

Kleinhans Music Hall

2022-23 Report to the Community



Elio Villafranca, jazz pianist & composer
PHOTO: Jack Zuff



Nerds Gone Wild
at BPO Pops Party

Chair's Report

Dear Friends:

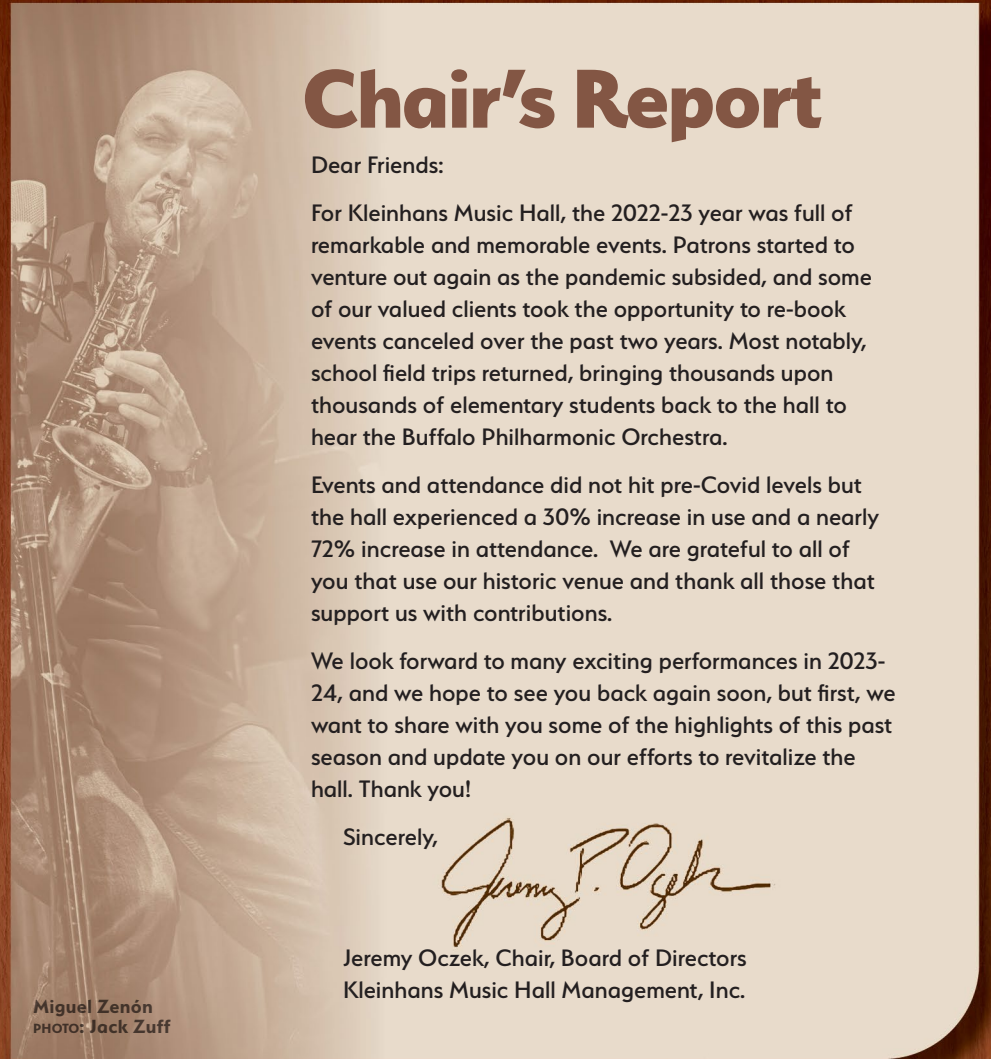
For Kleinhans Music Hall, the 2022-23 year was full of remarkable and memorable events. Patrons started to venture out again as the pandemic subsided, and some of our valued clients took the opportunity to re-book events canceled over the past two years. Most notably, school field trips returned, bringing thousands upon thousands of elementary students back to the hall to hear the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra.

Events and attendance did not hit pre-Covid levels but the hall experienced a 30% increase in use and a nearly 72% increase in attendance. We are grateful to all of you that use our historic venue and thank all those that support us with contributions.

We look forward to many exciting performances in 2023-24, and we hope to see you back again soon, but first, we want to share with you some of the highlights of this past season and update you on our efforts to revitalize the hall. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Jeremy Ocze, Chair, Board of Directors
Kleinhans Music Hall Management, Inc.



