

# NOYO | Northern Ohio Youth Orchestra

*Guiding Youth through Musical Growth*



Annual Report 2015–2016



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## MISSION

The Northern Ohio Youth Orchestra (NOYO) exist to provide a progressive orchestra program with challenging educational musical opportunities in orchestral and small ensemble training and performing for young instrumentalists under the guidance of professional musicians.

## ABOUT US

The Northern Ohio Youth Orchestra is a regional orchestral training program that attracts gifted young musicians ages 8-22 from a geographic area spanning Toledo to Cleveland. Our musicians rehearse weekly at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music under the direction of a distinguished staff of musicians. They explore classical, romantic, contemporary, and world music repertoire through three distinct performing ensembles: the Symphonetta Strings, Philharmonia Orchestra, and Rhythm & Brass. Our musicians may compete in our annual concerto competition and participate in guest master classes. They routinely commission and perform new works, tour, perform side-by-side with peer orchestras, and collaborate with guest artists.

## CONTACT

noyo@noyo.org  
www.noyo.org  
440-775-3059  
39 S. Main St., Suite 244  
Oberlin, OH 44074



## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT



At the conclusion of another excellent season, I am inspired by the talent and dedication shown by the young artists of NOYO. I am proud to be part of a program that offers students quality musical experiences, and challenges them to achieve goals that they may not have thought possible.

Our 47th season was a continuation of the rapid growth we have been experiencing over the past three years. We have been reaping the rewards of the board's decision in 2014 to appoint our first full-time executive director, Michael Roest. With the increased staff time, our outreach and recruitment efforts continue to grow, resulting in new programming and quality instruction for all our students.

In the past year, the board has worked diligently to implement our strategic plan. We worked with our governance committee to create a code of conduct for our students, updated board by-laws, and provided cost of living wage increases for our administrative staff members. Relationships were formed and strengthened by holding an after concert reception with local private and school music teachers. Our year end gala event "A Toast to NOYO" was a tremendous success. We showcased performances by faculty members of the Oberlin Conservatory as we celebrated NOYO at Biermarkt in Ohio City. Attendance for the event was up 43% this year, which helped contribute to a 45% increase in raised funds. We are looking forward to continuing the trend as we begin to plan our gala fundraiser for April 2017.

Everything you will see in this report demonstrates the incredible dedication of our artistic and administrative staff. With their hard work, the mission of NOYO continues to grow as we reach more young people in our community. The coming season includes new programs, and we look forward to celebrating another successful year.

Ryan Miller

“”

*I love NOYO because of its enriching and memorable experiences it provides to the youth. These youth will be able to carry these leadership skills and experiences with them for the rest of their lives and make musical connections across the universe.*



## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As I look back on our 2015-2016 season, I see a year of exceptional artistic and organizational growth. In just a year's time, we doubled our concert attendance and significantly increased individual and foundation support which enabled us to expand our programming and perform concerts at an extraordinarily high level. Congratulations and thank you to all of our gifted young musicians and incredibly supportive families, teachers, and community members. I would like to highlight a number of projects that helped define our 47th season and made the year a success.



### **We debuted our Young Composers Program and Chamber Music Extension**

at the BOP STOP in Cleveland with premiere performances of NOYO student compositions and chamber music ensembles. The Young Composers Program provided students with year-long composition instruction at Oberlin Conservatory with conservatory student composers Torrin Hallett and Justin Weiss. Over the course of the year and with the guidance of composer Aaron Helgeson, students learned the fundamentals of music—including counterpoint, notation, and instrumentation—while expressing themselves in their own compositions. Student works were premiered by Oberlin Conservatory musicians at the BOP STOP alongside NOYO chamber music ensemble performances.

**Our season closed with “A Night at the Opera.”** This star-studded evening of beloved opera arias and Broadway hits featured Oberlin Conservatory student and faculty soloists, concerto competition winners violist Natalie Brennecke (Philharmonia Orchestra) and violinist Elena Runion (Sinfonietta Strings) and the cast and chorus of the MAD\* Factory's production of *Les Misérables*. It was by far one of the largest concert productions of the season, ending with a standing ovation.

