



## Annual Report 2023-2024

### Our Mission

The Lakeshore Community Chorus fosters community engagement by performing diverse choral music and sponsoring related programs for the education and enjoyment of members and audiences in our surrounding lakeshore communities.

### The Performance Season at a Glance

- Season 14 Kick-Off in August introducing donors and potential donors to our new Artistic Director, John-Kevin (JK) Hilbert, featuring a Lakeshore Community Chorus (LCC) octet performance around the piano
- Barn party at Crystal Mint Farms in August, introducing JK Hilbert to chorus members and featuring an exceptional sing-along event



- Two exceedingly well-attended (662 total) holiday performances at Saugatuck Center for the Arts in December 2024



- One sold-out performance (198) at the First Congregational Church of Saugatuck in May



- Performance at The Kirby during Douglas Pride Week in June
- Performance at Freedom Village Senior Living Center in Holland in June

## Measures of Success

The Lakeshore Community Chorus (LCC) measures success in many ways. During our 14th season, success looked like this:

- Fall-Winter session saw 57 singers in the chorus, LCC's largest membership roster on record
- Applied for, and received, Mignon Sherwood Delano Foundation Grant for the purchase of new performance folders
- Forged a growing partnership with Saugatuck Center for the Arts via collaborative pre- and post-holiday performance meetings, addressing successes and opportunities
- Collaborated with Saugatuck High School Music Department, featuring its jazz combo and music director in our Holiday concerts
- Collaborated with Grand Valley State University's Trumpet Studio performers
- Hosted the largest concert attendance in LCC's history with a total of 662 audience members at the two Holiday performances
- Created an original LCC signature song, *Our Wonderland*, written by artistic director John-Kevin Hilbert with lyrics by chorus members Mary Hannah Terzino and Wendy Gilbert Gronbeck
- Stretched the talent of several choral members by introducing theatrical elements and dance to choral performance
- Exceeded financial contributions by \$13,530, and in-kind contributions by \$5,579, over anticipated amounts
- Reached 620 Facebook followers + initiated an Instagram presence

- Analyzed valuable lessons learned under JK Hilbert's direction, including chorus interest in more theatrical elements, to apply to future LCC performances



Wendy Gilbert Gronbeck - John-Kevin Hilbert - Mary Hannah Terzino  
*Our Wonderland*

### **Significant Board Action**

- Hired John-Kevin Hilbert as Artistic Director
- Elected Kristie Noguera as Secretary
- Adopted Google Workspace for non-profits for central business collaboration needs
- Partnered with First Congregational Church of Saugatuck to use space in the church as LCC's center of business. We quickly established
  - an office
  - music and equipment storage
  - meeting space
  - rehearsal space
  - occasional concert performance venue use
- Increased performance ticket prices to \$25 for adults
- Established an Amazon Business Account for non-profits
- Changed performance wardrobe requirements to gender-neutral attire
- Accepted resignation of Jim Bailey, production coordinator and long-time Board member
- Successfully recruited two new Board members, Kathleen Piggins and David Lincoln
- Changed our tax year from July 1 to June 30, accepted by IRS
- Accepted resignation of Accompanist, Daniel Tague
- Successfully recruited former Accompanist, Vivian Adel Boot
- Accepted sudden resignation of Artistic Director, John-Kevin Hilbert
- Undertook a chorus survey (78% response rate) following the Hilbert resignation, which asked key questions such as:
  - What kind of chorus did they want to be - strictly choral or with elements of theatrics
  - Rehearsal preferences and practice tools
  - Where should LCC focus their energy going forward

- Successfully recruited a guest Artistic Director, Austin McWilliams, to prepare and direct a spring performance at the First Congregational Church of Saugatuck (much of it planned preliminarily by a select group of chorus members)
- Established an Artistic Director Search Committee in June which received seven applications, interviewed five, and narrowed the field to three
- Held choral interviews with twenty-eight choral member volunteers conducted by the finalist candidates, each candidate conducting two choral pieces, and made final decision in July to offer role to Joshua Keller, who accepted
- Accepted Board resignation of Mary Terzino, writer, editor, legal consultant, Vice President, and long-time Board member

