

THE RENO JAZZ ORCHESTRA
KEEPING JAZZ ALIVE & VIBRANT
in Northern Nevada

Annual Report 2018

Keeping Jazz Alive and Vibrant!

On behalf of the entire Reno Jazz Orchestra and our staff, I sincerely thank you and all our fans who have donated to our organization and continue to support our local programs. It is because of this generosity over the years that we have provided twenty-one years of service to Northern Nevada.

When a small group of the finest showroom musicians in town founded our organization in 1997, we initiated a mission to provide our community with exceptional big band jazz performances. Since then, our mission has expanded to include a robust jazz education program.

Last year, in recognition of our 20th Anniversary, our Board of Directors embarked on a plan to expand our performance and education programs to better serve our community, and you and your friends, for years to come. We are pleased to announce that work continues and is reflected in the enclosed annual report.

We could not be where we are today without the financial donations and in-kind services that have generously been donated to enhance all our initiatives for the past twenty-one years.

I am honored to have been a member of the RJO since its inception in 1997 and equally honored to present to you our Annual Report. Thank you again for helping us keep jazz an integral part of Northern Nevada today, and for years to come!

Chuck Reider, CEO/Music Director



History & Mission

The Reno Jazz Orchestra is a 17-piece contemporary big band based in Northern Nevada. The band was formed in 1997 by musicians who have performed with acts such as Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr., Elvis Presley, Natalie Cole, and Luciano Pavarotti and traveled the world with legendary performers.

Our mission is to build a greater appreciation of jazz in

Northern Nevada by providing outstanding big band performances, promoting the artistry of Reno Jazz Orchestra musicians through a variety of ensembles, and supporting jazz education through a mentorship program in middle schools, high schools, and colleges. All combined, we contribute to the vibrancy, diversity, cultural vitality, and quality of our community's artistic life.

Educational Programs

Jazz in the Schools

The Reno Jazz Orchestra's annual Jazz in the Schools (JIS) event takes place each February in the Department of Music's prestigious Nightingale Concert Hall, University of Nevada, Reno. The program is supported through grants and private contributions. Hundreds of young jazz musicians in Washoe County can hear other student jazz ensembles, receive feedback from great clinicians, and hear a concert by the Reno Jazz Orchestra.

This past year, eighteen middle school and high school big bands from the area performed and received feedback from clinicians Paul Harshman, Mike McMullen and Steve Zenz who are nationally recognized jazz educators brought in by the RJO for this event. Four small combos performed and received feedback from the UNR Jazz Faculty members Andy Heglund, Peter Epstein, and Hans Halt. This year's featured performer, Bobby Shew, held an afternoon clinic with the RJO. The RJO continued a three-day in-service program for WCSD Band Directors who attended workshops lead by the UNR Jazz Faculty and clinician Paul Harshman who illustrated rehearsal techniques by rehearsing the Reno Youth Jazz Orchestra.

Because of the outpouring of local financial support, there is no charge to the participating schools, students, and Band Directors to participate in Jazz in the Schools. Over 400 students and parents were involved in Saturday's activities. The Sunday matinee featured guest artist Bobby Shew who is an acclaimed trumpet performing artist and music educator.



Reno Jazz Orchestra Mentor Program

The Reno Jazz Orchestra Jazz Mentor program, in its ninth year, continued to expand with the help of the EL Cord Foundation, City of Reno, the State of Nevada, and Healing Healthcare Systems funding. Participating schools this year were:

Swope Middle School

Depoali Middle School

Billingshurst Middle School

Vaughn Middle School

Galena High School

Reno High School

Hug High School

Incline High School

Truckee High School

Wooster High School

Reno Youth Jazz Orchestra 1

The Mentor Program placed seven jazz educators in the seven mentioned schools throughout eight months. The mentors included: *Reno Jazz Orchestra*: Jim Garaventa and Jonathan Phillips. *University of Nevada Reno*: (faculty) Hans Halt; Doug Coomler, Karl Busch (graduates) Nate Kline, Bryan McAllister, Brandon Sherman, Dylan Coleman

These 14 mentors provide 98 hours of professional service for 2,457 students. This program has proven to be a beneficial and rewarding way to keep jazz alive in our public schools and community.



Educational Programs (cont.)

Reno Jazz Orchestra Jazz Workshop

This year the RJO introduced Saturday morning jazz workshops for middle and high school students focusing on jazz improvisation. Director Bryan McAllister lead both the spring and fall workshops for eight sessions. Students learned the melody to jazz standards and the notes to improvise over the song all by ear. Included were jazz theory sessions and break-out sessions for specific instruments. As a capstone event, the students open our May Hall Concert and our December Holiday Concert.



