

2023-2024 SEASON

TEMPLES, TAVERNS, & TAPS

ANNUAL REPORT FY2024

The
LOTUS
Project

Alicia N. Brozovich, Artistic Director
Alex Meakem, Executive Director

Overview

MISSION

Our mission is to craft immersive musical experiences in which we can encounter the world with new eyes and a renewed sense of wonder.

We do this through:

IMMERSIVE CONCERTS

Multimedia concerts, pre-concert discussions, and semi-staged programs laced the season with wonder.

COMPELLING STORIES

This year, we engaged with veterans and their relatives to showcase their stories during our Veteran's Day concert at the Patriots Theater at the War Memorial.

HIGHLIGHTING HISTORICALLY-EXCLUDED VOICES

This season included offering professional performance opportunities to four area youth music programs and emphasized music by living composers from historically excluded communities.

ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY

This season saw the launch of LOTUS Chorale, an intergenerational community vocal ensemble.



LEADERSHIP

Alicia Brozovich, Artistic Director
Alex Meakem, Executive Director
Josh Wilson, Assistant Conductor

Board of Trustees

Alicia Brozovich, President
Alex Meakem, Vice-President
Kamala Silvey Cafaro, Secretary
Colton Martin, Treasurer
Lisa Lunsford
Jacob Nelson
Moses Possible

NEW ENSEMBLES

LOTUS CHORALE



75 member performing two concerts per year. The Chorale is made up of college students, young adults, seasoned singers, and senior citizens.

LOTUS FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA



Made of professional players from the region. As part of this ensemble, advanced players from Trenton Music Makers were given opportunities to perform in two concerts.

NATIONAL RECOGNITION



*"Playing for The LOTUS Project was a mile stone for me. Meeting with professional musicians and professional singers, I felt like I belonged, that I too was a serious musician, and not just a student."
(Cindy, Trenton Music Makers)*

2023-2024 Season

Financial Statistics



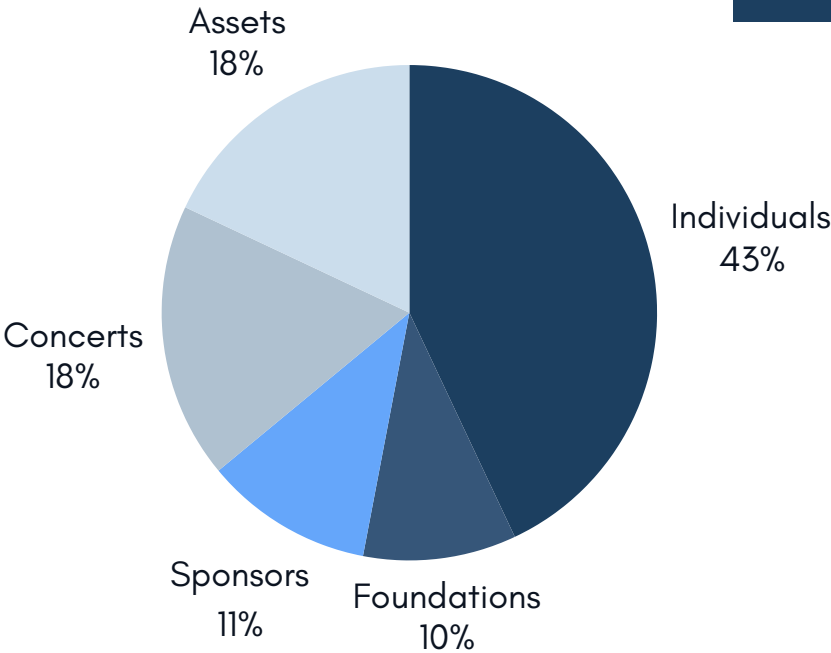
INCOME **\$65,000**

EXPENSES **\$61,500**

Stewardship

90%

Percentage of expenses that directly supported a mission activity. The remaining expenses contributed to administrative resources.