**NOYO's inaugural Summer Symphony was a huge success!** 36 young string players from Lorain County participated in the weeklong day camp hosted at Oberlin Conservatory. From August 9-16, they rehearsed as a full orchestra under the direction of Peggie Willett, NOYO's Sinfonietta Strings Conductor. Every morning, students ranging from grades 4-9 enjoyed a full day of orchestra rehearsals, coaching sessions, chamber music rehearsal, and social activities. Students worked with expert string teachers from the Oberlin Community Music School who helped them navigate repertoire and develop their technique and musicianship. Summer Symphony had its premiere performance in Kendal at Oberlin's Heiser Auditorium and gave their final performance in beautiful Finney Chapel.

We had ambitious goals going into our 47th season, and I am so proud to say that we not only accomplished them, we exceeded them. Thank you for an incredible year.

Michael Roest

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

**MICHAEL ROEST** *Executive & Artistic Director*

**ANDREW MACHAMER** *General Manager*

**DIANA FESSLER** *Financial Manager*

## COACHING STAFF

NOYO's coaching staff consists of candidates for degree in instrumental performance majors of the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. These students are carefully selected through an interview process and come to us highly recommended by their private instructors as dedicated, responsible, and effective teachers. Our coaches lead rehearsals and sectionals giving individual instruction to improve our musicians' performance skills.

### Oberlin Conservatory Student Coaches

Lauren Anker, french horn  
Lana Auerbach, violin  
Albert Bellefeuille, organ  
Kelsey Bannon, percussion  
David Van Beveren, oboe  
Kimberly Bill, violin  
Tommy Chafe, viola  
Randall Chaves Camacho, percussion  
Maurice Cohn, cello  
Corinne Crowley, bassoon  
Amanda Dame, flute  
Miriam DuVall, cello  
Jacob Efthimiou, cello  
Tobias Elser, violin  
Brooks Fisher, oboe  
Greg Gennaro, violin

Ashley Hale, trumpet  
Tasiaeafe Hiner, flute  
Austin Lewellen, bass  
Nina Laube, bassoon  
Noelle Marty, bass  
Alex Melzer, trombone  
Ben Merte, bass  
Bailey Meyers, french horn  
Nikola Nikolovski, trumpet  
Louis Pino, percussion  
Theodosia Roussos, oboe  
Olivia Salas, bass  
Joshua Sechan, bassoon  
Annika Sundberg, viola  
Corey Worely, violin



## Oberlin Conservatory Student Side-by-side Performers

Kimberly Bill, violin  
 Joshua Blue, tenor  
 Logan Bryck, horn  
 Randall Chaves Camacho, percussion  
 Candy Chang, flute  
 Maurice Cohn, cello  
 Miriam DuVall, cello  
 Allison Freeman, piano  
 Greg Gennaro, violin  
 Justin Gunter, percussion  
 Zoe Heuser, bass  
 Flora Hollifield, violin  
 Michael Mazzullo, percussion

Siena Miller, mezzo-soprano  
 Amber Monroe, soprano  
 Hannah Murray, bass  
 Bailey Myers, horn  
 Pok Yee Ng, violin  
 Robert Pedersen, piano  
 Olivia Salas, bass  
 Rachel Shapiro, piano  
 Annika Sundberg, viola  
 Ryan Toher, clarinet  
 Aliya Ultan, cello  
 Zishu Xie, piano

## Private Teachers

Michelle Abraham, violin  
 Heidi Albert, cello  
 Cara Arnold, violin  
 Natalia Badziak, viola  
 Bonnie Bowerman, violin  
 Lindsey Brown, cello  
 Elizabeth Castro Abrahams, violin  
 Amy Chang, cello  
 Stephen Chapdelaine, trumpet  
 Jeanette Chen, harp  
 Tren Cheshier, french horn  
 Christa Cole, violin  
 Marie Cox, bass  
 Kay Currier, flute  
 Tim Daniels, oboe  
 Hale Davis, violin  
 Sophie Davis, violin  
 Andrea Donze, bassoon  
 Jacob Efthimiou, cello  
 Davis Erikson, tuba  
 Bruce Erwin, viola  
 Joanne Erwin, cello  
 Jaime Feldman, cello  
 Noe Fernandez, trombone  
 Fabian Fuertes, clarinet  
 Kevin Grasel, horn  
 Wei-Fang Gu, violin  
 Judith Guegold, trumpet  
 Meghan Guegold, french horn  
 Wendy Hayberger, violin  
 Larry Herman, trumpet  
 Dale Hildebrand, trombone  
 Jan Hime, piano  
 Yeonsun Huh, violin  
 Molly Johnson, violin  
 Tamara Kagy, flute  
 Christine Kilbane, viola

