



*Creating Community Through Music*

2016-2017

ANNUAL REPORT





**Music Center of the Northwest is a non-profit community music school located in North Seattle. We believe in the transformative power of music in the lives of people and our community. With a commitment to music education and live performance, Music Center provides access to exceptional musical experiences for people of all ages and abilities.**



**FROM THE  
EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR**

At Music Center we start every day with the simple idea that everybody has the right and ability to make, create and enjoy their own music. We encourage participants to strive for excellence in both the processes and products of music making suited to their goals. Most importantly we bring people together across age, culture and ability boundaries. We have done this purposefully to create a community with music at the core. A community dedicated to the transformational power of music.

Just like Seattle is made up of distinct neighborhoods, Music Center is a combination of many communities with much to celebrate from this past year. Music Together had over 90 enrollments each term, more people were taking lessons, and more than 200 adults came to Music Center each week to be a part of a musical group. And while this is exciting, what makes us a community is the story of each of those participants.

Throughout this report you will find these stories. This is how we measure our success, not by counting how many of our graduates have gone on to a musical career, but in the stories of how music is making a difference in someone's life.

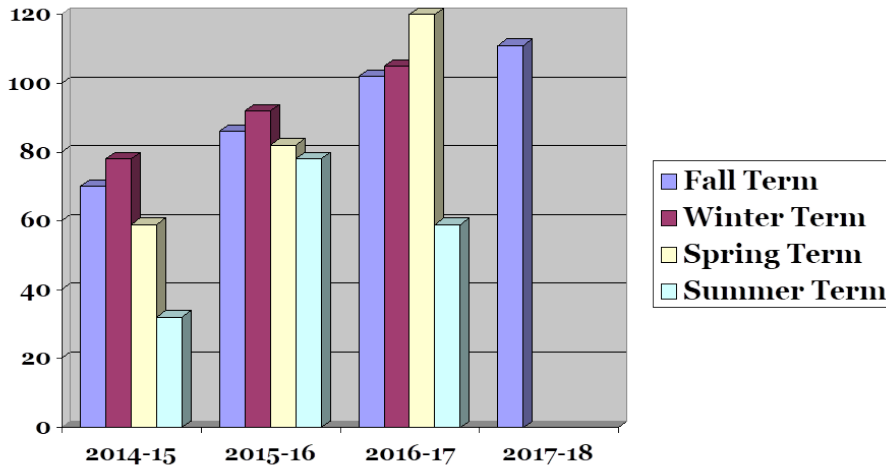
Thank you for being a part of our community.

*Michael Alstad*  
Michael Alstad



# Music Together®

**Participation Trends**



*My daughter and I LOVE being a part of the Music Together classes at Music Center! We are currently in our third semester of classes there, and watching musical growth and change in my daughter has been both unexpected and really fun! Teacher Tara's warmth, energy & intentional engagement have made this class something we look forward to each week. As a decade-long advocate for the development of North Seattle neighborhoods, I also think the connection point for families and individuals facilitated by Music Center plays a huge role in this neighborhood's success. We'd recommend these classes, Music Center, (and Teacher Tara) to everyone!*  
**-Casey & Esther Pier**



**An award-winning early childhood program**



**T**his year, we are particularly proud of the growth of our Music Together® program. Co-directors Monica Allen and Janice Gockel continue to expand and experiment to great success! Mixed Age (0-5 years) classes run Monday through Saturday. Music Center is one of the few to offer Big Kids (5-7 years) classes and we are one of the first in the nation to pilot Music Together's new Rhythm Kids (4-8 years) program. This past summer, Music Together @ Music Center was awarded Parent Map's Golden Teddy Award for best "Engaging Infant & Tot Class" in the Puget Sound region.



**294 individuals took private lessons**



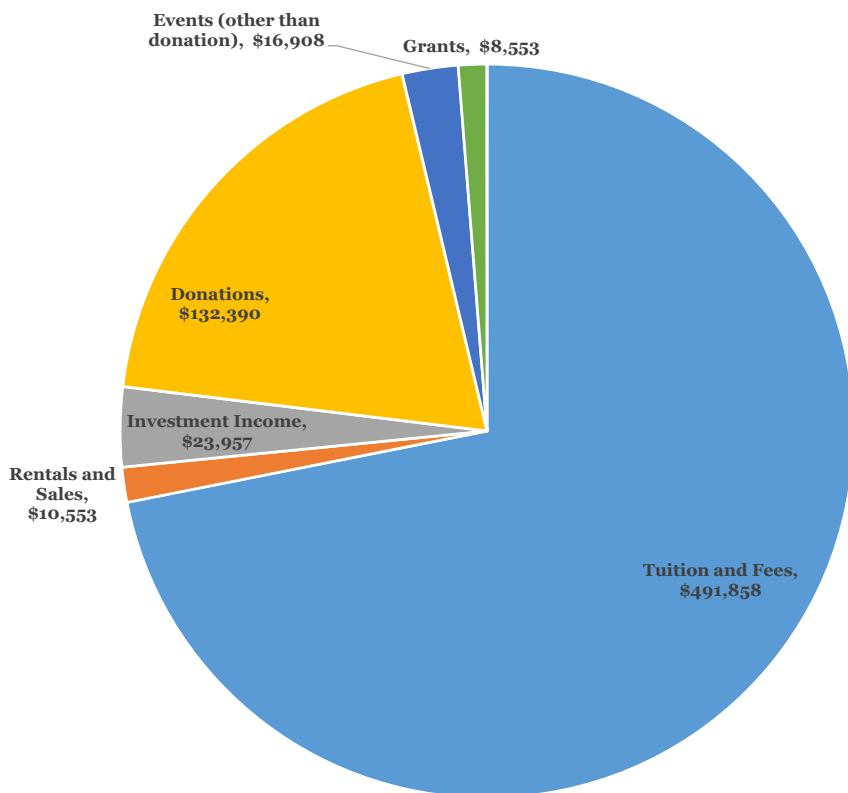
**\$28,694 in need-based tuition assistance granted to 70 students**