## **Choral Health & Wellness**

- Following meeting with Dr. Daniel O'Connor, local epidemiologist, focus shifted to addressing respiratory viruses overall (COVID-19, RSV, influenza, parainfluenza, adenovirus) as opposed to just COVID-19
- Wellness and vaccine information discussed and distributed to membership with the expectation that vaccines will be pursued and obtained
- Chorus members signed the LCC Respiratory Virus Policy and Waiver of Responsibility
- Successfully navigated a COVID-19 outbreak (8-12 choral members & staff) two weeks prior to 2023 holiday performances by shutting down in-person rehearsals, adding Zoom rehearsals, timely testing, and intense messaging up to and during dress rehearsal and two performances
- Successfully accommodated last minute loss of piano accompanist for both holiday performances due to COVID-19 illness

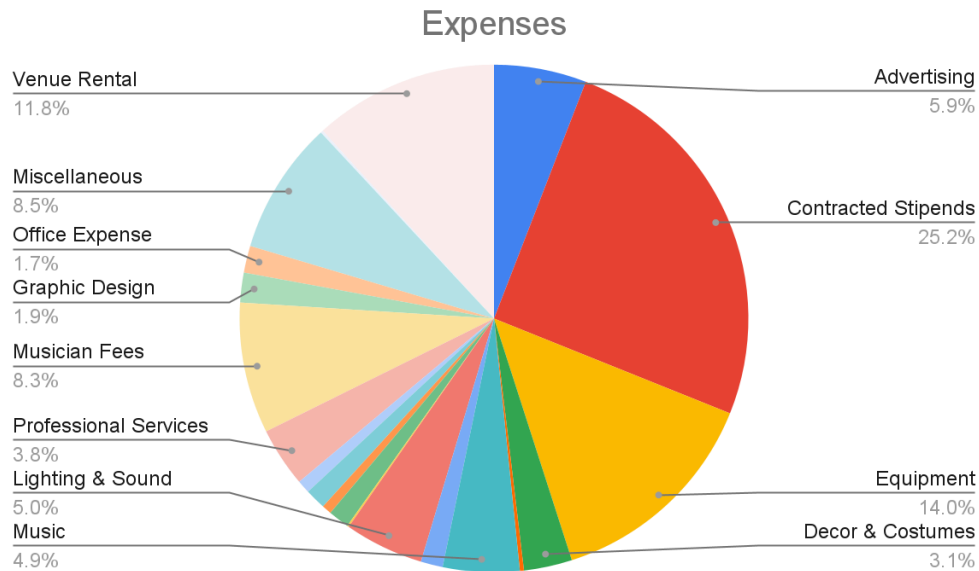
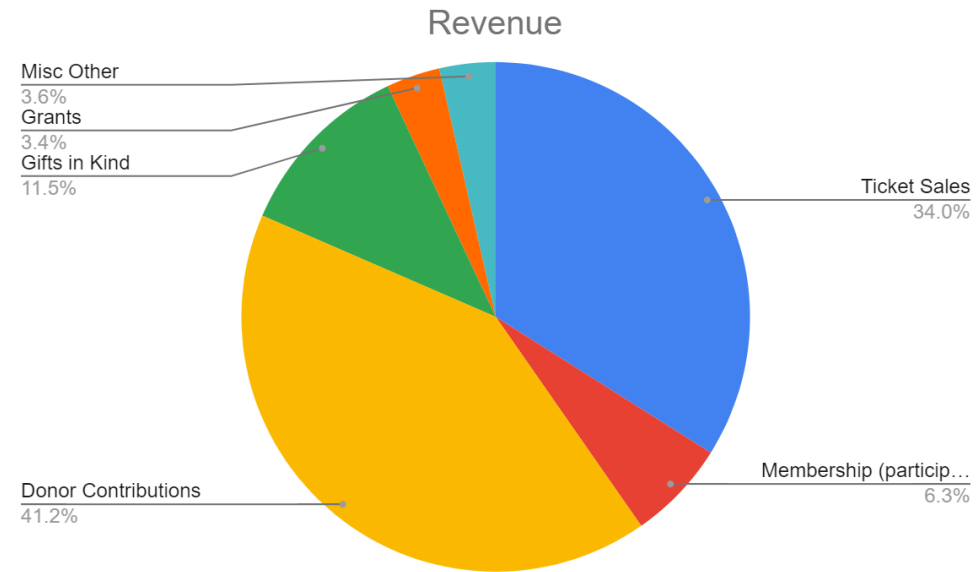
## **Challenges**