Gregory Kinat, cello  
 Jan Kreuger, violin  
 Laura Kuennan-Poper, violin and viola  
 David Lueschen, french horn  
 Nancy Martel, viola  
 Erin Maughan, violin  
 Audrey Melzer, bass  
 Nick Miller, horn  
 Rachel Mills, cello  
 Elona Pappas, violin  
 Van Parker, french horn  
 Kristan Perry, oboe  
 Richard Pokrywka, trumpet  
 Mary Price, violin  
 Aaron Putka, trumpet  
 Carol Ross, viola and violin  
 Elizabeth Rothenbush, violin  
 Miranda Rutherford, bassoon  
 Xaio Lei Salovara, harp  
 Laura Simna, violin  
 Jessica Smith, bassoon  
 Todd Townsend, trombone  
 Mari-Liis Uibo, violin  
 Cathy Vetovitz, violin  
 Milan Vitek, violin  
 Sofia Vitek, violin  
 Matt Viola, clarinet  
 Martha Vivona, cello  
 Kathy Wainwright, cello  
 Brea Warner, viola  
 Alice Weiss, violin  
 Peggie Willett, violin  
 Rachel White, violin  
 Lisa Whitfield, viola  
 Peggie Willett, violin  
 Louise Zeitlin, viola



## SYMPHONETTA STRINGS

*Symphonetta Strings is a strings-only ensemble for intermediate-level musicians primarily grades 4-9. Led by conductor Peggie Willett, Symphonetta Strings musicians perform string orchestra works and arrangements of popular and standard symphonic literature. During rehearsals, musicians receive instrument-specific instruction and learn the skills needed for ensemble playing with an emphasis on collaboration, proper technique, and musicianship.*



**PEGGIE O'NEAL WILLETT**  
Symphonetta Strings  
Conductor

Peggie holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Baldwin Wallace University and a Master of Music Education degree from West Chester University. Mrs. Willett is currently the director of elementary orchestras for the Avon Local Schools. She has taught in public schools in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Texas, maintained a private studio, and led numerous community ensembles.



**ANNIKA SUNDBERG**  
Symphonetta Strings  
Assistant Conductor

Annika received her Bachelor of Music degree from the Oberlin Conservatory in viola and organ performance, where she studied with Michael Strauss. She is a dedicated musician and gifted teacher.

“,” *My daughter has grown as a person as well as a musician due to the wonderful environment and instructors.*

**A Night on Bald Mountain**  
**October 25, 2015**

Warner Concert Hall, Oberlin, OH

*Gargoyles*, Doug Spata

*Phantom's Escape*, Sean O'Loughlin

*Suo Gan*, Welsh Folk Song, arr. Larry Clark

*Dragon's Tale*, Sean O'Loughlin

**World Harmonies**  
**January 22, 2016**

Warner Concert Hall, Oberlin, OH

*Ear-igami*, Richard Meyer

*Rhythms of Africa*, Soon Hee Newbold

*Ahlan Sabaya Alfarah*, Arabic Dance,  
arr. Kenneth Sarch

"Carmen, Carmela", Mexican Folk Song

*Balalaikal*, James Meredith

**A Night at the Opera**  
**March 20, 2016**

Finney Chapel, Oberlin, OH

*Allegro Spiritoso*, Jean-Baptiste Senaille,  
arr. Robert S. Frost

"Barcarolle" from *Les Contes d' Hoffmann*,  
Jacques Offenbach

"Popular" from the Broadway Musical  
*Wicked*, Stephen Schwartz,  
arr. Ted Ricketts

*La Donna e Mobile*, Giuseppe Verdi,  
arr. Jamin Haffman





## PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA

*The Philharmonia Orchestra is a full symphonic ensemble comprised of winds, brass, percussion, and strings. The orchestra performs three public concerts at Oberlin Conservatory of Music. Under the guidance of professional musicians, the orchestra rehearses and performs challenging orchestral repertoire ranging from classical masterworks to world premieres. The Philharmonia Orchestra's repertoire challenges its musicians to perform at a high pre-collegiate level. Over the course of the concert season, musicians develop their musicality and leadership skills while collaborating with their peers.*



