



victoria symphony society
2012/2013 annual report

VS

tania miller | music director





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Photos on front cover, from bottom left:
Tania Miller; vsYOUTH instrument petting zoo;
Eehjoon Kwon, Symphony Splash 2012 Young
Soloist; VS low strings; VS Concertmaster
Terence Tam; Victoria Symphony Splash 2012
taken from the roof of the Steamship building.

VS
12/13 annual



The 2013 Annual General Meeting marks one full year for me as your President, a year rich with challenges, excitement, strong progress, and great music. Much of this is described elsewhere in the Annual Report, so I will primarily

describe activities of our Board of Directors.

During 2012/13 we experimented with your Board's organization. Finding that the Finance Committee's remit overlapped extensively with the Executive Committee, we combined them under the President's chairmanship. A recurrent topic for Exec and Finance has been organizing to bring our personal and sponsorship fundraising efforts to a new level.

Committee functions were assigned to Governance, with Trudi Brown as chair; Planning and Vision, Terry Scandrett;

What might we do to celebrate our 75th anniversary in 2015/16?

and Revenue Development, Sheila Protti. Programming, not strictly a committee of the Board, continued as before with Natexa Verbrugge as our representative. In addition, we occasionally struck temporary board task forces to grapple with specific issues. Committee chairs are all members of

Finance & Exec, which meets a week before the full Board. Good coordination is a natural function of this structure.

Planning and Vision, as its name implies, focuses on the medium to long term. What kind of orchestra do we want to be in a few years' time? What are the resource implications, and how might we meet them? Revenue Development, by contrast, is more operational, working on raising revenues in the shorter term. Its membership includes Directors who take active roles in the annual Gala, the raffle, the sale of donated paintings, and so forth. Governance (and its subcommittee Nominations, chaired by Jim Hesser) looks after the structure, briefing, nominations to, and evaluation of the Board, and maintains a view of our risk environment and its appropriate management.

The experiment seems to have succeeded. All board members are active on at least one committee and frequently two. There is a clear division of tasks, and quite an enormous amount of work gets done by these volunteers. One change we intend for the upcoming year is to devote some staff time to the larger corps of volunteers, and to name a board member to be responsible for oversight in this crucial area.

Three members of the Board are also directors of the Victoria Symphony Foundation, whose chairman is Eric Charman OC OBC. Increased joint planning between the two bodies is creating an even closer coordination of fundraising efforts, and a continuation of the high standards of financial stewardship set by Mr. Charman and his colleagues. The Foundation will report separately at its own AGM.

We are saying an official goodbye to two Board members who step down as of our AGM: Past President Marsha Hanen and Mel Weisbart. Mel has been a tireless worker, especially building our volunteer corps and leading them in a



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SPLASH SERENADE



SEASON LAUNCH

very successful raffle during 2012/13. Mel's great love of the music and musicians of the Symphony has been an ongoing inspiration to us all.

Marsha, who preceded me as President, has now been a major force in our organization for seven years. Her vast knowledge of music and her leadership experience (among other things, she was President of the University of Winnipeg) has been a mainstay in all our work. While we will miss Marsha greatly on the Board, we're thrilled that she plans to remain involved in several important ways.

Respectfully submitted,



Harry Swain | President, Board of Directors

Did you know...
The Victoria Symphony
employs 34 full-time,
permanent musicians
who live, teach and
bring art to our
community.

board of directors

executive

Harry Swain
President

Trudi Brown
Vice President

Sheila Protti
Vice President

Barry Mungham
Treasurer

Natexa Verbrugge
Secretary

Terence Scandrett
Member-at-Large

Marsha Hanen
Past President

directors

April-Dawn Best

Martin Bonham

Brian Butler

Ethne Cullen

Jim Hesser

Dawn Johnson

Sandra Lackenbauer

Patricia Lortie

Margot Northey

Christine Prince

Michael Warren

Melvin Weisbart

Susan P. Wetmore



The 2012/2013 fiscal year closed with a small operating surplus of \$40,892.

It was also a year where the Society was required to adopt new CICA accounting standards affecting the financial reporting of most not-for-profit organizations. In order to comply the Society retroactively restated its operating comparative figures and opening unrestricted deficit at June 1, 2011, resulting in an increase in that year's operating surplus by \$7,209, but an increase in the opening unrestricted deficit by \$71,724.

During the year, while overall ticket sales increased \$19,899, or 1.6% from the previous year, overall earned revenues declined by \$129,992, or 6.9%. This decline resulted from lower guarantees and sold services in 2012/2013, as the Pacific Opera Victoria reduced its performances during the year from 4 to 3, and symphony performances held in Duncan were reduced from 7 to 4.