Funding Sources

100+ Individuals
10 Corporate Sponsors
8 Concerts
2 Foundations

2023-2024 Season Regional Footprint



VENUES

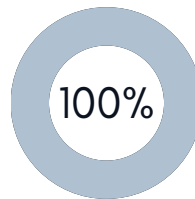
Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church (NYC)
New Brunswick Performing Arts Center
Patriots Theater at The War Memorial
Princeton University
St. Mary's Abbey (Morristown)
St. Mary Byzantine Church (Trenton)
St. James Church (Pennington)
Stone Hill Church of Princeton

1600+

Audience Members

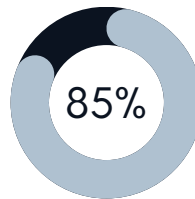
SEASON PARTNERS

Frontline Arts
Somerset Hills Chorus
The Sebastians
The Cranbury School
Bordentown Regional Middle School
Capital Harmony Works
Princeton University Art Museum
Double Vision: Foreigner Tribute Band



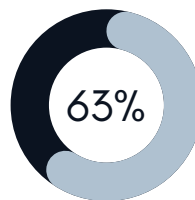
Accessible Venues

Every event this season was offered at venues with accessibility features



Engaging New Audiences

Events that drew new audiences to the Trenton arts and music scene



Local Commitment

Concerts and events were held primarily in Trenton and Mercer County

Artist-In-Residence & Community Partner



All veterans have a story to tell. For too long, we have lived in a day and age where veterans tend to suppress their experiences – producing a culture of the “silent veteran.” Frontline Paper (formerly known as Combat Paper NJ) is a unique art project that offers artistic tools and professional instruction for all, providing a space to use art and writing to explore experiences, and ultimately share them publicly, all through papermaking.

Frontline Arts

We collaborated with the team at Frontline Arts in Branchburg, NJ, as both a community partner and the season’s Artist-in-Residence. With their mission to connect communities through socially engaging arts practices rooted in papermaking and printmaking, they were a natural fit for our Veteran’s Day concert.



DECONSTRUCT

Uniforms can hold dirt, blood, sweat, and memories. Each workshop session begins with the participants sharing their stories while cutting into the uniform.

RECLAIM

The cut pieces of uniform are beaten into a pulp using specially designed papermaking equipment, creating a slurry of fibers and water. Sheets of paper are then pulled from the pulp and dried to create handmade paper. In this process the fibers and memories are reconstructed, or reclaimed into something different – paper.

COMMUNICATE

Dried sheets of paper become the platform for veterans to communicate their stories.

EVERYONE BECOMES A WITNESS

Community-based events, and exhibitions are important opportunities for veterans to talk about their military service, and for society to hear stories from the veterans themselves, the people.



FRONTLINE PAPER

Frontline Arts host Veteran to Veteran workshops and features thought-provoking exhibits throughout regionally and nationally. In these workshops, veterans create artwork on paper made from their own uniforms.

Artwork made by veterans was coordinated with the music for our concert on Veteran's Day, creating a living gallery of stories and experiences.

Paper made from combat uniforms

USMC WOOL-202 - FOR. GREEN
WOOD. GREEN / ACU - 802 / 402 -



Samples of artwork featured in concert

NOVEMBER 2023

STAY. TOGETHER. A VIGIL FOR VETERANS



We Honor

Kellie Triplett

US Army

Served in Bosnia and Afghanistan
Army Veterinarian

Dr. Triplett served in Bosnia in support of Operation Joint Endeavor and in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. After retirement in 2015, Dr. Triplett started working for Happy Paws Mobile Vet Clinic in Colorado Springs, Colorado. In her free time, she loves to travel, adores her 5 dogs and 2 cats and is training to do more of her passions.

On November 11, 2023, the Patriots Theater at the War Memorial housed over 100 singers and orchestra musicians from The LOTUS Project, LOTUS Chorale, LOTUS Festival Orchestra, Capital Harmony Works, and Bordentown Regional Middle School – all to honor men and women who served in the armed forces. The concert program included music from *Band of Brothers*, Howard Goodall's *Eternal Light*, and featured images and stories of veterans submitted by community members.