**MICHAEL ROEST**  
**Philharmonia Orchestra**  
**Conductor**

Mr. Roest is a graduate of the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and The Juilliard School, where he received his Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees in Tuba Performance, respectively. He is most recently a graduate of the Lorain County Leap Next Generation Leadership program. In addition to his work with the Northern Ohio Youth Orchestra, Mr. Roest serves as Teacher of Brass Studies at the Oberlin Conservatory, where he leads the Oberlin Brass Ensemble. Founder of the annual charity event, the *Empty Mugs Holiday Brass & Organ Spectacular*, he has raised over \$40,000 to support the Oberlin Community Services. He is an active conductor, arts administrator, clinician, and brass instructor.





**MAURICE COHN**  
**Philharmonia Orchestra**  
**Assistant Conductor**

A fourth-year cello performance major at Oberlin Conservatory, Maurice Cohn began his musical studies at age four in his hometown of Galesburg, Illinois. He studied piano for several years, and had a brief stint in the band program playing trombone, but his focus has always been the cello. Through the Northern Ohio Youth Orchestra, Maurice is very grateful for the opportunity to work explore a new musical avenue, conducting, and to work with younger musicians. At Oberlin, he studies cello with Darrett Adkins, and has taken conducting classes with Joanne Erwin and Raphael Jiménez.

**A Night on Bald Mountain**  
**October 25, 2015**

**Warner Concert Hall, Oberlin, OH**

Selections from *Phantom of the Opera*,  
 Lloyd Webber, Arr. Custer

*Funeral March*, Chopin, Arr. Roest

Allegretto from Symphony No. 7 in  
 A minor, Beethoven, Arr. Leidig

*Night on Bald Mountain*, Mussorgsky,  
 Rimsky-Korsakov

*March to the Scaffold* from *Symphonie*  
*Fantastique*, Berlioz

**World Harmonies**  
**January 17, 2016**

**Warner Concert Hall, Oberlin, OH**

*An American in Paris*, Gershwin,  
 Arr. Whitney

"Habanera" from *Carmen*, Bizet

"Toreadors" from *Carmen*, Bizet

*Milonga del Angel*, Piazzolla, Arr. Roest

*Libertango*, Piazzolla, Arr. Cutler

**A Night at the Opera**  
**March 20, 2016**

**Warner Concert Hall, Oberlin, OH**

*Steplechase*, Hallett (*world premiere*)

*Viola Concerto in D Major*, Hoffmeister  
 Natalie Brennecke, viola

"Habanera" from *Carmen*, Bizet  
 Siena Miller, mezz-soprano

"Brindisi" from *La Traviata*, Verdi  
 Amber Monroe, soprano  
 Joshua Blue, tenor

"Va, Tosca" from *Tosca*, Puccini  
 Timothy Lefebvre, baritone

"Master of the House" and "Do You Hear  
 the People Sing", Shönberg, Arr. Lowden  
 Cast and Chorus from the MAD\* Factory

## RHYTHM & BRASS

*Rhythm & Brass draws its members from the brass and percussion sections of the Philharmonia Orchestra. This ensemble, led by conductor Michael Roest, pioneers new arrangements and performs a challenging mix of classical and popular music. Rhythm & Brass musicians receive weekly intensive coachings which provide the players with a strong foundation for developing advanced technique.*



**MICHAEL ROEST**  
Rhythm & Brass  
Conductor



Mr. Roest is a graduate of the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and The Juilliard School, where he received his Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees in Tuba Performance, respectively. He is most recently a graduate of the Lorain County Leap Next Generation Leadership program. In addition to his work with the Northern Ohio Youth Orchestra, Mr. Roest serves as Teacher of Brass Studies at the Oberlin Conservatory, where he leads the Oberlin Brass Ensemble. He also oversees the daily operations the Oberlin Conservatory's performing ensembles as the Operations Manager and Performance Librarian. Founder of the annual charity event, the Empty Mugs Holiday Brass & Organ Spectacular, he has raised over \$40,000 to support the Oberlin Community Services. He is an active conductor, arts administrator, clinician, and brass instructor.