Overall donation and fundraising revenues increased by \$150,529, or 9.8%. We continue to receive strong support from foundations, and increased sponsorships from other commercial organizations, but a highlight for the year was an increase in financial support from individual private donors by \$133,506, or 36% over 2011/2012, for which we are eternally grateful. Reductions in event revenues from fiscal year 2012 to fiscal year 2013 resulted from the timing of specific events in relation to the respective fiscal years. Revenue from the Victoria Symphony Foundation included \$278,500 of general donations from its income for the year, and \$263,750 from available reserves, an overall increase from the previous year by \$205,383. This planned increase in support from the Foundation was required, among other things, to support certain specific initiatives of the Society.

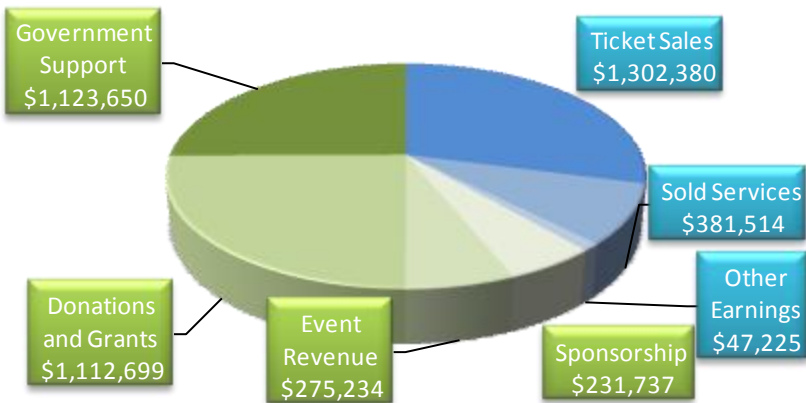
Overall grants from various levels of government has remained relatively consistent for 2012/2013. Changes in the total from fiscal year 2012 to fiscal year 2013 reflect a reduction in the number of specialized project grants.

Management has been diligent in its pursuit of cost control, with overall expenses down by \$113,845, or 2.5% from the previous year. Artistic and related production costs incurred were close to budgeted levels and reflect the corresponding reduction in guarantees and sold service revenues, as pointed out earlier. Increases in administrative costs relate primarily to increased salary costs from changes in personnel, and filling required vacant positions, as well as specific additional legal and consulting costs that were necessary.

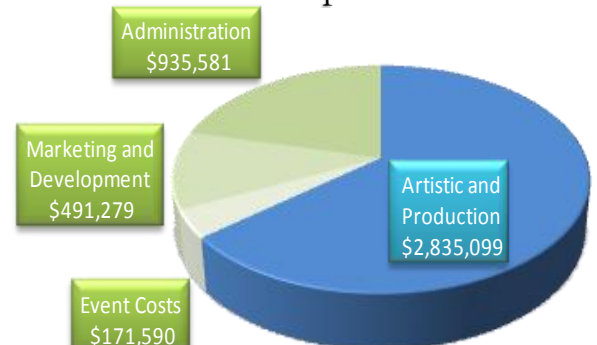
2012/2013 has been an interesting year in my first year as Treasurer. We commend the private donors, local community, commercial organizations and government agencies for their continued support, and the efforts of the Executive Director, management and staff for their diligence. We are very aware that the future of the financial stability of the Society depends on increased overall fundraising efforts, and we are working proactively towards that goal.

Respectfully submitted,
 Barry Mungham | Treasurer, Board of Directors

Revenue Sources



Expenditures



excerpts from financial statements

Victoria Symphony Society Statement of Financial Position As at May 31, 2013

	May 31 2013 \$	May 31 2012 \$	June 1 2011 \$
ASSETS			
Current			
Cash and cash equivalents	608,998	518,625	659,127
Accounts receivable	14,391	21,165	170,757
Prepaid expenses (Note 5)	29,721	63,224	62,535
GST/HST recoverable	8,773	-	-
	<u>661,883</u>	<u>603,014</u>	<u>892,419</u>
Capital assets (Note 6)	<u>194,412</u>	<u>201,695</u>	<u>206,586</u>
	<u>856,295</u>	<u>804,709</u>	<u>1,099,005</u>
LIABILITIES			
Current			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	78,047	84,423	98,355
Wages and benefits payable	35,686	30,557	21,787
GST/HST payable	-	23,361	28,432
Deferred revenue (Note 8)	908,803	871,251	1,170,296
Deferred capital contributions - current (Note 8)	2,250	2,250	2,250
	<u>1,024,786</u>	<u>1,011,842</u>	<u>1,321,120</u>
Deferred capital contributions - long term	<u>14,250</u>	<u>16,500</u>	<u>18,750</u>
	<u>1,039,036</u>	<u>1,028,342</u>	<u>1,339,870</u>
NET ASSETS (DEFICIENCY)			
Unrestricted - page 2 (Note 5)	(360,653)	(406,580)	(426,451)
Invested in capital assets - page 2	<u>177,912</u>	<u>182,947</u>	<u>185,586</u>
	<u>(182,741)</u>	<u>(223,633)</u>	<u>(240,865)</u>
	<u>856,295</u>	<u>804,709</u>	<u>1,099,005</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

