

The SAINT PAUL
CONSERVATORY
of MUSIC

Celebrating
20 *years*
2001–2021

2020-2021
Annual
Report



Nurturing, open, authentic

REFLECTIONS

Dear Friends of SPCM,

This year was a special one for SPCM. We celebrated our 20th Anniversary! We had an amazing online celebration on May 13 showcasing former students, faculty, guests, and great music. We launched the Cléa Galhano Scholarship Fund to support public school students who would otherwise be unable to study at SPCM. We unveiled the SPCM Mandala by the great artist, and SPCM staff member, Megan Smith, who collaborated with our community to create an amazing piece of art representing the spirit of the Conservatory.

The pandemic and economic stress didn't stop us from continuing to offer online music lessons, our Coffee Concert series, artist-in-residency events, Out and About concerts in nursing homes, violin and cello outreach classes, and early childhood programs in several venues in the community.

We also continue planning for the future, announcing a new partnership with the Friends of the SPCO to co-produce their youth chamber music competition.

As you know, this was my last year as SPCM Executive Artistic Director. During my 15-year journey in the position, I learned more than I ever would have imagined. We've survived financial crises, a global pandemic, moving twice, all while offering innovative programming and attracting new instructors and staff. In challenging moments or moments of transition, I always felt the presence of the Conservatory's spirit—the community stepping in, and the Board of Directors, instructors, and students all helping. Together we've always been able to move forward to a stronger future.

I couldn't have accomplished any of this without the support, trust and partnership of the wonderful staff, members of our Board of Directors and Advisory Committee, the foundations and donors that have supported us, students, faculty, community partners, and my devoted work partner of 11 years, Laura Nortwen. THANK YOU to all!

I am very glad to introduce you to the new SPCM Executive Director Mary Larew.

Mary is a wonderful musician and arts administrator. She will lead the SPCM to a bright future and continue spreading the beauty of music to this community. Please join me in welcoming Mary!

Thank you all for the support and for playing your part in creating this amazing musical community.

Best wishes to all and much music!

Cléa Galhano
Cléa Galhano



Inspiring, educational

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

This year marked SPCM's 20th Anniversary as an independent nonprofit organization. We celebrated throughout the year, and held a special online anniversary celebration on May 13, 2021, that honored our history, welcoming back Conservatory alumni and former teachers, celebrated our present, with performances by current students and instructors, and looked to our future, as we bid farewell to outgoing Executive Artistic Director Cléa Galhano.

The Mandala project

Mandalas remind SPCM Executive Artistic Director Cléa Galhano of music. Like music, mandalas—meditative and possessing great energy—can focus the mind, access the sacred, and represent the cosmos.

SPCM commissioned local artist Megan Moore Smith to collaborate with the SPCM community to create a Mandala painting in honor of our 20th anniversary as an independent nonprofit. Members of the community submitted their memories and feelings about the Conservatory, which inspired Megan's mandala composition. The community then helped create the painting, which was unveiled at our anniversary celebration and is featured on the opening page of this report.

Clea's fund

The SPCM Board of Directors created the Cléa Galhano Outreach Scholarship in honor of Cléa's service to the Conservatory and her commitment to making musical education accessible to all young people, regardless of circumstances. We have already raised \$35,000 towards this fund.

The scholarship will be presented to several students each academic year, allowing them to join the Conservatory community and explore their musicality.

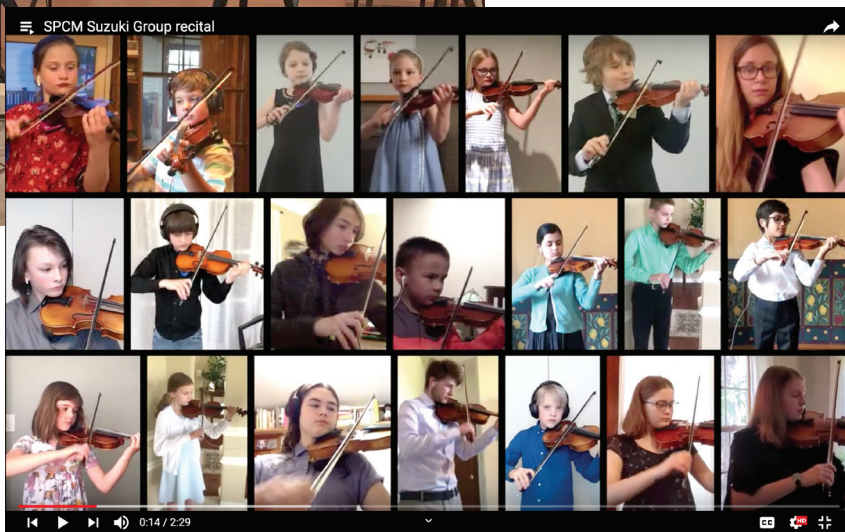
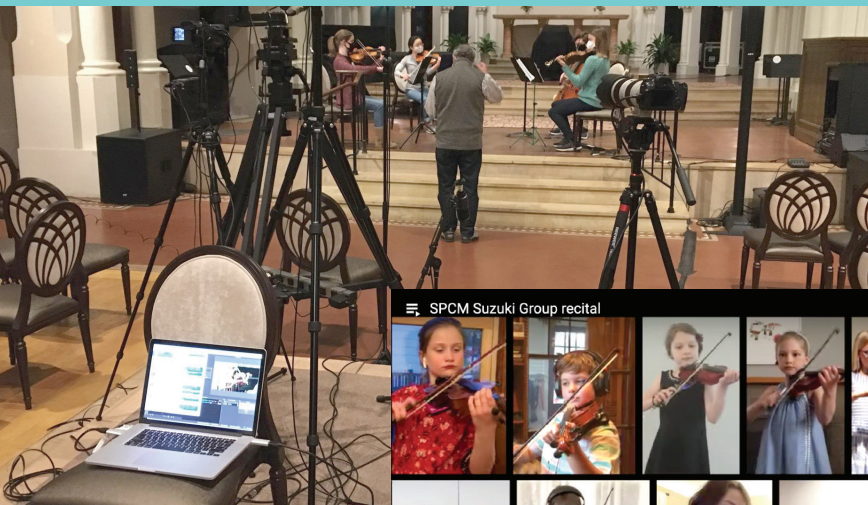