Reno Jazz Orchestra 2018 Performances

The Note-ables Gala

February 10th (Atlantis Casino, Reno, NV)

Jazz in the Schools

February 10th & 11th (Nightingale Hall, Reno, NV)

Approximately 375 in attendance

UNR Jazz Festival

April 28th, 2018 (UNR, Reno, NV)

Tahoe Family Solutions Gala

May 10th (The Chateau, Incline Village, NV)

Approximately 175 in attendance

The Music of Hans Halt

May 18th & 19th (Union Hall, Reno, NV)

Approximately 210 in attendance

New Orleans ~ A Night in the Big Easy

July 28th (Wingfield Park, Reno, NV)

Approximately 2600 in attendance

July 29th (Montreux Country Club, Reno, NV)

Approximately 1000 in attendance

July 30th (Sand Harbor State Park/Lake Tahoe, NV)

Approximately 800 in attendance

Jazz and Beyond

August 19th (Carson City, NV)

Approximately 300 in attendance

An Evening with Tierney Sutton & The RJO

August 31st (Cargo Concert Hall, Reno, NV)

Approximately 370 in attendance

September 1st (Sand Harbor State Park/Lake Tahoe, NV)

Approximately 750 in attendance

House Concert

September 22nd (Private Residence, Incline Village, NV)

Approximately 40 in attendance

Coomler Conducts

November 16th & 17th (Union Hall, Reno, NV)

Approximately 110 in attendance per event

A World of Joy

December 15th & 16th (Cargo Concert Hall, Reno, NV)

Approximately 250 in attendance per event

December 20th (Squaw Valley, CA)

Approximately 250 in attendance

Platinum

Anonymous

Susan Mazer & Dallas Smith

Gold

Anonymous

Silver

George Foster

Lilian and Steve Frank

Bronze

Edna and Bruno Benna Foundation

Sandra Cath and David Contis

Mary Culpepper and Terry Colligan

Peggy and Bill Filter

Joe Gorman

Dent Hand Jr.

Lana and Stephen Hardy

James House

Mary Ann and James Kidder

Ginnie Kersey

Martha and Bruce MacKay

Charlotte and Dick McConnell

Jane and Jim Nichols

Eleanor and Robert Preger

Julie and Craig Rauchle

Bronze (cont.)

Candy and Chuck Reider

Irene and Steve Self

Gloria and Dean Smith

Sandra Waltman

Christine Worthington

RJO Partner

Suzanne and Matthew Booher

Paula Knickerbocker

Dr. Toni Neubauer

Roz Reynolds

Kaye and Joe Shackford

Lois and Don Smaltz

RJO Band Fan

Clay Alder

Kathleen and John Beckman

Anne Bacon

Diane Baranowski

Roberta Bell

Blaine and Brian Bolton

Bernard Bronov

Valerie Chappel

Kim Clancy

Kathleen Cooke

Lynn Cusac

RJO Band Fan (cont.)

Marty Donahoe

Mike and Catherine Eardly

Katherine and Steve Elek

Patty Engles

Steve Falcone

Nancy Moss Ghush

Edward Good

Ruth Gregory

Elyse and Shai Gut

Sandi and Ken Joyce

Deborah Hamlin

Donna and Joseph Harvey

Mary Holman

Susan and David Kelley

Janet and Monte Klein Foundation

Marsha Lang

Shelia and Ken Leijon

Kathy and Alan McKay

Mary and Frank Marfisi

J.S. McElhinney M.D.