excerpts from financial statements

Victoria Symphony Society Statement of Operations Year Ended May 31, 2013

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
Revenue		
Earned	1,731,119	1,861,111
Donations and fundraising (Note 11)	1,682,137	1,531,608
Grants	<u>1,123,650</u>	<u>1,234,373</u>
	<u>4,536,906</u>	<u>4,627,092</u>
Expenses		
Artistic	2,327,059	2,412,926
Production	508,039	500,428
Marketing	312,153	316,360
Box office	134,358	150,097
Renewal campaign	47,039	49,699
Development office	49,794	48,730
Fundraising expenses	181,540	273,575
Administration	<u>936,032</u>	<u>858,044</u>
	<u>4,496,014</u>	<u>4,609,859</u>
Excess of revenue over expenses - <i>page 2</i>	<u>40,892</u>	<u>17,233</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

McINTOSH | NORTON | WILLIAMS
certified general accountants

excerpts from financial statements

Victoria Symphony Society Statement of Cash Flows As at May 31, 2013

	2013 \$	2012 \$
Operating Activities		
Excess of revenue over expenses	40,892	17,233
Amortization of capital assets	<u>20,734</u>	<u>20,888</u>
	61,626	38,121
Changes in non-cash working capital items		
Accounts receivable	6,772	149,594
Prepaid expenses (See Note 5)	33,503	(690)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(6,376)	(13,933)
Wages and benefits payable	5,128	8,770
GST/HST payable	(32,134)	(5,072)
Deferred revenue	37,553	(299,045)
Deferred capital contributions	<u>(2,250)</u>	<u>(2,250)</u>
	<u>103,822</u>	<u>(124,505)</u>
Investing Activities		
Acquisition of capital assets	<u>(13,449)</u>	<u>(15,997)</u>
Increase(decrease) in cash & cash equivalents	90,373	(140,502)
Cash & cash equivalents - beginning of year	<u>518,625</u>	<u>659,127</u>
Cash & cash equivalents - end of year	<u>608,998</u>	<u>518,625</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

VS staff

administrative

Mitchell Krieger
Executive Director

Karen Batchelor
Development Coordinator (until April 2013)

Rachel Carroll
Customer Service Representative

Sandy Grayson
Community Relations Coordinator

Yvette Guigueno
Sponsorship Manager

Sarah Head
Executive Coordinator

Dana Loughlin
Development Coordinator (July 2013 -)

Molly Patton
Marketing Coordinator

Ryan Shore
Box Office Manager

Elizabeth Skillings
Finance Director (April 2013 -)

Jill Smillie
Director of Marketing

Susan Stevenson
Senior Development Officer

Pat Taylor
Finance Director (until April 2013)

artistic

Peter Burris
Orchestra Manager

Ronald Comber
Music Librarian

Eric Gallipo
Stage Manager

executive director's report



Many people participated in the work of supporting the incredible musicians of the Victoria Symphony in 2012/13, our fourth consecutive year in the black. Sales, donations and grants from individuals, businesses, foundations and government led to a surplus of \$40,892, the best result in years. Bright spots included single ticket sales; excellent success in sponsorship, including a new major Music Director

sponsorship from Fisgard Capital; and an increase in Conductor's Circle giving of \$100,000 over the previous year. Community support in fiscal year 2013 provided 37% of the Symphony's revenue (earned income provided 38%, and government 25%).

A special thank you to the Victoria Symphony Foundation, whose President Eric Charman has been a tireless supporter of the Symphony and the arts in Victoria for decades. Eric's unflagging devotion to the cause of building a strong financial base for the VS continues to place us in an ever-better position, moving us toward long-term sustainability.

