



Metropolitan Wind Symphony
Annual Report
FY 2024

Table of Contents

1. Overview	3
2. Artistic Highlights.....	3
3. Organizational and Educational highlights:	4
4. MetWinds in the Community:	4
4.1 Audience member Feedback.....	4
4.2 Student Musician Feedback	5
5. Financial overview.....	5
5.1 FY2023 Income and Expenses.....	6

1. Overview

The mission of the Metropolitan Wind Symphony (MetWinds) is to contribute positively to the musical education and enrichment of the community through public performance of traditional and contemporary wind music, serve as a channel for the commission and presentation of new musical works, and provide an enjoyable, challenging, inclusive, and educational musical experience for the members.

This FY 2024 Annual Report contains highlights of our artistic and organizational accomplishments, community involvement and feedback, and a financial overview for the fifty-second season of the Metropolitan Wind Symphony which ended on August 31, 2024.

2. Artistic Highlights

- Brian Cheney- Guest vocalist, Fall concert (11/5/23)
- Jason Caron- MetWinds Bassoon soloist, Winter concert (3/3/24)
- Matt Dawson-MetWinds Trombone soloist, Hastings Park Concert (7/11/24)
- Mary Cuthbertson, Guest Conductor; Concert sponsored by Emily Hofmann, Hastings Park Concert (7/11/24)
- Premiere conducting performance by newly- appointed MetWinds Assistant Conductor, Mark Olson (7/18/24)
- Tim Moyer, Guest Conductor; Concert sponsored by Sarah Freeman, Hastings Park Concert (7/11/24)
- Andy Wilds, MetWinds Saxophone soloist, Hastings Park Concert (7/25/24)
- Kathryn and Connor Sliski, Guest Conductors; Concert sponsored by Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Rowland, Hastings Park Concert (7/25/24)

- Hastings Park Outdoor Concert Series, Lexington. Three performances (7/11/24, 7/18/24, 7/25/24) Attendance: 400+

3. Organizational and Educational highlights

- Twenty select middle and high school students from ten Massachusetts towns joined MetWinds members in rehearsal and performance for the 2024 Student Concert (5/5/24)
- MetWinds is now on YouTube- reaching a wider audience via our YouTube channel with videos of our best indoor concert performances. They can be accessed at: www.youtube.com/metwinds

4. MetWinds in the Community

Each year MetWinds donates goods and/or services to many worthy causes in our community. In FY 2023 we donated:

- St. John of Damascus Church and Dedham TV: 2022 Holiday concert and concert video
- Town of Lexington: two summer outdoor concerts- free admission to all (7/11/24, 7/18/24, 7/25/24)
- Full concert videos of our Lexington indoor concerts are available through the local cable company, LexMedia, who films and rebroadcasts our concerts for the enjoyment of local Lexington residents and also makes the video available for wider viewing via their website at: www.lexmedia.org

4.1 Audience member Feedback

- *We are here as a family group of multi-ages. The singer was fantastic! Truly enjoyed all the numbers, but especially the ones where he sang.*
- *Really great programming! I enjoyed every selection. Guest soloist was great too. I can tell a lot of thought went into program selection. Much appreciated.*

- *Always a treat to attend a MetWinds concert! Woohoo bassoons!*
- *Guignol was an amazing experience having the composer present.*
- *I loved the Little Mexican Suite. I am new to classical music concerts, but the professionalism of this group greatly impressed me.*
- *I appreciate the connection with the local middle and high school students. Providing a great opportunity for these young musicians is a wonderful thing to do. I look forward to many more MetWinds concerts.*
- *Thank you for continuing to balance programs with new music and crowd favorites. Ensemble is sounding really good.*

4.2 Student Musician Feedback

- *I just want to say thank you for the opportunity to perform with all of these amazing people. It's great that you're offering such an opportunity to student musicians; and it's a great motivation to continue with the pursuit of music as well as a perfect opportunity to see where music can take you. I will remember this for the rest of my life, and I truly appreciate the opportunity.*

5. Financial overview

As our most recent IRS Form 990 will show, MetWinds remains a solid, financially stable organization with a good balance between cash on hand to underwrite our everyday needs and investments to provide for future needs. We are blessed with a solid support system consisting of generous patrons and friends, audience members, performing members, small businesses, a host of volunteers as well as support from state and local grant programs.

The impact of this support system became particularly evident when we received news during the year of a substantial bequest from a MetWinds member's estate. With prudent investment and spending, this bequest will provide a steady income stream for

the foreseeable future, facilitate a balanced budget, and allow MetWinds to explore new opportunities for musical growth and community enrichment.

Respectfully submitted, Leslie A. Hansen President, MetWinds November 17, 2024.

5.1 FY2023 Income and Expenses