**Empty Mugs Holiday Brass  
& Organ Spectacular**  
December 16, 2013

Rhythm & Brass side-by-side with  
Oberlin Brass Ensemble

The First Noel, Traditional  
*Motown Jingle Bells*, Sam Pilafian



“,”

*Participating in NOYO has helped revive our daughter's interest in playing. She's getting excellent training and just loves to go every week and make music. The NOYO faculty know how to get the most out of the kids and set high expectations while making it fun and engaging.*



## YOUNG COMPOSERS PROGRAM & CHAMBER MUSIC EXTENSION

*The Northern Ohio Youth Orchestra debuted its Young Composers Program and Chamber Music Extension at the BOP STOP with premiere performances of student compositions and chamber music ensembles. An exciting new initiative, the Young Composers Program provided students with year-long composition instruction at Oberlin Conservatory under the guidance of Assistant Professor of Composition, Aaron Helgeson and Oberlin Conservatory student composers, Torrin Hallett and Justin Weiss. Over the course of the year, students learned the fundamentals of music composition—including counterpoint, notation, and instrumentation—while writing works which were by Oberlin Conservatory musicians. The concert featured NOYO chamber music ensembles as part of the Chamber Music Extension. Students in this program rehearsed from April to May, learning how to play in small ensembles under the instruction of Oberlin Conservatory students.*



“”

*NOYO helps my son be independent,  
responsible, confident and a team player.*

**YCP and CME Performance**

**May 15, 2016**

**BOP STOP at The Music Settlement**

**YCP Instructors**

Justin Weiss

Torrin Hallett

**YCP Program Coordinator**

Aaron Helgeson

**CME Coaches**

Gregory Gennaro

Maurice Cohn

Fabian Fuertes



## SUMMER SYMPHONY

*SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2015—SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2015*

*Summer Symphony was a brand new weeklong day camp for intermediate string players, primarily grades 4-9. Hosted at Oberlin Conservatory of Music, students participated in daily full orchestra rehearsals, sectional coachings, workshops, and team building activities.*



“,, The thing that taught me the most was playing in sectionals because it was challenging and I learned a lot of new things like 16th notes!



**Saturday, August 15**

Kendal at Oberlin, Oberlin, OH

**Sunday, August 16**

Warner Concert Hall, Oberlin, OH

### 36 Students...

- performed exciting classical and popular string orchestra music.
- received daily coachings from an expert staff of string teachers.
- participated in workshops exploring music theory, ear training, and playing techniques.
- studied and performed chamber music
- played games and participated in team building exercises
- made friends and had fun!