Our Music Director's report offers you highlights of the artistic successes of 2012/13, including our second "project" celebrating Victoria's Chinatown. I want to thank the many people and institutions involved, especially Councillor Charlayne Thornton-Joe, who devoted much time and energy to bring the community together. The Chinatown Celebration was just part of the Symphony's extensive collaboration. We perform as the orchestra for Pacific Opera Victoria and collaborate with them on many projects. We play for Dance Victoria's *Nutcracker*. The Victoria Choral Society, the Victoria Children's Choir and Ballet Victoria all performed with us in 2012/13. We work closely with the Victoria Conservatory of Music: many of our musicians are on their faculty, and our guest soloists frequently present master classes at VCM. We collaborated with UVic School of Music, the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, and Open Space on our Cage 100 Festival.

Elsewhere in this report, you will find details of our extensive Education and Outreach programs, which reach 14,000 schoolchildren every year. Many thanks to the brilliantly talented musicians who do so much in this sphere, and to our Community Relations Coordinator Sandy Grayson, who puts so much passion and creativity into making these programs be the best they can be.

Sandy is one of a very talented and dedicated team. Orchestra Manager Peter Burris, who just celebrated 35 years with the organization, brings his expertise and love of the orchestra to ensure that the complexities of producing 37 different concert programs are arranged to provide superlative results; he is assisted by amazingly knowledgeable Librarian Ron Comber and incredibly helpful Stage Manager Eric Gallipo. Yvette Guigueno, Development Officer for Sponsorship, has revitalized that area, making more and more sponsors happy to be working with her and

the Symphony. Susan Stevenson has brought a wonderful feeling to the Conductor's Circle and more, with great success. Two new senior staff members, Marketing Director Jill Smillie and Finance Director Liz Skillings, have already made strong and creative contributions to our team. Molly Patton, Ryan Shore and Rachel Carroll continue to make our Marketing and Box Office team innovative and welcoming. And Executive Coordinator Sarah Head ties it all together, dealing deftly with a million things on her plate, and conquering challenging project assignments as well. We owe them all a deep vote of thanks.

Special thanks, too, to former Finance Director Pat Taylor, who retired in May 2013 after ten years with us. Pat's spirit was a major part of what made the Symphony what it is. She is very much missed, and we hope that she is enjoying retirement.

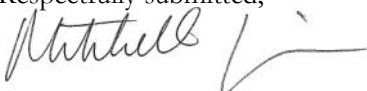
We thank all who bought tickets, made contributions, provided sponsorships, and ensured that government funding of the arts continues to help make our community culturally vibrant.

The Victoria Symphony is blessed with a dedicated, knowledgeable and creative Board of Directors. I would like to thank President Harry Swain for his brilliant leadership and his collaborative approach; I have learned an incredible amount from working with him. I'd also like to thank our outgoing Board members Marsha Hanen and Mel Weisbart. Mel leaves a legacy of personal commitment, leading the Symphony's volunteers in many activities including a successful raffle; and I know he will remain involved. Marsha, who stepped down as President a year ago, will now leave the Board but will remain involved in many ways. Like Harry, and like their predecessor as President Deedrie Ballard, I have been blessed and educated by working with Marsha.

As always, I want to thank and celebrate the great leader and inspiring musician that we are privileged to call our Music Director. Working with Tania is a unique experience, as her passion, deep knowledge and creativity infuse every conversation and decision. It continues to be an honour for me to work with Tania.

And thank you to everyone, from the volunteers to major funders, the staff and Board, the amazing orchestra, our artistic leadership, and everyone who buys a ticket or drops a Loonie in the collection box at Splash. The Victoria Symphony is a collective of all, and each of you is vital. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,



Mitchell Krieger | Executive Director



A CHINATOWN CELEBRATION



VS PRINCIPAL OBOE MICHAEL BYRNE



VOLUNTEERS AT SPLASH



STAFF VOLUNTEER FOR THE MUSTARD SEED

music director's report



2012/13 was a thrilling season for the Victoria Symphony, with many musical highlights, first and foremost the ongoing growth of our orchestra. They play with high quality, technical and interpretive excellence, and deep commitment. This year five new musicians made an enormous impact on the orchestra. Principal

cellist Brian Yoon brings consummate musicianship and exceptional commitment to unity within the section. Principal Trumpet Ryan Cole is a young musician with wonderful sound and style. Corey Rae, our new Principal Percussion, is an extraordinary artist, playing with particular attention to detail and guiding his section well. Three new violinists have joined us, Allison Cregg, Courtney Cameron and Emily Salmon.

Concertmaster Terry Tam continues to make an enormous impact. Terry performed two meaningful concertos this season: the Chen Gang/He Zhanhao Butterfly Lovers Violin Concerto in our Chinatown Celebration, and Dutch composer Wim Zwaag's Violin Concerto, which Terry recorded with the Symphony in 2011. Terry continues to define standards of performance

for the Victoria Symphony, and to lead it in its dedication and commitment to excellence.

