Inspired by musical storytelling, our 2015/2016 season featured a broad variety of programming and notable artistic partnerships. Messiaen’s Des canyons aux étoiles... (From the Canyons to the Stars)  performed for a sold-out audience in St. Louis and on tour in California, included stunning visuals by photographer Deborah O’Grady.

I love the way that music can tell a story, either in partnership with real words or dispensing entirely with the words and partnering with our emotions. We made our 15/16 programs unique, so that whether you experienced Peter and the Wolf, or Beethoven’s Sixth Symphony as familiar works or as your very first time hearing them played live, your sense of the wonder that this music contains is ampliﬁed beyond what you expected when you came in.

These performances were made so extraordinary because of the talent we have on stage. I am deeply grateful for the leadership of our artistic team, Amy Kaiser, Director of the St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra, and the 91 members of the St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra, and the 91 members of the St. Louis Symphony—outsanding musicians who have dedicated a lifetime to mastering their craft, who are part of the fabric of our community.

Great music played by a great orchestra does more than entertain us—great music played by a great orchestra does more than entertain us—great music played by a great orchestra does more than entertain us—great music played by a great orchestra does more than entertain us—great music played by a great orchestra does more than entertain us. You make possible the excellence of concert experiences that foster meaningful connections among audiences, our community and the orchestra that it is today!

“Attending a concert with my aunt when I was 10; I have loved classical music ever since.”
— G. ALLEN

“Tell us your story
Thank you for sharing your favorite experiences and what you love about the St. Louis Symphony.

“Attending a concert with my aunt when I was 10, I have loved classical music ever since.”
— G. ALLEN

“Tells the Story.” Our story, as an institution and cultural landmark, belongs to you—chapters present and past written with the loyal dedication, vision and generosity of friends like you, who support great music-making year after year. With your steadfast support, we achieved balanced cash operating results this season.

Thanks to the entire St. Louis Symphony team on and off the stage, we are proud to report the best bottom line financial results in many years. Audiences and sales for our Live at Powell Hall events reached their highest numbers since the inception of the series in 2010. And contrary to national trends, our classical audiences and sales increased for the third consecutive year.

In terms of philanthropic support, we concluded FY2016 with our best ever Annual Campaign total—$7.68 million from 5,394 donors, 30% of which were new. In addition to annual giving, impressive results were achieved in building the St. Louis Symphony Endowment Trust. Significant contributions were received as part of ongoing efforts to secure endowment funding commensurate with the orchestra’s needs. As of August 31, 2016, endowment related assets under management exceeded $200 million.

In July, we marked the passing of a dear friend, Jack C. Taylor. Jack’s extraordinarily generous and strategic investments established the St. Louis Symphony Endowment Trust, which inspired thousands of friends to join in supporting the Symphony, sustaining artistic and music education programs for generations to come.

Thank you again for playing your part. Your active participation, giving, attending concerts and volunteering is critical and deeply appreciated. You make possible the excellence of concert experiences that foster meaningful connections among audiences, our community and the world’s finest musicians.
During the 15/16 season, your support helped bring members of our community together through extraordinary and artfully crafted musical experiences. Preventing a variety of programming, including Classical, Family and Education concerts, opera, movies, as well as rock and pop, the St. Louis Symphony embraced innovation while attracting a broad and diverse audience.

Opening Weekend with Violinist Joshua Bell
The incomparable Joshua Bell joined the Symphony and Music Director David Robertson to kick off the 15/16 season, performing Lalo’s Symphonie espagnole, September 18-20, 2016. Opening weekend festivities also included a gala celebration raising nearly $400,000 in support of music education and community programs.

St. Louis Symphony Soloists
Showcasing the world-class talent that makes up our orchestra, St. Louis Symphony musicians took center stage as soloists throughout the season, including Erik Harris, Principal Double Bass, with the U.S. premiere of Tan Dun’s Contrabass Concerto: The Wolf, and Shannon Wood, Principal Timpani, performing William Kraft’s Timpani Concerto No. 2. In addition, Concertmaster David Halen, Principal Cello Daniel Lee, Associate Principal Viola Kathleen Mattis, Principal Percussion William James and Second Associate Concertmaster Celeste Golden Boyer were also featured soloists.

From the Canyons to the Stars
The Symphony commissioned West Coast photographer Deborah O’Grady to create stunning visuals to accompany performances of Olivier Messiaen’s Des canyons aux étoiles... (from The Canyons to the Stars). The St. Louis performance on January 16, 2016, a world premiere of O’Grady’s visuals and regional premiere of Messiaen’s landmark score, welcomed a standing-room-only crowd.

Shakespeare Festival
In addition to performances at Powell Hall, the St. Louis Symphony’s four-week tribute to history’s greatest playwright included a partnership with Shakespeare Festival St. Louis to present pre-concert lectures, Family and Education concerts, as well as an abbreviated version of The Tempest accompanied by Sibelius’ incidental music written for the play.

Scheherazade.2
With violinist Leila Josefowicz, David Robertson and the orchestra recorded John Adams’ Scheherazade.2 live in concert, released on September 30, 2016. Adams handpicked Josefowicz and the St. Louis Symphony for the project—the continuation of a long-standing partnership with one of America’s preeminent contemporary composers.

Live at Powell Hall
Popular-oriented concerts welcomed record audiences—53% were new to Powell Hall—with music from The Legend of Zelda, tributes to Michael Jackson and David Bowie, as well as film favorites Back to the Future and E.T. The Extra Terrestrial with live performances of the orchestral score.

