissa Schachtele+
Marj Albright and David Stevens+
Webster Five Foundation

Intermezzo ($300 or more)
Kenneth Bibeau+
Bernadine and Frank Birch+
Patsy and Tom Cecil+
Amy Weinstock and Michael Cohn
Brenda and Dennis Conlon
Orest Fedan
Barbara and Warren L. Henderson+
Edward Landsau+
Mickie Nelson+
Charlene Nemeth
Barbara Pantos+
Carla and Larry Peterson+
Susan Vogel+
Boris Wolfson and Amanda Walling

Continuo ($200 or more)
Olive I. and Anthony A. Borgatti, Jr. Fund of the Greater Worcester Community Foundation
Peter and Liz Cardoza
Cheri Carty+
Gerry & Cay Castonguay+
Clark University+
Len Poulin and Donna Coombs
David and Miriam Enman
Abraham and Linda Haddad
Barbara Haller
Jodi Hirschman
Evelyn Karet+
Sharon and Brian Keefe
Richard Kimball+
Silvia and Laszlo Leb
Deborah Doerfer and David Magid+

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Richard Kimball+
Silvia and Laszlo Leb
Deborah Doerfer and David Magid+
We sincerely thank all of our donors and corporate sponsors for their support this season. We apologize for any errors or omissions in this listing. Please contact us so that we may address the error for future publications.

**Volunteers**

Larissa Beecher
Mark Bibeau
Berni Birch
Joan Cross
Debra Doerfer
John Girard
Rob and Barbara Harden
Maryannna Heister
Nora Keil
Rick Kimball
Noah Magid
Tom Mattis
Mora McAvey
Caille Ostrowski
Ruth Seward
Judith Sullivan
Jason Tockey

**Community Partners**

Arts Worcester
Clark Street Elementary School
Clark University
Fitchburg Art Museum
Mechanics Hall
Music Worcester
Seven Hills Public Charter School
Straight Ahead Ministries
Woodland Academy
Worcester Historical Museum

**Neighborhood Strings Mentors**

Larissa Beecher
Ethan Chaves
Elizabeth Jones
Callie Ostrowski
Zac Brennan
Jojo Mallard
Izabella Liderbaum
Luke Morrissey
Colette McAndrew
Peter Lam
Andrea Jang
Alyssa Goins
Jack Zhu
Marin Smith

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Karen Keefe and Jeffrey Paster
Ellen More and Micha Hofri
Nora Keil
DCU For Kids Foundation
Country Bank
Community Foundation Greater Worcester
Cultural Council

**Gifts in Honor of:**

Barbara and Roger Kohin
Nora Keil
Barbara and Gene McCarthy
Carol Seager
William Wallace

**Gifts in Memory of:**

Dr. Ted Conna
The Conna Family

**Recognition by our Funders**

In August 2018, we were one of five recipients of the Greater Worcester Community Foundation’s new Creative Community grant program, made possible in part by the Barr Foundation. The addition of a third site serving recent refugee children at the Clark Street School was a direct result of this funding opportunity.

The Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) recognized the impact of our programming in Worcester and moved the organization into their highest level of funding: the Cultural Investment Portfolio. Funding from the MCC is directly applied to our operating costs. They recognize the importance of funding operations, and we are grateful to them for their forward-thinking!
## Statement of Financial Position

**as of August 31, 2019**

### Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019+</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating cash</td>
<td>$ 102,674</td>
<td>$ 110,344</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants and other receivables</td>
<td>$ 290</td>
<td>$ 2,922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
<td>$ 13,334</td>
<td>$ 16,624</td>
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<tr>
<td>GWCF Agency Fund*</td>
<td>$ 103,407</td>
<td>$ 102,811</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Assets</strong></td>
<td>$ 222,454</td>
<td>$ 232,701</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equipment, net</td>
<td>$ 32,142</td>
<td>$ 39,286</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>$ 254,596</td>
<td>$ 271,987</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Greater Worcester Community Foundation

### Liabilities & Net Assets

#### Liabilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019+</th>
<th>2018</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and accrued expenses</td>
<td>$ 1,689</td>
<td>$ 8,558</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deferred revenue</td>
<td>$ 13,627</td>
<td>$ 15,851</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td>$ 22,982</td>
<td>$ 24,409</td>
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#### Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019+</th>
<th>2018</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>$ 247,578</td>
<td>$ 130,838</td>
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<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>$ 76,000</td>
<td>$ 116,740</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>$ 231,615</td>
<td>$ 247,578</td>
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</table>

### Revenues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019+</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program revenue</td>
<td>$ 100,862</td>
<td>$ 101,963</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$ 177,937</td>
<td>$ 118,834</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants and foundations</td>
<td>$ 100,350</td>
<td>$ 175,304</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment income</td>
<td>$ 365</td>
<td>$ 5,309</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenues</strong></td>
<td>$ 379,514</td>
<td>$ 401,410</td>
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</table>

### Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019+</th>
<th>2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program expenses</td>
<td>$ 319,221</td>
<td>$ 287,597</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>$ 24,812</td>
<td>$ 7,227</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>$ 43,610</td>
<td>$ 47,702</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>$ 387,643</td>
<td>$ 342,526</td>
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</table>

### Change in Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019+</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net assets, beginning</td>
<td>$ 247,578</td>
<td>$ 188,694</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets, ending</td>
<td>$ 231,614</td>
<td>$ 247,578</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

+Bi-annual gala

Under review as of 10/18/19 by Daniel J. Fins, CPA
This past summer, we celebrated the 15th year of camp. ChamberFest began in 2005 by the QX String Quartet (known as the Thayer Chamber Music Festival). Three members of the quartet (Krista Buckland-Reisner, Rohan Gregory, and Peter Sulski) were core members of WCMS who took the reigns in 2009.

Camp has grown to serve youth and adults both locally and abroad. This was the second year of our Neighborhood Strings afternoon sessions, and 20 students participated in a string ensemble, choir, and African drumming. They also came along on a celebratory trip to Rutland State Park on July 4th. Seven Hills 4th-graders Frankie and Adam went swimming in a lake for the first time. We were filled with pride and happiness to see the Neighborhood Strings kids holding their own at ChamberFest. The high social and musical energy they brought to camp was welcomed by all.

“Incredible musical experience last night with the Worcester Chamber Music Society at Assumption College. Their performance was flawless, exciting, transporting, and humbling with their mastery of technique, tightness and balanced sound. The Worcester Chamber Music Society’s touch and genius continues to amaze us. We were awestruck in our seats from start to finish, topped off by the opportunity to meet and talk with the players, who are always warm and inviting. They are a solid cornerstone of Worcester’s ongoing cultural renaissance.”

Tony Smith and Andrea Erickson