Our orchestra has greatly benefited from working with Alain Trudel as our Principal Guest Conductor for four seasons. Alain has excited our orchestra, raised their level (as a virtuoso trombonist, he has had a remarkable impact on our brass section), given them meaningful experiences, and connected deeply with our audiences. We are also proud of the development of our Conductor in Residence, Giuseppe Pietrarola. Joey's concerts have been inspired, mature and highly successful, and he has earned the respect of our musicians.

As "The Shadow of the Ninth" gave thematic shape to the 2011/12 season, the 2012/13 season looked towards its final concert for inspiration. In May the orchestra presented Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring* as part of the world's celebration of the 100th anniversary of the premiere of this seminal work. Many works throughout the season were carefully chosen to relate to Stravinsky and his impact, including Copland's *Appalachian Spring*, Bartok's *Miraculous Mandarin*, Stravinsky's *Circus Polka*, Rimsky-Korsakov's *Capriccio Espagnol*, Borodin's *Polovtsian Dances*, and Nielsen Symphony No. 5. Composer-in-Residence Michael Oesterle has been greatly influenced by Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring* and premiered his *New World: Of Hope and Refuge* on these final concerts. Indeed this season was an exciting new relationship with Michael Oesterle as his first two installments of *New World* were premiered, with two more installments coming in 2013/14.





ALAIN TRUDEL



JAMES EHNES



COREY RAE IN "HARMONIOUS INTEREST" (right)

season highlights

- led the Victoria arts community in two festivals: one for John Cage and one to celebrate the history of Victoria's Chinatown
- successfully broadcast two performances on the internet
- welcomed three new principal musicians and three new violinists
- performed 12 Canadian pieces
- saw over 250 Canadian artists join the orchestra onstage
- presented a commissioned work by renowned Canadian composer R. Murray Schafer

This season we also gained considerable national attention with several contemporary programs. In February/March 2013, our Chinatown Celebration included an extraordinary world premiere as well as collaborations with the Chinatown community, the Victoria Conservatory of Music, Vancouver's Chinese Orchestra, the Royal BC Museum, BC Maritime Museum, the University of Victoria and others. The culmination of this festival was our performance of the world premiere of *Harmonious Interest*. Canadian composer Chan Ka Nin created a fascinating, delightful and moving music theatre work, depicting the experience of a young Chinese man arriving at Victoria in the nineteenth century. The commissioned work was of interest right across Canada: it was featured on CBC: The National, the cover of the Arts section in the Globe and Mail, and it was reviewed favourably in the Toronto Star. It was also the second time that the Victoria Symphony made a video recording of a concert, and it is viewable online as a webcast.

Our Cage 100 concert (also a webcast) and festival was part of an international celebration of John Cage. The Symphony partnered with Christopher Butterfield, the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, Open Space, UVic Percussion Ensemble, UVic Sonic Lab and the Emily Carr String Quartet to create this festival. We created a VS Cage100 webpage, joined international websites, put our webcast on Youtube and Vimeo, and were hosted by the Canadian Music Centre website as well. The League of American Orchestras featured our festival on their Symphony Now website.

Debut performances in 2012/13 included Canadian conductors Jean-Marie Zeitouni and Michelle Mourre; the renowned British baroque leader and violinist Elizabeth Wallfisch; American cellist Zuill Bailey and pianist Ang Li; and Canadian pianists Shoko Inoue and Jan Lisiecki (who, on his 18th birthday, gave a spectacular rendition of Chopin's Piano Concerto No. 1). Important returning artists included conductors Bernhard Gueller, Igor Budenstein and Edwin Outwater, and soloists Andre Laplante, Ian Parker, Nancy Argenta, Benjamin Butterfield, Lorraine Min, Jinjoo Cho and Ken Lavigne. The return of the great James Ehnes, offering an amazing performance



ALANA DESPINS



TERENCE TAM AND THE VS VIOLINS



JAN LISIECKI

of the Sibelius Violin Concerto, was one of the great highlights of our season.

We also featured soloists of the Victoria Symphony. In October, our wonderful new Principal Cello Brian Yoon, Assistant Concertmaster Christi Meyers, Principal Bassoon Jennifer Gunter, and Principal Oboe Michael Byrne performed an exquisite Haydn Sinfonia Concertante. It was a moment of pride: the entire orchestra was in admiration of the beautiful performance of their colleagues, and all were completely committed to performing every detail of the performance as one large chamber ensemble. Our Classics series included Principal Horn Alana Despins in an exceptional solo debut with the orchestra.