- Increased Board activity and unbudgeted expenses resulting from the transitioning of Artistic Directors (May 2023)
- Due to the unexpected January 2024 resignation of the Artistic Director hired in July 2023, we experienced
  - Chorus-wide uncertainty
  - Postponement of proposed Strategic Planning for 2023
  - Deferred messaging to donors, celebrating our holiday performance success and upcoming spring Broadway performance
  - Cancellation of existing plans for the spring concert
  - The need to find a guest director for the spring session and to revamp the spring concert
- Finding the energy, time, and funds to search for, recruit, and hire a new Artistic Director (May 2024)



## Financial Position (July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024)

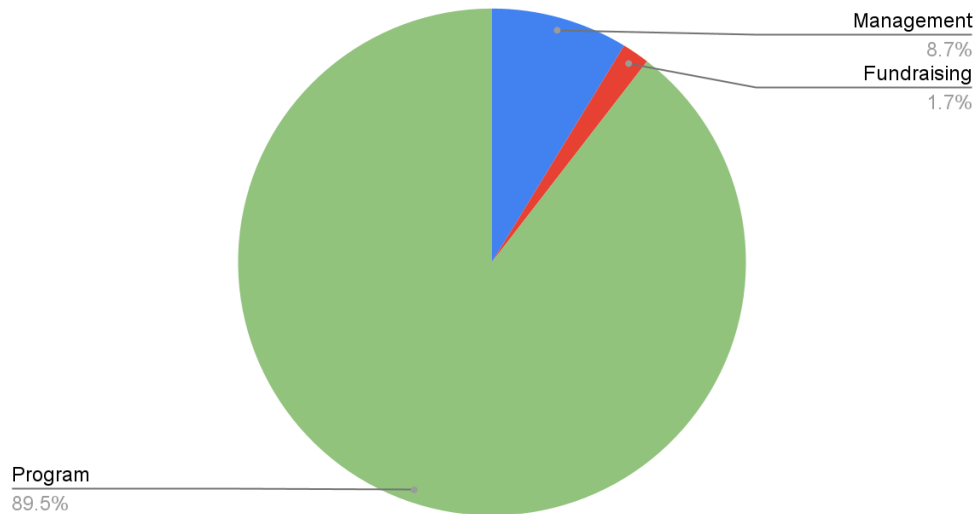
Revenue: \$57,111  
 Expenses: \$52,749  
 Net Income: \$4,362



Licensing Fees & Regulatory Filing (0.6%)      Professional Memberships (0.3%)  
 Office Expense (1.7%)      PO Box Rental (0.2%)      Insurance (0.8%)

\*In-kind donations reflect graphic art, artistic director lodging & travel, costumes, member dues scholarship, member manual expenses, epidemiology consultation, music, choral riser, conductor podium, Google Workspace set-up, compensated tickets

## Expenses by Category



Management Expenses: \$4,594  
 Fundraising Expenses: \$923  
 Program Expenses: \$49,232  
 Total Expenses: \$52,749

Ending Net Assets: \$20,698

## Our Supporters

Linda Anderson & Holly Little  
 David & Jane Babbitt  
 James Bailey, Nolene Wilson, David  
 Lezondra  
 Kerri Baker & Michael Gantt  
 Mark & Mary Kay Baker  
 Bud Baty & Max Matteson  
 Mark Bekken, Saugatuck Harbor  
 Insurance  
 Albert & Bettye Jo Bell  
 Jeff & Angela Black  
 Laurence & Susan Blose  
 Pam Brady  
 Catherine Brockington  
 Susan Cole  
 Sandra Corsiglia  
 Phillip Crump & Kim Redlin  
 Dr. Curtis Day, Saugatuck Chiropractic  
 Clinic

Patricia Denner  
 Dr. Stelios & Leslie Dokianakis  
 Jeff Filo & Kelly Fox  
 Floyd Fleming  
 William & René Garrity  
 Wendy Gilbert Gronbeck  
 Keith & Lori Hayward  
 Roy C Hebert  
 Victor & Jan Hilbert  
 John-Kevin Hilbert  
 Beth Howley Creative  
 Richard & Sharon Hutchins  
 Gary & Jan Kemp  
 George W Kohn, D.D.S. & G. Lee Fitzgerald  
 Ronald & Marilyn Kronemeyer  
 Frank & Joan Lamb  
 Bill & Patty Lint  
 Rick & Gayle Lipsig  
 Donald & Peggy Luidens

