FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

Our 2016/2017 season was a celebration of the Musical Spirit of St. Louis. That spirit filled Powell Hall throughout the year – from commemorating Charles Lindbergh’s flight of the Spirit of St. Louis to honoring St. Louis’ contemporary spirit with hometown artist Nelly. We carried that spirit with us as we performed in Powell Hall, at Forest Park, throughout the St. Louis community, on tour to Carnegie Hall and throughout Spain.

We continued our collaboration with American composer John Adams during the season, celebrating his 70th birthday with performances of his new work, The Gospel According to the Other Mary, both in St. Louis and at Carnegie Hall. Our recording of Adams’ Scheherazade.2 earned violinist Leila Josefowicz a Grammy nomination for Best Classical Instrumental Solo for her stunning performance.

We were thrilled to welcome Gemma New as this season’s new Resident Conductor and Music Director of the St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra. She stood out as a musician of great insight when we worked together a few years ago at Carnegie Hall. From the first moment in our audition, Gemma opened a clear line of deep communication with our musicians, who responded to her clarity and passion. Her dedication to music education is a gift to the organization and the St. Louis community.

Our season would not take place without the talent and passion of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra’s own Musical Spirit. I share my deepest thanks with my artistic team; Gemma New, Concertmaster David Halen, who celebrated his 70th birthday with performances throughout our region. We are music lovers who provide a platform for educators, helping them transform STEM to STEAM through the arts. We are committed to making a difference and creating vibrant experiences for audiences of all ages.

As we prepare for the new season, during which we will celebrate David Robertson and his lasting legacy as well as commemorate our 50th anniversary in Powell Hall, we take this opportunity to reflect on the season we shared with you and what we accomplished together over the past year. We thank you for your continued support and look forward to another year of enriching lives through the power of music.
2016/2017 SEASON OVERVIEW AND ARTISTIC HIGHLIGHTS

Thanks to your generous support, the SLSO’s 16/17 season featured extraordinary performances inspired by our city’s pioneering spirit—from The Flight of Lindbergh to The Flying Dutchman, Beethoven’s monumental piano concertos, the music of American composer John Adams, and an exciting collaboration with hip-hop artist Nelly.

Thank you for sustaining the excellence of SLSO programs that bring together audiences, our community and the world’s finest musicians to experience the power of music.

Forest Park Concert
As we’ve done for more than a decade, the SLSO, under the direction of David Robertson, performed for more than 10,000 people at the base of Art Hill in Forest Park, a concert sponsored annually by Mary Ann Lee.

Spirit of St. Louis
Music Director David Robertson and the SLSO opened the 16/17 season with a specially-crafted program to commemorate the 90th anniversary of Charles Lindbergh’s solo voyage across the Atlantic in the Spirit of St. Louis.

Beethoven Piano Concertos
Powell Hall audiences enjoyed all five of Beethoven’s piano concertos performed by the orchestra and guest artists from around the globe, including Yefim Bronfman, Orli Shaham and Stephen Hough.

John Adams at 70
Acclaimed for outstanding recordings and performances of the works of John Adams, the SLSO presented a season-long celebration of his 70th birthday, culminating with a performance by the orchestra and chorus of Adams’ The Gospel According to the Other Mary at Carnegie Hall. The orchestra also released Adams’ Scheherazade.2—which earned violinist Leila Josefowicz a Grammy nomination for Best Classical Instrumental Solo for her performance—and recorded John Adams’ Violin Concerto.

2017 Gala Celebration
In March, the SLSO honored Concertmaster David Halen and paid tribute to his 25 seasons with the orchestra. The event raised $600,000 to support our community and music education programs. More than 400 guests enjoyed an extraordinary evening of classical music and Motown favorites.

The Flying Dutchman
The 16/17 classical season came to a stunning conclusion with David Robertson leading the orchestra and chorus in Wagner’s The Flying Dutchman, featuring an international cast of soloists and projections by visual artist S. Katy Tucker.