Principal Pops conductor Brian Jackson, retiring after 17 years, opened the 12-13 Pops with “The Best of Brian Jackson” farewell performances. A special celebration was held after his final concert to honour his great music-making in our community. Other Pops presentations included conductors Sean O’Laughlin and Matt Catingub, Canada’s popular band Jeans n’Classics, and the return Cirque de la Symphonie (which broke box-office records!).

One of the great highlights of this season for me, and for many young people, was our Education Concert. In “The Mischievous Adventures of the Rascally Rhythm,” with the

help of my witty Principal Percussionist Corey Rae and his dramatic Zorro costume, we taught the children about rhythm while they screamed, clapped, laughed, danced and helped me hunt down that “rascal.” Musicians from the orchestra commented that the kids’ excited screams and responses reminded them of what it must have felt like to be at a Beatles concert! We performed seven concerts reaching 8,000 children in Greater Victoria and Duncan. Our Concerts for Kids included Lemony Snicket’s *The Composer is Dead*, Magic Circle Mime company’s *The Mozart Experience*, the dynamic duo Judy and David, and the always popular film and live orchestral experience of *The Snowman*.

Our 2012 Butchart Gardens summer season included a lovely program entitled *Mozart in Paris*, an exciting concert featuring Dvorak’s *New World Symphony*, and *Music of the Movies*. *Symphony Splash 2012* celebrated the 150th anniversary of the City of Victoria and included the world premiere of *The Gate of Harmonious Interest* by Chan Ka Nin.

All the music and people I’ve described above are part of the largest and most active arts organization on Vancouver Island, performing for over 140,000 people annually, including 14,000 schoolchildren. I’m proud to be able to work with the musicians of the Victoria Symphony and am deeply grateful to my colleagues who work for the Symphony, and to those in our community who support the arts, enabling us to achieve our mission: to enrich lives through the shared experience of extraordinary music.

Respectfully submitted,

Tania Miller | Music Director

“For the past decade Tania Miller has presided quietly over the transformation of a modest community orchestra on Canada’s west coast into an ensemble of some distinction...”

Toronto Star

Our most recent Victoria Symphony season, while showing off the orchestra as a whole, often featured individual orchestra members either as concerto soloists or as featured players within the orchestra. For instance, Ginastera's Concerto for Strings on October 13th had electrifying solos for the string section leaders. The following week's Haydn Sinfonia Concertante, featuring Principals Michael Byrne, oboe, Jennifer Gunter, bassoon, Christi Meyers, violin and Brian Yoon, cello, not only displayed their remarkable ensemble talents, but treated our audience to the first concerto performance in Victoria involving our new Principal Cellist. The concert in January that we, players, nicknamed "Miraculous Polovetsian Capriccio in Blue," spotlighted our Principal Clarinetist, Keith MacLeod who played and played one challenging solo after another, tirelessly and flawlessly, reminding me of the Energizer bunny. The main opera in February, Albert Herring, scored for only one player per part, amounted to a two and a half hour concerto

for all involved. They all sounded terrific. Our Principal Percussionist, Corey Rae, went way beyond the normal call of duty last season, wrestling an odd assortment of young student musicians, some of whom had never played percussion instruments, into shape as percussionists at the other opera in February, Noye's Fludde, and that same week, delighting school students by running all over the Farquhar Auditorium, in costume, at our Educational Concerts, as the infamous Rascally Rhythm. He didn't stop there. A month later, he also acted and played, at the front of the stage and from memory, a complex and extended solo using Chinese cookware in Chan Ka Nin's Harmonious Interest, a performance you can check out on the Victoria Symphony website along with, at that same concert, our Concertmaster Terry Tam's masterful rendering of the Butterfly Lovers' Concerto, which he played so beautifully that it became the audience favourite for the evening. Just one month later, Terry performed the Wim Zwaag Violin Concerto, a piece he had recorded with us 2 years previously. At the recording session, he had used music, a normal procedure when making recordings because of the frequent stops and starts required by recording engineers, but this time, he played with total aplomb from memory. Neither the Butterfly Lovers' Concerto nor the Wim Zwaag Concerto is standard repertoire, so the feat of memory, on top of duties as a father, a concertmaster and as an emergency room physician, is astonishing.