Kathleen Markland  
Roger L May  
Roy & Carol McIlwaine  
Cynthia McKean  
BJ Metas & Darlene Wolford  
Mignon Sherwood Delano Foundation  
Debra Minton & Theresa Osborne  
Joy Muehlenbeck  
John Newland & Doug McIntosh, Roan & Black  
Michael & Kristie Noguera  
Dr. Daniel O'Connell  
Frances J Oleson  
Anthony & Susan Pastor  
Gemina Petruzzelli Design  
John & Kathleen Piggins  
Nancy Plantinga  
Gregg Potter & Mary Terzino  
Kirk & Cynthia Raue  
Frank Sardone & Susan Fall

Janet Schroeder & Susan Pierson  
Dawn Schumann  
Jim Sellman  
John & Charlaine Shack  
Patricia Sharp  
Richard Shaw & Shirley Sutton  
Billy & Kristen Shellenbarger  
Marcia Sikora  
Timothy & Sarah Terlouw  
John & Deborah Thornburgh  
Judith Thomas  
William Underdown & David Geen  
Thomas & Wendy Van Tassell  
Cheryl Whitfield, The Book Nook of Saugatuck  
Marilyn Wolak  
Elizabeth York & Demetrhea Terrien  
Kathy Zeh  
Renee Zita  
George Zulakis & Laura Baird

## **THANK YOU!**

### **Board of Directors**

Shirley Sutton - President  
Mary Terzino - Vice President  
Holly Little - Treasurer  
Kristie Noguera - Secretary  
Kerri Baker - Board Member  
Wendy Gronbeck - Board Member  
Wendy Van Tassell - Board Member  
Kathleen Piggins - Board Member (2024)  
David Lincoln - Board Member (2024)

### **Contracted Staff**

Artistic Director - John-Kevin Hilbert (June 2023 - Jan 2024)  
Accompanist - Daniel Tague (June 2023 - Dec 2023)  
Guest Artistic Director - Austin McWilliams (March 2024 - June 2024)  
Accompanist - Vivian Adel Boot (March 2024 - current)

## Chorus Members - 2023-2024 Season

### Soprano

Shannon Connell *Douglas*  
Diana Doppenberg *Fennville*  
Sarah Feaster *Holland*  
Sophia Lawrence *Holland*  
Brenda Marcy *Saugatuck*  
Hedy Morse *Fennville*  
Terese Morse *Allegan*  
Isabel Noguera *Saugatuck*  
Claire Nowak *Holland*  
Kathleen Piggins *Douglas*  
Cindy Raue *Fennville*  
Pat Sharp *Saugatuck*  
Dawn Sjaarda *West Olive*  
Brie Spaulding *Fennville*  
Sarah Terlouw *Holland*  
\*Wendy Van Tassell *Holland*  
Mary Westenbroek *Glenn*

### Alto

Liana Allison *Douglas*  
Linda Anderson *Holland*  
Bettye Jo Bell *Holland*  
(Alto con't)  
Pam Brady *Fennville*  
\*Cathy Brockington *Saugatuck*  
Melody Dykstra *Hamilton*  
Cindy Fallick *Saugatuck*  
Mary Ellen Glunz *Douglas*  
Marilyn Kronemeyer *Saugatuck*  
Kathleen Mueller *Douglas*  
Carol Rice *South Haven*  
Barbara Steen *Douglas*  
Shirley Sutton *Douglas*  
Mary Terzino *Saugatuck*

### Tenor

Jim Bailey *Downers Grove, IL*  
\*Lauri Donaldson *Fennville*  
Daniel Ford *Douglas*  
John Gehringer *Saugatuck*  
Karen Graves *Holland*  
Wendy Gronbeck *Douglas*  
Dick Hutchins *Fennville*  
Holly Little *Holland*  
Sue Nelson *Fennville*  
Mike Noguera *Saugatuck*  
(Tenor con't)  
Marcia Sikora *Saugatuck*  
Jeff Spangler *Saugatuck*  
Norm Steen *Douglas*  
Brian Tubergen *Douglas*

### Bass/Baritone

\*Kerri Baker *Fennville*  
Jeff Filo *Fennville*  
Jeff Hanlin *Douglas*  
Jim Kern *Fennville*  
David Lincoln *Douglas*  
Danny Mayer *Holland*  
Jim Mayhew *Michigan City, IN*  
Fran Mervau *Holland*  
Tony Pastor *Douglas*  
Dale Pierson *Fennville*  
Marcel ter Veen *Glenn*  
Tom Van Tassell *Holland*

\*denotes Section Leader