

2021 | 22

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT



PORTLAND
OVATIONS





Dear Friends,

Sometime in November of 2021, I sat back and took stock of the whirlwind that just was. In those brief five weeks from early October to mid-November, Portland Ovations opened its 91st season to more than 12,000 people of all ages across 16 performances and seven sites around greater Portland. It had been over 18 months of very limited live performances, all of which were outside, and here we were. Back! And it was only the beginning. With several parking lot concerts across Portland Public Schools in the fall of 2021, it wasn't until spring 2022 when young people finally joined us for our first School-Time Performances at Merrill Auditorium since 2019.

At the end of the season, 36 performances and numerous live and virtual Ovations Offstage events later, we only had one performance cancel, a couple reschedule and many, many more go on. Because, yes, the show must go on.

We've all learned much these past couple of years about what's important, what's not and myriad ways to navigate new and ever-changing situations. Above all, we've learned how important it is to be connected to one another.

Time and time again we are buoyed by the loyalty and enthusiasm of Ovations' audiences, many of whom also support Ovations through Membership. You make evident how important it is for people to be together, to gather, to share experiences that are live and in person.

Thank you for making Ovations' 91st season part of how you connect and experience joy.

We could not do it without you.

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Executive & Artistic Director



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SEASON HIGHLIGHTS



Free Community Events

Community is at the heart of Portland Ovations. Kicking off the 2021-22 season with five free community performances of vertical dance innovators BANDALOOP was the most spectacular way to welcome audiences into the season. Dancers soared across the walls of the Canopy by Hilton Portland Waterfront hotel as hundreds of onlookers cheered, clapped, oohed and ahed — watching from the street below, nearby balconies and even hotel windows as the dancers glided past. One week later, Ovations took over the bandstand at Deering Oaks Park for another free outdoor event, presenting Grammy Award-winning musicians Dan and Claudia Zanes.

School-Time Performances

School-Time Performances happened both live and virtually throughout the season. Dan and Claudia Zanes travelled around Portland on a truckbed, performing three parking lot performances for elementary-aged students. They also provided a virtual series of on-demand videos available for teachers to present in their classrooms. School-Time Performances returned to Merrill Auditorium with *Rosie Revere, Engineer & Friends* in March and *Step Afrika!* in April. The sound of 1,000+ students cheering for these performers was truly magical. Some of us might have even cried a little.



Seeking Resonance

Seeking Resonance, presented in partnership with Indigo Arts Alliance, was more robust than ever, presenting four groups representing four different styles of performance. *Cartography* told the stories of young refugees in an interactive, multimedia play. Music From the Sole *Partido* tapped around the globe with a live accompaniment of music. Sphinx Virtuosi, made entirely of BIPOC players, played an exquisitely programmed evening of chamber music. And *Step Afrika!* stepped on stage for students and families in a public and an unforgettable School-Time Performance.



POP: Global Passport

Our sold-out annual fundraiser, POP, was an overwhelming success, featuring live music and dance, food from around the world created by some of Portland's most exciting chefs, delightful libations and even a VIP cooking class. It was an intimate and dynamic evening wholly unique to Ovations and our commitment to gathering people, sharing cultures and creating community through the power of live performance. The dedicated support as well as the enthusiasm of so many Members and local businesses made POP both impactful and memorable.



Broadway

Broadway finally returned to Portland in October with the timeless Tony Award-winning Musical *RENT*. It was a powerful experience that, for two nights, filled Merrill Auditorium with its largest audience in nearly two years. The electrifying energy of Donna Summer came to the stage in June for *SUMMER: The Donna Summer Musical* in a polished production with a vibrant ensemble that radiated talent and honored the life of the Queen of Disco. We capped off the season with two performances of *Hairspray* to the joy of loud and excited audiences.

Maine Artists

Investing in Maine's creative communities, Ovations commissioned five original works in music, dance and theater in 2020, two of which premiered in the 2021-22 season. This ambitious multi-year commissioning, producing and presenting project amplifies Maine BIPOC, immigrant and LGBTQ voices and perspectives. Samuel James' *Already Home Recordings: Vol 2* was a gift to all in attendance, reminding of the power of live performance. The premiere of Riley Watts' and Heather Stewart's *Hour Wolf in the Lighthouse* at Mechanics' Hall featuring little house dance company, had audiences captivated by the softly articulated and intentional choreography of Watts' and Stewart's work. Ovations plans to continue working with both artists in future seasons.