The activities of Symphony members go far beyond playing in the orchestra, spreading appreciation of classical music in various ways. Most of us teach,

privately or in schools, or as faculty members of the Victoria Conservatory of Music or the University of Victoria. Symphony members are also ambassadors for the Victoria Symphony, raising awareness of our orchestra locally and all over the world. For instance, Christi Meyers toured with Sinfonia Rotterdam to South America last March. Brian Yoon, as winner of the prestigious Eckhart-Gramatté competition, undertook a 10 concert recital tour across Canada last fall. Terry Tam performed the solo violin part to Vivaldi's Four Seasons twice in Quebec, once at the Orford Festival and then at the Montreal Symphony's summer festival in the orchestra's new concert hall. The Aventa Ensemble, directed by Principal Timpanist, Bill Linwood, and largely made up of Victoria Symphony members, tours regularly to Europe, the United States and all over Canada. Closer to home, Victoria Symphony players form the backbones of many local ensembles, for instance the Emily Carr String Quartet, the Odyssey String Quartet, Victoria Baroque Players and That Damned Quartet (Yes, that's the name!), a new string quartet led by Kenji Fusé that plays fusion music at Logan's Pub. We also have a significant representation of Symphony players in local concerts put on by various groups like the Galiano Ensemble, Eine Kleine Summer Music and at nearby festivals like Music by the Sea in Bamfield.

Many players volunteer, with the help of honoraria from the Symphony, in the Symphony's Community Outreach programmes, leading workshops in public schools and working with the young VS New composers. As well, Music Corner, headed up by Symphony trombonist, Marcus Hissen, introduces live classical music to very young audiences in a variety of settings.

Then, there are the runners. Several Symphony members ran, as a group, the 10 kilometres around Elk Lake every week through the season. My knees hurt every time I think about it. 16 of us, not including me, entered the most recent Times Colonist 10 K run, placing first in the "Non-Profit Charity" category. That accomplishment is just one example from a long tradition of community involvement by players in Victoria Symphony. Many guest conductors and soloists who work with us comment, enthusiastically, on the positive feeling of community among the players here. That sense of community extends way beyond the confines of our rehearsals and it doesn't stop at the edge of the stage at concerts, either. It is a remarkable part of life here in Victoria and has always been a hallmark of our entire organization.

Respectfully submitted,
Martin Bonham |
Victoria Symphony Musicians' Committee





tania miller

Music Director

alain trudel

Principal Guest
Conductor

giuseppe pietraroia

Conductor in
Residence

michael oesterle

Composer in
Residence

orchestra

violins

Terence Tam,
concertmaster
Müge Büyükçelen-Badel,
acting assistant concertmaster
Christi Meyer,
acting principal second violin
Tori Lindsay,
principal second violin

violins cont.

Cory Balzer
Courtney Cameron
Alison Cregg
Michele Kwon
Emily Salmon
Christopher Taber
Julian Vitek

violas

Kenji Fuse, principal
Stacey Boal
Kay Cochran
Mieka Michaux
Christine Prince
Donna Robertson

celli

Brian Yoon, principal
Martin Bonham
Joyce Ellwood
Perry Foster
Alasdair Money

basses

Mary Rannie, principal
Darren Buhr
Alex Olson

flutes

Richard Volet, principal
Sally Harvey

piccolo

Sally Harvey

oboes

Michael Byrne, principal
Russell Bajer

english horn

Russell Bajer

clarinets

Keith MacLeod, principal
Jennifer Christensen

bassoons

Jennifer Gunter, principal
Anne-Marie Power

horns

Alana Despina, principal
Mike Oswald
Janet Parker
Dan Moses

trumpets

Ryan Cole, principal
David Michaux

trombones

Brad Howland, principal
Marcus Hissen

bass trombone

Robert Fraser

tuba

Paul Beauchesne,
principal

timpani

William Linwood,
principal

percussion

Corey Rae, principal

harp

Annabelle Stanley,
principal



VS PERCUSSION TAKES CENTER STAGE IN "THE RASCALS"



INSTRUMENT PETTING ZOO





"THE RASCALLY RHYTHM" EDUCATION CONCERT

In our path to “enrich lives through the shared experience of extraordinary music,” the Victoria Symphony is dedicated to helping create a new audience for symphonic music. Our various education programs target children of all ages and education levels: our Concerts for Kids expose toddlers to the symphony; elementary schools attend our annual education concerts, and teenagers benefit from our in-school masterclasses. All these programs bring the Victoria Symphony to the community, and are an invaluable experience for both the audience and the ensemble.

education concerts

In February, the Symphony performed seven concerts called *The Rascally Rhythm* to over 6,000 children from Victoria, Sooke, and Cowichan. This annual concert is in such demand that schools’ attendance is determined by lottery. Public schools, independent schools, and home-schooled children have the opportunity to participate. This year’s concert featured VS Principal Percussion Corey Rae wearing the rascal mask as he delighted audiences dodging on and off the stage, much to the conductor’s vexation. VS Education Concerts focus on a pedagogical approach to music itself, and children leave the concerts energized and with a new understanding of musical concepts.