Every Brain Needs Music

December 2023

An entertaining and informative multi-media lecture and concert filled with music, humor, and discussions that showed how our brains and music work in harmony. The program featured Dr. Larry Sherman (author of *Every Brain Needs Music*), Roy Richardson, and Dawana Richardson.



Double Vision: The Foreigner Experience

December 2023

LOTUS Chorale performed with the nation's top Foreigner tribute band at New Brunswick Performing Arts Center. "We wanted the choir for authenticity in performing "I Want To Know What Love Is," said Double Vision lead singer Chandler Mogel. "Foreigner used a choir on the original recording, and when they perform live they feature a different local choir at every stop on their tour."

MAY 2024

DIDO & ÆNEAS



LOTUS Chorale and soloists joined the Somerset Hills Chorus and The Sebastians for a semi-staged production of Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*, conducted by GRAMMY-nominated tenor and Music in The Somerset Hills (MISH) founder, Stephen Sands. MISH appreciated last year's artwork so much that Chee Bravo was again invited to design the backdrop for this concert - further demonstrating the impact of our Artist-in-Residence program throughout the region.



Princeton University Gala

March 2024

By special invitation, LOTUS musicians were the featured performance at the Princeton University Art Museum Gala. The professional vocal ensemble performed two sets of music surrounding the two primary glass art installations in the atriums of the Julis Romo Rabinowitz Building.

Illuminations

February 2024



Path of Miracles: Reprise

March 2024

Last year's Path of Miracles tour was so popular that two more performances were requested in Trenton and NYC.



JULY 2023 - JUNE 2024

DONOR LIST

\$5,000+

Anonymous Friend
Trenton Arts Fund
of the Princeton Area
Community Foundation

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Anonymous Friend
Wright Bros. Realty

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Altenburg Piano House
Healthy Living Acupuncture
Anne Hoppenot
Matthew Smith and Melinda Hunt
Jacobs Music Company
The Presser Foundation
Rebecca Rigert
Shirley Hailstock
Segal-LaBate Commercial
Real Estate

\$500 - \$999

Anonymous Friends
Alicia Brozovich
and Colton Martin
Healing Oceans Family
Wellness Center
Marjorie Selden
Janet Shaw
Mary Giovannoli
Kathy and Ken Schurzky
Sandy and Bruce Duffy

\$250 - \$499

Jonathon Andell
Percy Brown
Deborah Cieslik
John Cook
Brielle Cordingley
Grayson Ferrante
Barbara Gantwerk
JoAnne Harla
Elsie and Jesse Hornblum
Jean Houvener
Julia Huse
Rebecca Jacobsen
Mymoena Kalinisan-Davids
Joyce Koch
Mindy Langer
Anna Meisel
Mercer Cemetery
at Trenton
Michael Mitrano
Sandy Parker
Octopus Music School
Pennington Crossfit
James Reames
Sharmila C. Sachdev
Stephen Sands
Sylvia Stengle
Hannah Thompson
Bill Van Zandt
Laszlo Varga

\$1 - \$249

Kathleen "Katt" Pedrick
Ken and Barbara Blair
Ross and Janice Wilson
Daniel and Nancy Fishman
Jim and Rene Brozovich
Trudy Atkins
Zackary Bantley
Emilie Beals
Elizabeth Bergin
Mackenzie Berry
Felix Bird
Azhaneeet Blackwell
Kristina Bobo
R. Brian McLaughlin
Percy Brown
Qaiyim Brown