BY THE NUMBERS

1
CANCELLED
PERFORMANCE DUE
TO COVID-19

2
WORLD PREMIERES
BY OVATIONS
COMMISSIONED
ARTISTS

3
FLATBED TRUCK
PERFORMANCES

3
RESCHEDULED
PERFORMANCES

3
SOCIALLY-DISTANCED
PERFORMANCES

5
FREE PERFORMANCES
ON THE SIDE OF
CANOPY HOTEL

6
IN-SCHOOL
WORKSHOPS

7
SCHOOL-TIME
PERFORMANCES

10
VENUES &
PERFORMANCE SITES

31
MAINSTAGE
PERFORMANCES

43
PARTICIPATING
SCHOOLS

91
YEARS PRESENTING
LIVE PERFORMANCE

1,103
OVATIONS MEMBERS

1,873
BOOKS DISTRIBUTED
THROUGH CULTIVATING
CURIOSITY

4,068
STUDENTS &
EDUCATORS SERVED

12,750
COVID-19
VACCINATIONS
CHECKED
& MASKS WORN

15,858
TICKETS SOLD

19,526
ATTENDEES



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Fatham Companies
First National Wealth Management
Gorham Savings Bank
Great Diamond Partners
Headlight Audio Visual Inc
Machias Savings Bank
MEMIC
Maine Limousine Service
Maine Magazine
Maine Public
Maine State Music Theatre
Martin's Point Health Center
OceanView at Falmouth
Portland Phoenix
Portland Press Herald
Portland Radio Group
Portside Real Estate Group
Saco & Biddeford Savings Institution
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 Karen Rohrbacher
 John Romano
 Rick Romano
 Patrick Rombalski
 Debra Rothenberg
 Julian Rowand
 Donna Rubin
 Anita Ruff
 Tom Ruff
 Katrina Ruffner
 Daisy Ruggiero
 Manda Russell
 Shirley Russell
 Cheryl Rust
 Carol Ryan Ertz & David Ertz
 Maura Ryan
 Bemgta Sahlberg
 Zoe Sahloul
 Nancy Salmon
 Thomas Salpietro
 Donalee Santoro
 Susan Raffery & Fred Kemp
 Camille & Daryl Saucier
 Julie Scala
 Paul Schacht
 Erica Schair-Cardona & Ivan Cardona
 Molly Schen
 Philip Gleason & Mary Schendel
 John Ryan & Jenny Scheu
 Lee & Linda Schiller
 Julie & William Schirmer
 Lara Schneider
 Fran & Alan Schneit
 Susan Schultz
 Patricia and Thomas Schulz
 Corinne & James Schutz
 Sigmund & Anne Schutz
 Lauren Schuyler Giddings
 Matt Schwach
 Maxine Sclar & Robert Yamartino
 Chris & Ellen Scontras
 Randall Scott
 Maxine Secskas
 Hollye & Dave Seddon
 Maryann & Jeffrey Sedlack
 Kerry Semle
 Erika Semple
 Ronald Sepielli
 Christine Serbent
 Kelly Sexton
 Lynn & James Shaffer
 Shireen Shahawy
 Jesse Shank
 Peggy Shapiro
 Linda Shary
 Jere Shaw
 Warren & Jeanne Shay
 Desha Shean
 Julie Sheehan & Paul Coulombe
 Sorca Sherman
 Thomas & Bethel Shields
 Deborah Shinn
 Don & Charlene Schuman
 Mary Shemeyko
 Laura Siciliano
 Joseph Simard
 Nancy Simboli
 Kimberly Simmons
 Laura Simocko
 Jessica & Henry Simpson
 Katie Simpson
 Thomas Simpson
 Kim Sirois
 MaryAnne Skawinski
 Robert Slater
 Jennifer Small