[View the SPCM 20th Anniversary Celebration video](#)

Mandala memory submission—

My son attended music classes in his preschool and grade school years. Although music was not his passion, the classes and The SPCM left a lasting impression on him and on me.

Welcoming, joy giving



[View the Suzuki recital video](#)

Mandala memory submission—

“I am a completely amateur musician but I did adult student recorder lessons and recitals at SPCM with Clea. They were exhilarating in a frightening way (or frightening in an exhilarating way?).”

LESSONS, EVENTS & ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE

Online Lessons

Since the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic, the Conservatory has been committed to ongoing musical instruction. Online lessons and classes this year have continued to advance our students’ musical educations and provided them with a much-needed creative outlet, while also preserving our faculty members’ income. We served 631 students this year.

We introduced a streamlined registration system this year that makes it easier for new or returning students to enroll. This system will continue to serve us well as we transition back to in-person instruction.

Live Streaming Events

While we couldn’t welcome audiences into our concert hall for most of the 2020–21 season, we still shared the joy of music with our community. Our entire Coffee Concert season was streamed online, as were our Suzuki concerts, and our annual Halloween, Holiday, and Spring Rhapsody celebrations.

SPCM’s Artists-in-Residence

SPCM’s Artists-in-Residence this year were the piano duo of Ivan Konev & Oleg Levin. Their residency included a virtual piano master class, a live streamed Coffee Concert, and an online concert that also featured Ivan & Oleg introducing the pieces.

Creative, warm, fun



View Alton March Froelich's Creativity Challenge video submission

Mandala memory submission—

“The Halloween Recital provided a wonderful and safe opportunity to share music during this difficult year. It made our family all smile to see Joey and the other students and staff participate in this event.”



View the Creativity Challenge videos



View the Sounds of the SPCM videos



View the 12 Days of Music videos

CONNECTION

Keeping our community safe this year required unprecedented physical isolation. As we did our best to protect the health and well-being of everyone at the Conservatory, we found ways to nourish souls and inspire creativity through the joy of music. The virtual programs presented on these pages engaged dozens of members of the SPCM community in music-making.

Creativity Challenge

Our Creativity Challenge inspired SPCM students to make videos of themselves at their most musically creative. Two lucky winners received discounts on SPCM merchandise.

Sounds of SPCM

Twenty-four members of the SPCM community submitted videos of themselves performing, which were then shared as part of our weekly series “Sounds of the SPCM.”

12 Days of Music

We celebrated the holiday season with “12 Days of Music,” a series of daily video performances by students and faculty.

Community, artistry, passion

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

SPCM in Schools

SPCM shifted to online lessons for the 45 Academia Cesar Chavez students in our school outreach program, and found new ways to reach beginning music students: our Midweek Music program provided online early child classes for pre-K & Kindergarten students at the Saint Paul Music Academy & Highland Montessori. Our outreach programs served 210 students this year.

Out and About

SPCM produced the inaugural season of our new Out and About series—six monthly concerts for the residents of Episcopal Homes that were also posted to our YouTube channel. Out and About will become an in-person concert series presented at partnering community organizations in the Twin Cities.

New Partnership

The Conservatory announced a partnership with The Friends of the SPCO to produce their Youth Chamber Music Competition, starting in 2022.