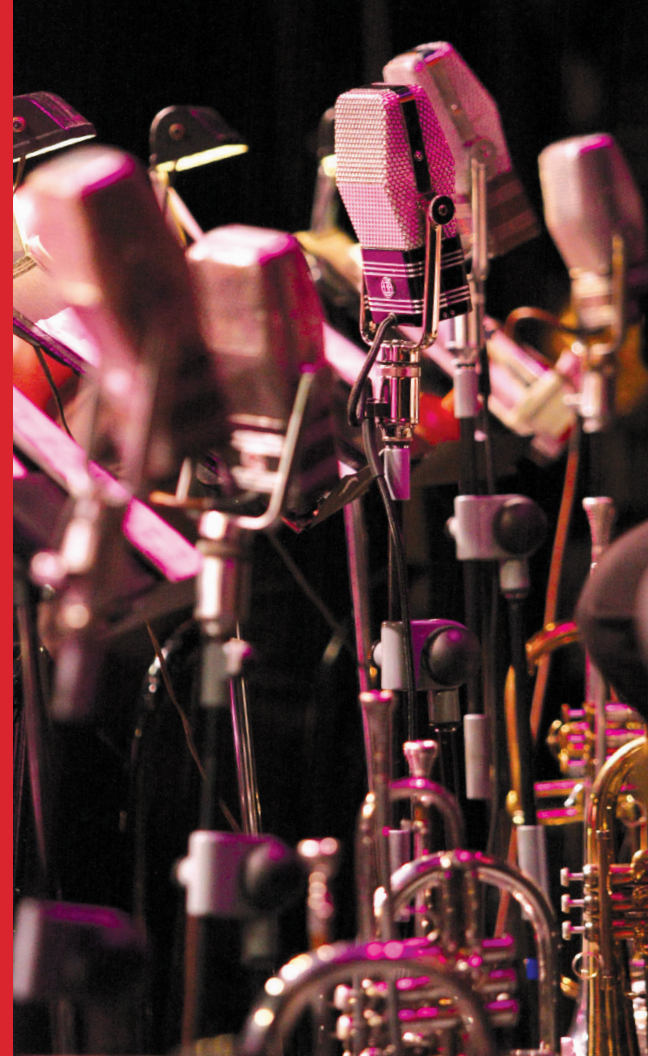
Elaine Moser

Debbie and Peter Munoz

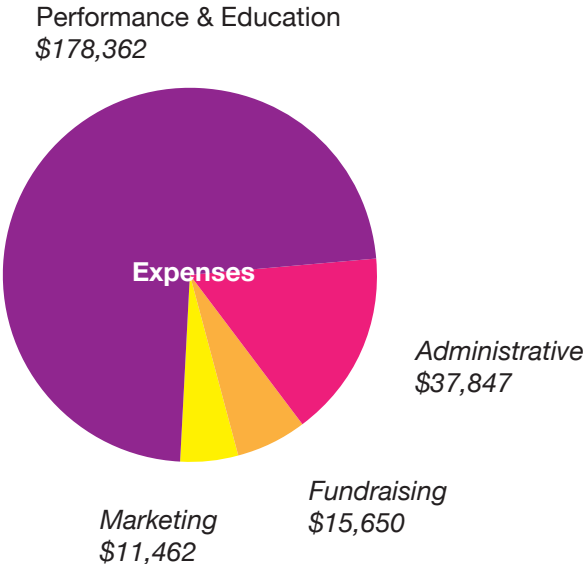
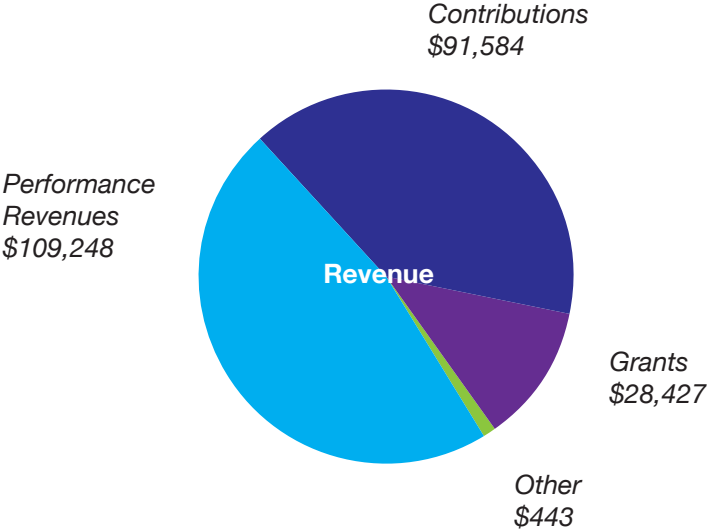
Linda and Steve Newberg

Steve Peeck

Danne Polk

RJO Band Fan (cont.)*Lee Ragonese**Joanne Ray**Reno Musicians Union Local #368**Cathy and James Rossner**Steve and Julia Rubin**Melanie Rudnick**Arline Sala**Mari Shadley**Chris Shea**Richard Siegel TTE**Judith and Larry Simcoe**Carolyn and Michael Smith**Lois and Robert Strejc**Anthony Taylor**Vern Watts**Kathleen and Andrew Woodard***RJO Friends***Ellen and Sam Badiner**Peter Bush**Theresa and Robert Casaceli**Lois Crocker**Margaret and Richard Davis**Tony and George DiGioia**Richard Fisher**Mary Holman**Duane Hyer**Debbie Lewis**Paul Nannimi**Jean and John Sokol***Grantors***City of Reno* \$12,000*EL Cord Foundation* \$5,000*Music Performance Trust Fund* \$2,310*Nevada Arts Council* \$9,117**Total** **\$28,427**

2018 Financial Highlights



73% of expenses go directly toward Education and Performance

2018 Board of Directors

Dallas Smith, President
Chuck Reider, Music Director/CEO
Steve Self, Vice President
Jim Nichols, Treasurer
Jim Garaventa, Secretary
Matt Booher, Member
Mike Eardley, Member
Joe Gorman, Member
Linda Newberg, Member
Roz Reynolds, Member

2018 RJO Staff & Associates

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