Bethany & Rick Smart
 Deborah Smart
 Deirdre Smith
 Gwendolyn Loomis Smith
 Nona Smith
 Paul Smith
 Teale Smith & Kimberly Madore-Smith
 Marit Snowball
 Lindsay Snyder
 Maria Snyder
 Margaret Sola
 Emma Solberg
 Kate Somerville
 Dominique & Jeff Sommer
 Suzy Sonenberg
 Sarah Southard
 Tammy D. Souza
 Susanne Spalding
 Erin Spear
 Sharon Sperry
 Kenneth Spirer & Joan Leitzer
 Daniel Spratt & Patricia Naddaff
 Doreen St. Laurent
 Brittany St. Michel
 Christine Stack
 Frederick Stafford
 Ernie Stanhope
 Chuck Staples
 Donald Starr & Serena Wakelin-Starr
 Mary Starr
 Catherine Steitzer
 Brian Steppacher
 Glen Sterling
 Gary Stern & Demetrios Karabets
 Jessica Stevens
 Nate & Jane Stevens
 Frank & Pam Stevenson
 Bruce & Suzanne Stillings
 Michael & Dawn Stillings
 Victoria StLouis
 Ayres & Catherine Stockly
 Gail Stokes-Smith
 Paul Strassenburgh
 Dianne Strasser
 Kelly Streeter
 Lisa Strycharz
 Jon Strymish
 Leah Sturm
 Wendy & Eric Suehrstedt
 Roxi Suger
 Cheryl Sullivan
 Richard & Louise Sullivan
 Robin Sullivan
 Jaylene Summers & Rich Gaito
 Mark Sundermann
 Martha Sutro
 Virginia Swain
 Kristin Sweeney
 Kelly Sylvester
 Patricia Sylvester
 Kevin Sztam-Ligouri
 Jill Tabbutt-Henry
 Randy Talbot
 Ronald Taliento
 Lynn Talley
 Marie Tanzer
 April Ylvisaker & Jon Tardiff
 Eva & Michael Tartaglia
 Sondra & Edward Taylor
 Jocelyn Taylor
 Lisa Teague
 Annette Tebbs
 Melanie Tennyson
 Jackie Terwilliger
 John Tewhey
 Michelle Tham
 Pete Thaxter and Mary McCann
 Katherine Theodore
 Renee Therriault
 Tracy Thibodeau
 Sarah D. Thomas
 Deborah & Hall Thompson
 Nathaniel Thompson
 June Thurston
 Robert Tillotson & Lynn Lamontagne
 Amy & Marshall Tinkle
 Heidi Todd
 John Todd
 Janice Tolin
 Amy Toney-Bolduc
 Crandall Toothaker
 Faith Towle
 Dixie Townsend
 Noel Tracy
 Barbara & Richard Trafton
 Priscilla Treadwell
 Tracy Treadwell
 Nicole Troclair
 Roland Tufts
 Shannon Tundel
 Andrea Tupper
 David Turin
 Tatiana Turker
 Benjamin & Christine Twining
 Ana Tzrinske
 Lee & Anna Urban
 John & Debra Urgese
 David & Patricia Vachon
 June & David Vail

Teresa Valliere
 Wayne Valzania
 Ingrid van Duivenbode
 Thomas Vanzandt
 Ronald Varieur
 Jim Varmecky
 Derek John Veilleux
 Peter & Elizabeth Ventre
 Donald Verger
 Joseph & Madelyn Vertenten
 Nicole Vinal
 Kim & Cynthia Visbaras
 Yasmin & Briton Vitalius
 Susan Vogt Brooks
 Mollie Volinsky
 Peter & Pam Vose
 Christine & John Vozella
 Edith Wacksman
 Lise Wagner
 Richard & Lois Wagner
 Meghan Wakefield
 Beverly Wakely
 Donna Walker
 Lindsey Walker
 Margaret Walker
 Julia & Robert Walking
 Nancy Wallerstein
 Kelly Walton
 Edward Walworth
 Abigail Wark
 Matthew & Cathleen Wasielewski
 Jennifer Waterman
 Paul & Sandra Watkins
 Jean Watts
 Edith Waxman
 Heath Weatherbee
 Dianne Webb
 Catharine Webber
 Patrice Weber
 Douglas Webster
 Hartley & Benson Webster
 Shoshanna Weiner
 Judy Weisman & Nadia Margolis
 Jodi Welch
 Samantha Welch
 Mary Wellehan
 Sheila Wellehan
 Scottie & Christopher Wellins
 Aimee Welsh
 Marie Wendt
 Judith Wentzell
 Kevin Wertheim
 Nina Weyl
 Harold Whistler
 Emily Whiston
 Lou Ann White
 Elizabeth Whitman
 Diane Whitmore
 Fran & Susan Whitten
 Stephanie Wigginton
 Cynthia & Gil Wilcox
 Nancy Wilkes
 Donna Wilkie
 Margaret Wikis
 Patrick & Carol Will
 Fred Williams
 Jean P. Wilson
 Liz Wilson
 Michele Wilson
 Rick Wilson
 Anita Wingert
 Pamela Winters
 Robert Witham
 Anna Wlodarczyk
 Adin & John Wolfgram
 Gail Wood
 Richard & Deborah Woodbury
 Linda Woods
 Randall Woods
 Karen L. Woodsum
 Robert Wooten
 Martha Wright
 Mary Wright
 Patricia Wright
 Heidi Wurpel
 Michael & Lee Wygant
 R. Aileen Yingst and Ross Nova
 Kim Young
 Arlene Zaccaria
 Christopher Zechman
 Karen Zielinski & Constance Crocker
 Roberta Zimmerman
 Nick Zo