[View SPCM's "making a difference" video](#)

Mandala memory submissions—

“The wide-eyed look on a student’s face when she makes the connection between the note on the page, the note on the piano, and the note we sing—‘ohhhhh, I get it!’ ”

“The sense of empowerment and community in the beginning cello class at Academia Cesar Chavez.”

Connection, accessibility

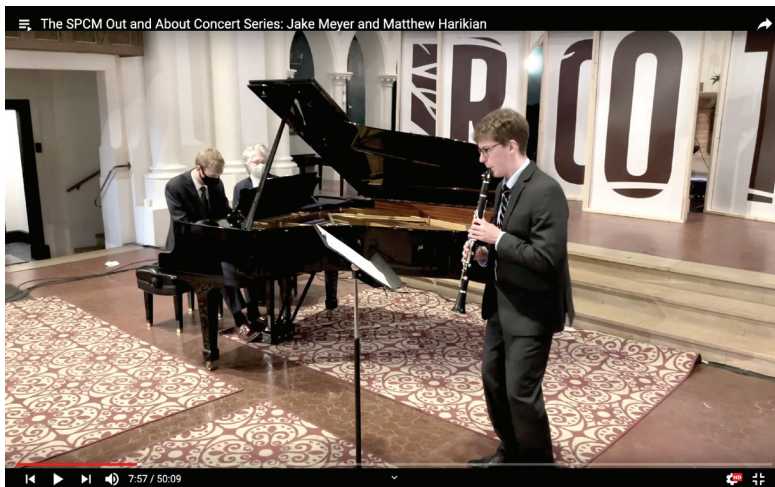
PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

Enhancing Our Performance Library

We continued to provide important performance opportunities for our students and faculty by live streaming concerts and recitals. These recordings have become a robust collection of wonderful music. The images on this page link to a selection of performances, but you can find our entire archive of videos, including videos from previous years, on our [YouTube channel](#).



[View the Coffee Concert Series](#)



[View the Out and About Concert Series](#)



[View the Halloween Concert](#)

Beauty, dedication, growth



2020-2021 STUDENT AWARDS

Aeon Bashir, cello Elite International Competition, 1st place

Isabel Li, piano Minnesota Music Teachers Association Junior Young Artist Competition

Vladimir Tsiper, violin Minneapolis Music Teachers Forum Award, Young People's Symphony Concert Association/Minnesota Orchestra Concerto Competition

Ingrid Tverberg, cello Edith Norberg Award, Young People's Symphony Concert Association/Minnesota Orchestra Concerto Competition

Grace Weitzel, violin Margaret Ankeny Award, Young People's Symphony Concert Association/Minnesota Orchestra Concerto Competition

Clara Belle Wrolstad, piano Bonnie & Donn McLellan Award, Young People's Symphony Concert Association/Minnesota Orchestra Concerto Competition; Chopin Foundation of the United States Scholarship Competition

Mandala memory submission—

“Observing the way a student looks at his or her parents after performing: a moment of trust, pride, and empowerment.”

ADMINISTRATION

Innovations in Conservatory administration this year included the launch of a new registration system, alongside ongoing efforts to ensure that Conservatory processes remain efficient and effective.

In June the SPCM community bid a fond farewell to Clea Galhano and welcomed our next Executive Director, Mary E. Larew.

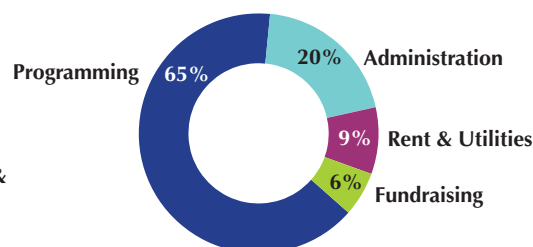
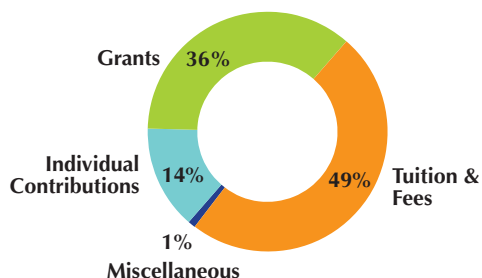
FINANCES

REVENUE

Tuition & Fees	\$398,312
Foundation & Corporate Grants	\$117,000
State & Government Grants	\$177,517
Individual Contributions	\$118,066
Miscellaneous	\$4,786
Total	\$815,681

EXPENSES

Programming	\$456,323
Administration	\$142,653
Rent & Utilities	\$61,211
Fundraising	\$45,061
Total	\$705,248



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Generosity, thankfulness

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From the Mandala submissions, words that describe The SPCM—

**Inspiring, joy giving, educational
Music, lessons, performance, connection
Creative, warm, welcoming, fun
Hope, family, growth, opportunity
Community, artistry, beauty, dedication
Passionate, inclusive, and professional
Nurturing, open, authentic
Community based, and mission driven**



A non-profit music school with a mission of

Music for All