**New Perspectives adult class enrollment up 23%**

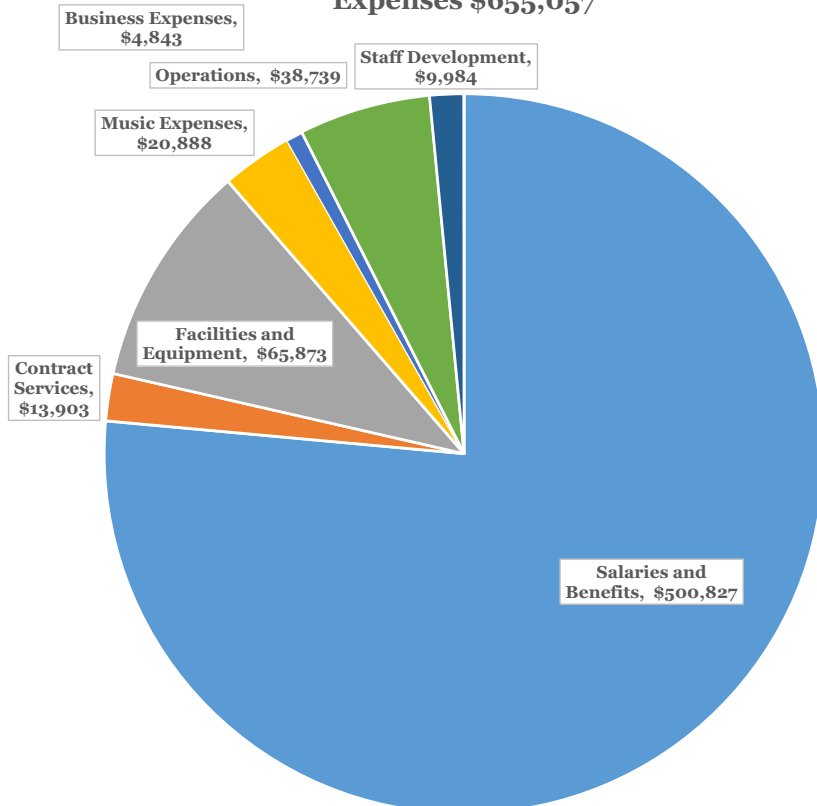
# INCOME & EXPENSE

## INCOME \$684,219



*Thanks to this program, I've made new connections, been welcomed into new circles of musicians, and gained confidence. It's hard to convey how much [Puget Sound Chamber Workshop] has meant to me, other than saying I'm so grateful a program like this exists for the music community.* -**Debra Revere, cellist at Puget Sound Chamber Workshop**

## Expenses \$655,057



*Violin has been a large part of my life for a long time but it is not the only reason I have continued lessons at Music Center. Music Center has always provided a safe community environment and shown the ways music can bring people together.* -**Bao-An Hannah, age 15**



**Music Center recognizes the following donors for their generous Annual Fund, Janice Gockel Scholarship Fund, Outreach Fund, and Special Event gifts during the 2016-17 year.**

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*Tuition Assistance in the form of 2nd and 3rd student discounts enabled four members of the McNulty Family to take piano lessons last year.*

# DONORS

*THANK YOU FOR BRINGING THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF MUSIC TO OUR COMMUNITY!*

*Music Center has provided me with an excellent intellectual and creative outlet that is demanding and enjoyable. After five years I still keep coming back. I'm hooked. I enjoy the music I play, and the people I play with. Music Center brings a lot of value into my world. My wife and I attend many of their extracurricular events where we get to listen to some great performances by other students and professionals as well as connect with the people we've gotten to know over the years. It's always exciting to connect with everyone. Over the years, we've come to appreciate the community that has been fostered by Music Center and its programs. It really has enriched our lives.*

**- Steve DeMont, Jazz Combo Member**



## **CONTACT US!**

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