REVENUES

Earned Revenues	\$835,462
Support and Contributions	\$2,030,867
Non-operating Revenue	\$63,803
Total Support and Earned Revenues	\$2,930,132

EXPENSES

Program and Services	\$1,925,678
Fundraising and Administration	\$293,539
Total Expenses	\$2,219,217

ASSETS

Current Assets	\$1,461,972
Property and Equipment	\$16,637
Investments and Other Assets	\$1,696,992
Total Assets	\$3,175,601

LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities	\$289,697
Total Liabilities	\$289,697

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted Net Assets	\$2,534,426
Permanently Restricted Net Assets ¹	\$351,478
Total Net Assets	\$2,885,904

TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$3,175,601
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1. Includes corpus of the CCEF Fund.

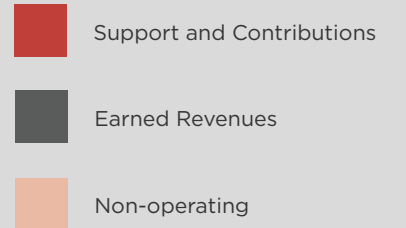
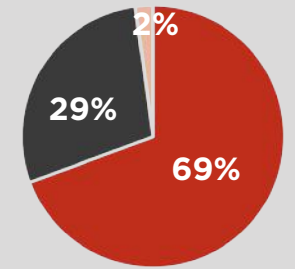
Audited financial statements are available upon request.

CREATIVE ECONOMY IMPACT

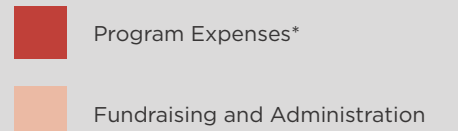
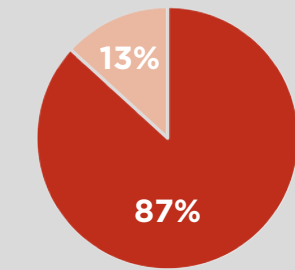
\$2,219,217 was paid out locally by Ovations to realize our programs and support staff and artists and an additional \$612,726* was spent by our patrons when attending our presentations, infusing more than \$2,831,943 million into Maine's Creative Economy.

*According to the Americans for the Arts: Arts and Economy Prosperity V Report, arts attendees spend an average of \$31.38 per person per event in addition to the ticket price.

REVENUES



EXPENSES



*Program expenses include artist fees, venue rentals, marketing, local labor and production—which help fuel the Maine creative economy.



MUSIC FROM THE SOLE: *PARTIDO*, NOVEMBER 2021

About Us

Portland Ovations is a nonprofit cultural organization based in Southern Maine dedicated to gathering communities to share in the power of live performance. Ovations connects artists and audiences both onstage and off — making the arts an integral part of community life.

Our unique array of live performances for the public and school audiences are curated to delight, inspire and educate. Venues used throughout greater Portland include historic and modern theaters, clubs, galleries, and classrooms — chosen carefully to ensure the best possible experience for both audiences and artists.

Our Vision

To inspire a curious and imaginative community where the experience of the performing arts is a vital part of every day life.

Our Mission

Portland Ovations propels the artistic, social, educational and economic wellbeing of communities through the power of the performing arts.

Our Core Values

- celebrates the power and brilliance of the performing arts
- commits to being anti-racist
- continues to evolve governance, operations, finances and programs to embody inclusivity, diversity, equity and access
- nurtures a staff, board and collective culture that is compassionate, committed and enthusiastic
- collaborates with other arts organizations, nonprofits, education systems and the business sector to promote lifelong learning through the arts



120 Exchange Street
Portland, ME 04101