Gypsy Caravan
On Memorial Day, the St. Louis Symphony Volunteer Association presented the 45th annual Gypsy Caravan, one of the largest antique, craft, and vintage markets in the Midwest. Proceeds from the event support the SLSO and education concerts that reach and inspire tens of thousands of area students each season. Since 1973, Gypsy Caravan has raised more than $3.5 million to help fund the SLSO.

Live at Powell Hall
The SLSO’s broad variety of 16/17 programming included Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone™—In Concert, Tribute to Prince, Singin’ in the Rain and two performances by Ben Folds, who was back by popular demand. In a uniquely St. Louis collaboration, hometown favorite Nelly performed alongside the orchestra and David Robertson for “A Night of Symphonic Hip Hop.” The concert sold out and generated national attention.

“You do know St. Louis Symphony is one of the greatest symphonies in the world, right?”
— BEN FOLDS

219 concerts and free events

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<th>133 concerts</th>
<th>88 free events</th>
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<tr>
<td>59 Classical Series</td>
<td>85 Community/Education Programs</td>
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<td>27 Education and Family Concerts</td>
<td>3 Youth Orchestra Performances</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 Live at Powell Hall/Lift Every Voice</td>
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<td>17 Holiday Concerts</td>
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<td>5 Pulitzer Series</td>
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More than 13,000 hours contributed by members of the St. Louis Symphony Volunteer Association

23,422 students attended Education Concerts

5-year labor contract reached with SLSO musicians, providing artistic and financial stability through 2022

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

275,000 reached through live Saturday night broadcasts on St. Louis Public Radio 90.7 | KWMU

85,589 classical single tickets

32% new patrons

$600,000 gala proceeds supported innovative music education and community programs
COMMUNITY AND EDUCATION PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

During the 16/17 season, you helped strengthen the depth and breadth of innovative music education and community programs, enriching the lives of people of all ages and backgrounds throughout our region.

Joining Forces: On Stage at Powell
For the past four years, musicians from the SLSO have worked with musicians from Scott Air Force Base and Ft. Leonard Wood. In May, we hosted a first-of-its-kind concert with members of the USAF Band of Mid-America and members of the 399th Army Band. They joined SLSO winds, brass, and percussion on stage at Powell, including four SLSO musicians who are veterans themselves. More than 2,000 veterans, active duty, or retired service members and local residents attended this powerful performance.

Symphony in Your School: Jennings Junior High School
The Jennings Junior High School Orchestra, seated side by side with their SLSO mentors, performed for more than 2,000 people as they opened for an SLSO classical concert at Powell Hall. This experience was made possible through Symphony in Your School, which supports and enhances school curricula by developing students’ performing capacities through instrumental instruction, mentoring, and music-making experiences with SLSO musicians.

IN UNISON: Scholars and Fellows
Ten African-American students pursuing music-related degrees participated in the IN UNISON Scholars and Arts Administration Fellows program, including ‘Terence “T.J.” Abernathy’ T.J., a former IN UNISON Scholar and Youth Orchestra alumnus, worked on his fellowship throughout the season under the mentorship of David Robertson, Gemma New and several guest conductors.

SymphonyCares: Symphony Mondays at SLU Cancer Center
This year marked our sixth season for this program, which is meaningful to patients and performers alike. The live music provides a welcome distraction for patients as they receive treatments in the infusion center. According to research conducted by SLU Cancer Center, the live performances reduce stress and anxiety in patients, which allows for improved health outcomes.

St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra
The SLSYO welcomed its new Music Director, Resident Conductor Gemma New, whose energy and artistry helped the young musicians reach greater musical heights. The SLSYO enjoyed unique opportunities in its 47th season including working with Leonard Slatkin, who returned to the podium in November to conduct a work on the SLSYO’s opening program. The SLSYO partnered with Opera Theatre Saint Louis’ Artist in Training program to feature a young soprano, Rayna Campbell, who performed in concert with the orchestra. At the season finale in May, the Concerto Competition winners, Michael Lu and Hava Polinsky, performed with the Youth Orchestra. Their performances were featured on the Nine Network’s A Night at the Symphony in October 2017.