Stacy Byard
Mary C. Bogan
John Cass
Brady Caudle
Jennifer Chee-Bravo
Jenni Collins
Francesca Consoli
Mariana Consoli
Peter Consoli
Joanne Cordingley
Lillian Crawford
Rebecca Crosthwait
Brenda Crosthwait
Lorraine Curtin
Edward Dancona
Ivan Darenkov
Katya Darenkova
Jasmin Delgado
Tim Doherty
Sergei Dolgy
Diana Dyak
Robert Dykstra
Denver Edwards
Jean Elizabeth Covino
Michele Enrico
Ronald Erickson
Robert Ferrante
Ziping Fu
Gioia Fumo-Miranda
Samuel Garver
Allie Geiser
Mike Giambelluca
Narrelle Gilchrist
Cheryl Glitz
Mary Goepfert
Howard Goodall
Olympia Grivas
Ken Guilmartin
Suzanne Hagen
Mallory Hagen
Jacob Hale
Charles Hardy
Craig Harris
Jeanette Harris
Julia Henry
Nives Herman
Deborah Herring
Kenneth Hicks
and Mary Bogan-Hicks
Marcel Ionescu

YOUR IMPACT

Every concert, every moment of inspiration, every connection is supported by your dedication to the arts. Because of you, we grow one step closer realizing our vision for an annual music and arts festival in Trenton.

Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of this list. For edits, please contact info@thelotusprojectnj.org

Thank you for your incredible support during our third season; you make all the difference!

Wayne Irons
Matthew Jacobsen
Susan Jacobsen
Mymoena Kalinisan-Davids
Susan Kasziba
Kristin Keenan
Heather Kennedy
Kelly Kiernan
Karina Kornuta
Jess Koscak
Erika Kotsopoy
Omelan Kotsopoy
Anton Kubechko
Jean Kurtain
Steven Kyle
Joyce Lanigan
James Lavranchuk
Andy Law
Jonathan LeBouef
Suzanne Lehrer
Paul Lehrer
Jennifer Ludmer
Katherine Lynes
Virginia Marcus
Mary Margaret Geiser
Suzanne Martin
Elizabeth Massa
Julianne Massielo
Ellen Maughan, IBCLC
Robert McDonald
Bernard McMullan
Cheryl McNamara
Rachel McNamara
Farida Mistry
Kate Mulligan
Nancy Nahrebne
Alan Naidoff
Bela Nakum
New Brunswick
Chamber Orchestra
Jennifer Nolan Michalik
Lauren Olsen Carlton
Calleen Parson
Paige Paul
Rosemary Petrovich
Margaret Pfisterer

Daniel Piver
Nancy Podeszwa
Donna Potts
PFLAG Princeton NJ Chapter
Carter Quinby
Tymofiy Rabchuk
Jody Rajesh
Ruth Randall
Megan Reilly
Abby Rose
Christine Ruth
R. Samuel Boorse
Jade Schaffer
Samuel Schwartz
Anne Sears
Angelina Shapoval
Mark Sharp
Andrew Sheldrick
Lawrence Sherman
Danielle Smylie
Sarah Swahlon
Michael Tang
Edwin Taraba
Tonya Tardiff
John Teague
Beverly Thomas
Janice Thomas
Rebecca Thompson
Robert Thomson
Yuko Unehara
Jane Van Zandt
Sarah Vawdrey
Sarah Vawdrey
Sarah-Alicia W. Burkman
Elyse Washington
Carol Watchler
Lee White
Julia Wilder
Janice Wilson
Margaret Winters
Ayanna Wright-Hailstock
XNOR LLC
Sara Zesski



Mercer Cemetery at Trenton

43 South Clinton Avenue, Trenton, NJ

The Capital City's First Non-Sectarian Cemetery



Resting place of 200+ veterans serving between 1800 and 1953.

Member of the Consortium of Trenton's Historical Cemeteries
"Trenton's history is in our bones."





JOIN US

**Share your passion for art:
spread the word,
attend an event,
or give today**

Your support brings musicians, artists, audiences together in the Capital City; access to premiere concerts regardless of financial status; creative use of urban spaces as concert venues; and partnerships that engage and elevate the local community.



SCAN ME

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The Lotus Project of Trenton, Inc. is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization, EIN 87-1048667. All donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.