musicians in schools

2012/13 saw the continuation of our immensely successful Musicians in Schools program. Small ensembles from the orchestra visit schools for in-house performances offering a convenient way for educators to bring classical music to their students. The ensembles have played in auditoriums filled with hundreds of children, and in classrooms for smaller audiences. Musicians from the orchestra also led masterclasses with smaller groups of music students, giving them instruction on their own instrument.

open rehearsals

Middle- and high-school students are given the chance to see the work of a professional orchestra musician through open rehearsals. The conductor has a microphone, and leads the rehearsal in the normal fashion with instruction to the musicians. Not only are the students entertained by the music itself, they learn about the true hard work that is a part of every musician’s daily life.

community programs

A group of young adult volunteers forms **vsYOUTH** each year. These students run Instrument Petting Zoos at community events around the city, as well as at each VS Concerts for Kids performance.

Nine youths participated in **vsNEW** in 2012/13, a six-month program where each youth wrote an original work under the guidance of VS Composer in Residence Michael Oesterle and a small musicians’ ensemble.

Our **Composers’ Workshop** sees six post-secondary composition students have the opportunity to have the entire orchestra play through one of their pieces. Many of the involved students have gone on to use these recordings for grants and scholarship applications.



vsNEW

report to our supporters

Every year we are touched by the generosity of our donors and sponsors. These supporters are critical to the financial health of the Victoria Symphony, and their passion for our musicians inspires us every day.

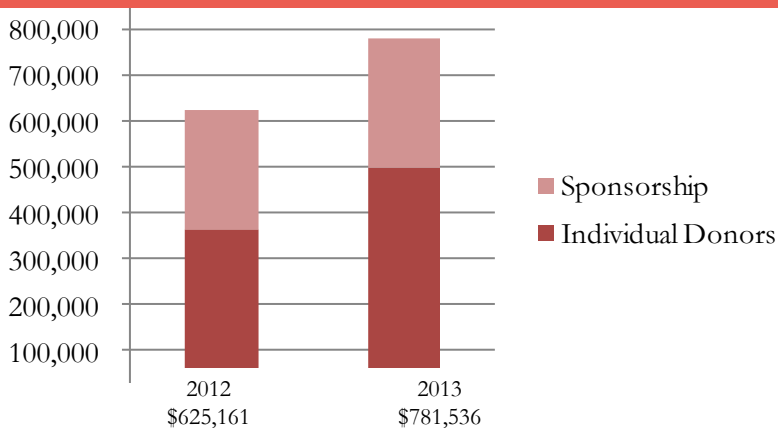
The 2012-2013 season was nothing short of record breaking:

- Individual gifts increased by 37% over last year
- Fisgard Capital Corporation announced a \$150,000 sponsorship over three years of our Music Director Tania Miller
- 739 households supported the Victoria Symphony with a donation
- Gifts from individuals rose to an all-time high of \$497,733

These contributions amount to an all-time high of \$781,536 in donations and sponsorship revenue.

These gifts allow the Victoria Symphony to attract the finest musicians and soloists, create innovative programming through commissions and large orchestral works, and expand our education and community programs.

For all this, we thank you.





selected statistics

SEASON CONCERTS

	EVENTS	ATTENDANCE
Signature Series	10	10,142
Legacy Series	5	5,490
Beltone Pops	18	15,788
Classics Series	5	4,159
Concerts for Kids	4	2,811
Specials	7	5,165
Total Season Concerts	49	43,555

SUMMER SEASON

Symphony in the Summer ensembles concerts	6	400
Butchart Gardens	3	3,000
Symphony Splash	1	43,000
Total Summer	10	46,400

FUNDRAISERS

Splash Serenade	1	136
Brian Jackson Tea	1	87
Classics to Celtic	1	301
Symphony in the City	1	180
Total Fundraisers	4	704

EDUCATION

Education concerts	7	6,150
Musicians in Schools	18	4,149
Open Rehearsals	3	520
vsNEW	6	150
Composers' Workshop	1	80
Instrument Petting Zoo	8	3,600
Total Education	43	14,600

TOURS

Duncan	5	2,460
Qualicum	3	1,500
Total Tours	8	3,960

PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

Pacific Opera Victoria	16	19,243
Dance Victoria - The Nutcracker	4	4,500
Total Professional Engagements	20	23,743

TOTAL

134

132,962

sponsors and supporters

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Dr. Robert Mabee



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VS 12/13

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