“I play violin and to see very experienced violinists was amazing! The music was beautiful! I loved seeing the violinists move their hands all over the finger board. Thank you so much for giving me this amazing opportunity.”

—MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT
ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
ON TOUR

During the 16/17 season, the SLSO enriched lives through the power of music across our region and beyond the bi-state area. Your investment supported extraordinary opportunities for the SLSO to represent St. Louis on the world stage. Tours this year took the orchestra to Spain, Carnegie Hall, and regional venues in Missouri and Illinois. We were thrilled to announce that next season’s tours will take us to California and to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to perform with American Ballet Theatre and Principal Dancer Misty Copeland.

Touring remains essential for major professional orchestras to sustain world-class status and attract top talent. Made possible only with the generosity of our community and friends like you, touring allows us to shine a spotlight on St. Louis around the world.

Spain Tour
Supported by a leadership grant from the Centene Charitable Foundation, Music Director David Robertson and the orchestra traveled to Spain in February for a four-concert, three-city tour in València, Madrid, and Oviedo.

In addition to concert performances, four trombonists of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra—principal Timothy Myers, associate principal Amanda Stewart, Jonathan Reycraft, and bass trombone Gerard Pagano—gave up half their day to perform at Puerto Atocha, the central train station in Madrid, and a children’s hospital, the Hospital Niño Jesús, receiving a warm reception at each.

Carnegie Hall
In March, David Robertson led the SLSO and Chorus on a triumphant return to Carnegie Hall for a performance of Adams’ The Gospel According to the Other Mary as part of John Adams’ 70th birthday celebration—at the request of the composer himself. This engagement marked the orchestra’s 13th invitation to perform at Carnegie Hall in 15 years.

Regional Presence
The 16/17 season offered several opportunities for the SLSO to visit rural areas and regional venues. In September, Resident Conductor Gemma New made her debut with the orchestra at Missouri S&T in Rolla. SLSO musicians visited as part of Symphony in Your College, which included musicians coaching the S&T Concert Band. In February, David Robertson and SLSO musicians paired masterclasses at the University of Missouri-Columbia with public performances. They also performed a concert of tour repertoire at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

"Amy Kaiser’s St. Louis Symphony Chorus, in the biggest of big sings, triumphed. So did Robertson and the orchestra, ruling the work’s musical and dramatic arc brilliantly throughout."
—SARAH BRYAN MILLER, ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH
FINANCIAL SUMMARY
OPERATING RESULTS: FISCAL YEAR 2017
September 1, 2016-August 31, 2017  ($ in Thousands)

REVENUE

EARNED REVENUE
Ticket Revenue $6,942
Fee and Tour Revenue 1,644
Other Earned Revenue 518
Total Earned Revenue 9,104

CONTRIBUTED REVENUE
Annual Campaign, Events*
Total Contributed Revenue 10,506
*less Reserve

ENDOWMENT AND OTHER REVENUE
Endowment Draw 9,859
Other Miscellaneous 822
Total Endowment and Other Revenue 10,681

TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE $30,291

EXPENSES

Artistic / Concert Production; Community Partnerships, Education and Youth Orchestra Marketing and Public Relations Fundraising Facilities General and Administrative $21,211 2,936 1,717 1,486 2,923

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES $30,273

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
August 31, 2017*

ASSETS
Cash and Cash Equivalents $2,913
Investments held by the Symphony 13,226
Investments held by the Endowment Trust 211,336
Receivables 8,488
Other Assets 594
Property and Equipment (net) 3,997
Total Assets $240,554

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses 689
Deferred Revenue 3,646
Notes and Line of Credit Payable NPV of Annuity Obligations 400
Net Pension Liability 8,969
Total Liabilities 13,704

Net Assets
Unrestricted 42,640
Temporarily Restricted 21,317
Permanently Restricted 162,893
Total Net Assets 226,850

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS $240,554

*Preliminary information as of September 25, 2017