## PARTICIPANT SUMMARY

**113** TOTAL STUDENTS

**31** CITIES

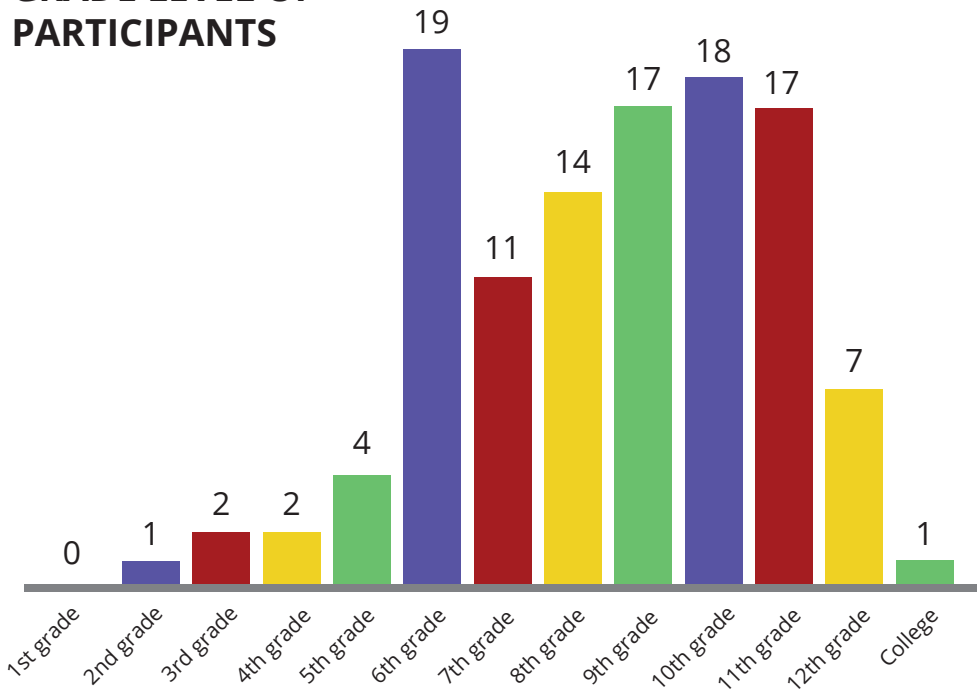


**66%** 75 female students



**34%** 38 male students

### GRADE LEVEL OF PARTICIPANTS



# FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

## \$5,145

TOTAL FINANCIAL AID  
& SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

### CONDUCTOR'S AWARDS

Yikun Zhuo, violin  
Maggie Butler, cello  
David Coy, bassoon

Conductor's Awards are granted to students who demonstrate a positive attitude, excellent attendance, and both technical and musical growth during the 2015-2016 season.

Recipients of the Conductor's Awards received a full tuition scholarship for the 2016-2017 season.



“““ *What a fabulous opportunity—the experience and growth it gives is so valuable! Thank you so much for being here!*

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## 2015-16

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Network Administrator, Oberlin College

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### **Mark Parish**

Music Educator, Former Director of  
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### **Christopher Jenkins**

Assistant Dean of Academic Support,  
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### **William Adair**

Emergency Medical Technician

### **Adriana Tucker**

Assistant Vice President and  
Senior Recruiter, PNC Bank

## 2016-17

### **Ryan Miller, President**

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Assistant Dean of Academic Support,  
Oberlin Conservatory

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Financial Literacy Educator, Oberlin College

### **Rosalind Soltow, Secretary**

Administrative Assistant for OCLC, CILC, and CLEAR, Oberlin College

### **Eileen Jarc**

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### **Robert Cabrera**

Attorney, Law Office of Attorney Robert Cabrera

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Emergency Medical Technician

### **Adriana Tucker**

Assistant Vice President and  
Senior Recruiter, PNC Bank

### **Jeanette Chen**

Oberlin Conservatory student

## EX-OFFICIO

Michael Roest  
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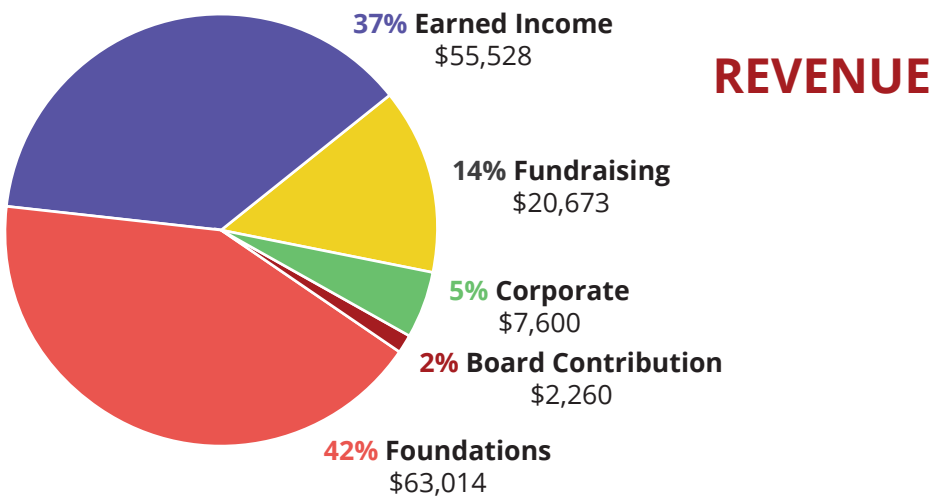
## ADVISORY BOARD