116 Concerts

62
Classical Concerts

27
Live at Powell Hall*

19
Education/Family

7
Holiday

5
Pulitzer

*Includes Lift Every Voice

250,000+ experienced St. Louis Symphony live at Powell Hall and across the region

360,000+ reached through live Saturday night broadcasts on St. Louis Public Radio 90.7 / KWMU

4,600 subscribers, 81% returning from 2014/2015 season

54% women

91 musicians

46% men

95,159 classical single tickets sold

32% new patrons

39% new donors

$7.68M 2016 Annual Campaign

$394 donors
“David Robertson, the St. Louis Symphony’s music director, shaped ‘Canyons’ with a sure hand... The orchestra responded with playing of focus and fire.”

—ALEX ROSS, THE NEW YORKER

ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY ON TOUR

A core part of what we do to achieve our mission to enrich people’s lives through the power of music, is to take the artistry of the Symphony on tour regionally, across the United States and abroad. In fact, touring remains essential for most major professional orchestras to build reputation and attract top talent. You help us represent St. Louis at its very best as a vibrant American city, home to a world-class orchestra. Wherever we go, the name of St. Louis goes with us.

California Tour
From January 27 to February 2, 2016, the St. Louis Symphony embarked on its third tour of California in seven seasons. The first set of concerts in Aliso Viejo and Palm Desert featured John Adams’ Saxophone Concerto paired with Mahler’s Fifth Symphony. Later, in Berkeley and Los Angeles, the orchestra reprised its multimedia concerts featuring Messiaen’s Des canyons aux étoiles... In addition to public concerts in Berkeley, the orchestra participated in a residency, which included two symposia and an educational concert.

Regional Presence
The St. Louis Symphony visited Cape Girardeau, Missouri, on September 9, 2016, performing at Southeast Missouri State University’s Bedell Performance Hall. On September 27, 2016, Resident Conductor Steven Jarvi led the orchestra at the Missouri Theatre in Columbia, Missouri, as part of the University Concert Series. The Symphony has performed at the University of Missouri for nine consecutive seasons—bringing great music to community members outside of St. Louis who may not have the opportunity to travel to Powell Hall.”
COMMUNITY & EDUCATION PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

You are our partner in bringing music to the places where people live, learn, worship and heal, nearly every day of the St. Louis Symphony’s season. We engage our audiences—veteran and new—in a deeper understanding of, and appreciation for, classical music and the orchestral experience. For many, these programs have served as a starting point for their own musical exploration and future St. Louis Symphony experiences.

**IN UNISON**

In addition to partnerships with more than 40 churches and the 120-member Chorus, the St. Louis Symphony’s IN UNISON program offers avenues for young people of diverse backgrounds to study music and explore careers in arts administration. A 15/16 pilot mentorship program connected participants with musicians of the St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra.

**St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra**

During its 15/16 season, the Youth Orchestra included 105 aspiring musicians, ages 12-22, from 46 partner schools in Greater St. Louis. All three of its concerts at Powell Hall brought record crowds, and the ensemble was featured on The Nine Network’s Night at the Symphony program.

**SymphonyCares**

The St. Louis Symphony marked five years of its partnership with Saint Louis University Cancer Center, performing for patients receiving chemotherapy. Innovative music therapy programs also bring solace and help with healing to patients and caregivers at children’s hospitals, involving the St. Louis Symphony in groundbreaking programs and research studies.

**Music Without Boundaries**

Since 2005, Music Without Boundaries has used the power of music to foster a greater understanding of our region’s diverse cultural resources, both among immigrant/refugee populations, as well as between them and the native-born population. During the 15/16 season, the St. Louis Symphony welcomed new immigrants and refugees to Family Concerts and presented a world music concert at the International Institute of St. Louis.

“Making beautiful music accessible to people of any budget. Thank you!”

— FREE COMMUNITY EVENT ATTENDEE
REVENUE

EARNED REVENUE
Ticket Revenue $6,871
Fee and Tour Revenue 1,463
Other Earned Revenue 491
Total Earned Revenue 8,825

CONTRIBUTED REVENUE
Annual Campaign 7,680
Special Gifts, Gala and Volunteer Activities 1,441
Reserve (141)
Total Contributed Revenue 8,980

ENDOWMENT AND OTHER REVENUE
Endowment Draw 9,820
Other Miscellaneous 744
Total Endowment and Other Revenue 10,564

TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE $28,369

EXPENSES

Artistic / Concert Production; $20,345
Community Partnerships,
Marketing and Public Relations 2,874
Fundraising 1,631
Facilities 1,488
General and Administrative 2,892
Less Depreciation and Pension Adjustments (1,089)

ADJUSTED OPERATING EXPENSES $28,141

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
August 31, 2016
($ in Thousands)

ASSETS
Cash and Cash Equivalents $5,036
Investments held by the Symphony 12,330
Investments held by the Endowment Trust 170,448
Receivables 19,833
Other Assets 880
Property and Equipment (net) 3,203
Total Assets $231,728

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS
Liabilities
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses 791
Deferred Revenue 3,863
Notes and Line of Credit Payable 596
Net Pension Liability 13,684
Total Liabilities 18,934
Net Assets
Unrestricted 26,896
Temporarily Restricted 18,694
Permanently Restricted 164,001
Total Net Assets 212,794

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS $231,728