Beth Blissman  
Joanne Erwin  
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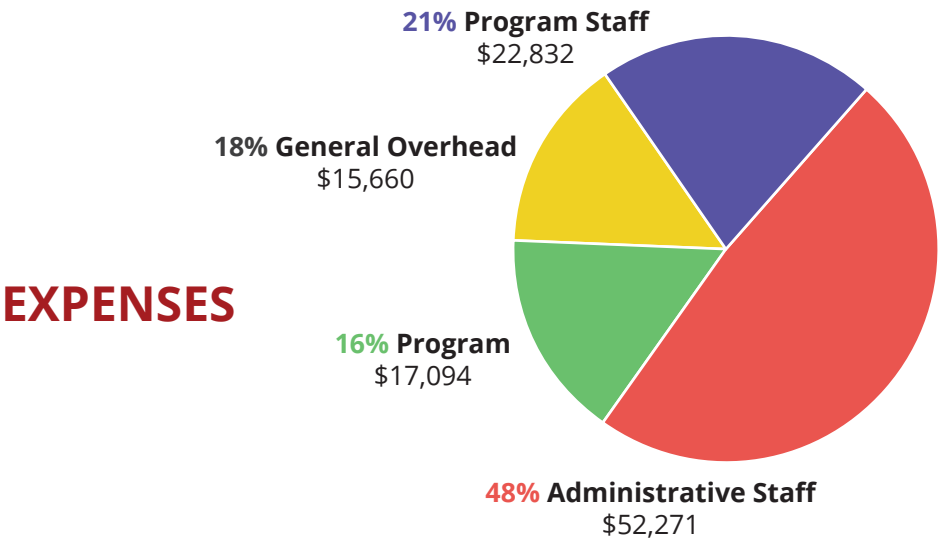
# FINANCIAL REPORT

NOYO's financial results were positive for the 2015-2016 fiscal year. We ended the year with a positive change in net assets of \$41,118.



**A TOAST TO NOYO**  
4th Annual Fundraiser held at  
the Speakeasy Lounge in Ohio City

**TOTAL RAISED**  
**\$5,300**



# THANK YOU

NOYO received several gifts and grants from individuals, corporations, and foundations in support of our 2015-2016 season. We are grateful for their generosity and support. Every donor has played a major role in ensuring that the youth of northern Ohio have access to excellent orchestral training. If you would like to join this ensemble of loyal supporters, please contact us at [noyo@noyo.org](mailto:noyo@noyo.org).

## Foundation & Corporate Support

Bill Long Foundation  
Emerson Network Power  
Community Foundation of Lorain County  
Jane and Eric Nord Fund  
Nord Family Foundation  
Nordson Corporation  
Oberlin Business Partnership

## Conductor's Circle (\$1,000-\$4,999)

Nicole and Rod McGuire  
Anne and Al Sprague

## Symphony (\$500-\$999)

Mark Parish and Jody Kerchner  
Marsha M. Price  
Beth and Ellis Tallman

## Concerto (\$300-\$499)

Aaron Helgeson Music  
Larry and Arlene Dunn  
Michael and Catherine Sunderman  
Joan B. Webster  
United Way of Greater Lorain County

## Fanfare (\$150-\$299)

Ade and Abby Abiose  
Anonymous  
Karina Abolina and Li-Jen Chen  
Bruce and Joanne Erwin  
Sherry and Don Esch  
Jay Klemme and Anne Wilson  
Ryan Miller and Catherine Robert  
Michael Roest  
Gregory Ristow  
Bruce and Sue Simonson

## Sonata (\$65-\$149)

David Bowlin  
Carole Ann and Hilary P. Crayton  
Lisa Ensor  
Lawrence Ester  
Edward Greenwald  
Christopher Jenkins  
Glen and Marcia Kubach  
Robert and Carol Longworth  
Jane B. Nord  
David Schane  
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Kenneth and Rebecca Young

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Daune Mahy  
Susan and Paul Malloch  
Sharon Miranda  
Robert and Kelly Pedersen  
Dale and Kim Preston  
Shelly Rasmussen



Bruce Richards and Phyllis Gorfrin  
 Karen and Steven Roest  
 Katharine Spore  
 Cathy and Michael Strauss  
 Carol Tufts  
 Steve and Dinah Volk  
 Wilma Weber  
 Marilyn T. Willett

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 Ray Kling  
 Slow Train

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 Anne and Al Sprague

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# **NOYO** | Northern Ohio Youth Orchestra

39 South Main Street, Suite 244  
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