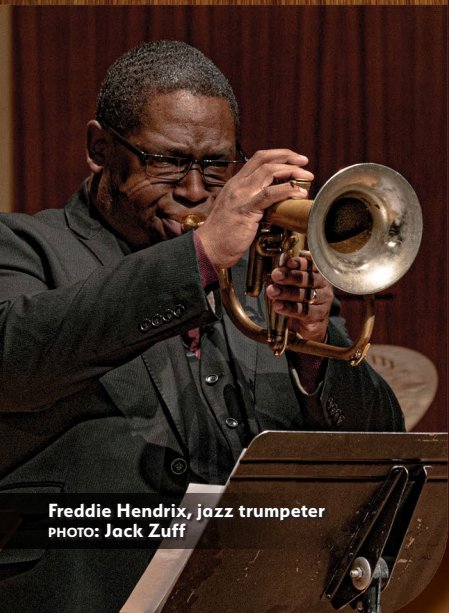
Miguel Zenón
PHOTO: Jack Zuff

Miguel Zenón Quartet
PHOTO: Jack Zuff





My Cousin Tone' performs at Rhythm & Brews Fundraiser



Freddie Hendrix, jazz trumpeter
PHOTO: Jack Zuff



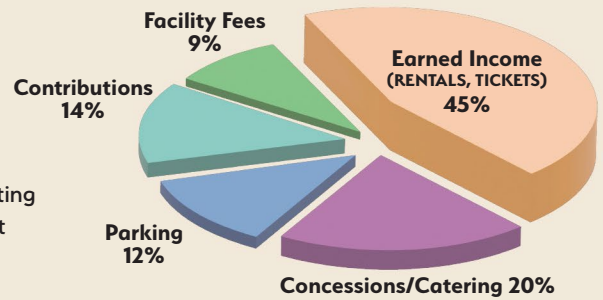
Nat Geo Explorer Brian Skerry
PHOTO: Brett Deneve

Financial Results

The budget will again achieve a slight surplus with revenue of \$1.3 million. Key drivers of revenue growth were net revenue of \$100,000 from commercial rock and comedy shows – including Bill Maher, Kevin James and Brit Floyd – and gross revenue of \$185,000 generated from Kleinhans' own programming.

We experienced the best attendance and sales to date for the National Geographic Live Speakers Series and the Art of Jazz at the Philharmonic, in partnership with JazzBuffalo. We welcomed new audiences for presentations in the Mary Seaton Room – such as Choir Choir Choir, bluesman Walter Trout and comedian Maria Bamford – reflecting our goal to expand programs to attract more people.

Revenue \$1.3 million



Attendance: 133,000 Events: 150

- 14 Kleinhans Presents: Art of Jazz, National Geographic Live Speakers, recitals and concerts
- 12 College and High School Graduations
- 8 Non-Profit Luncheon/Fundraising Events
- 85 BPO performances
- 7 Commercial Rentals for Comedians and Rock Concerts
- 10 Buffalo Chamber Music Society performances
- 4 Just Buffalo Literary Center Babel events
- Numerous tours of Kleinhans in partnership with Explore Buffalo
- 10 additional community events and celebrations. Partners included Aspire, Renaissance Foundation, Boys & Girls Club, SPCA Erie County, Friends of Night People, One Symphony Circle, Evergreen, American Red Cross, Hispanic Heritage Council, MLK Jr. Celebration/Concerned Citizens Following the Dream Committee, Erie County Music Educators Association, and WUFO-FM



Thin Man Brewery crew at Rhythm & Brews Fundraiser

Sheila Brown and the WUFO Team



School buses for BPO Youth Concert





Walter Trout Band



Author, cartoonist Alison Bechdel
PHOTO: Pat Cray



Amina Figarova,
jazz pianist & composer
PHOTO: Jack Zuff

This was also the year in which major projects began in our Capital Campaign. The City of Buffalo is putting on a new roof. By spring, the lower roof covering the Mary Seaton Room, North and South Canopies, and backstage areas were completed. The upper roof over the main auditorium will be renovated before the beginning of the season. We are extremely grateful to Mayor Brown, Niagara District Common Council member David Rivera, and Common Council President Pro Tempore Christopher Scanlon for their support, as well as Department of Public Works Commissioner Nate Marton, Deputy Commissioner

Construction Update

of Buildings Francisco Guzman, and Principal Architect Colin McDermid. This was the highest priority for the hall, and it will be done soon!

The most complicated and most expensive project, HVAC upgrades, started in the spring and will be completed over the three summers. This year, the air handling units for the main auditorium are being replaced. This is quite a project as the old units had to be demolished and brought down one piece at a time. The new units came in pieces that had to be hauled up the stairs and assembled behind the back of the furthest point in the balcony – a logistical feat of epic proportions!

Other important work accomplished this past year included a complete overhaul of the steam distribution system, installation of new jacks for the stage pit elevator lift, and a new fire alarm system, to name just a few. Planning for the next few years of projects continues with a fantastic group of partners, including M/E Engineering, Danforth, and Flynn Battaglia Architects

Keeping It Modern

THE COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN

It was a good fundraising year for our capital projects. Nearly \$17 million has been raised in a true public-private partnership in our Capital Campaign. As we move into the Fall, efforts will intensify to secure the remainder needed to achieve the \$18 million mark for phase one.

Keeping It Modern

Capital Campaign Committee:

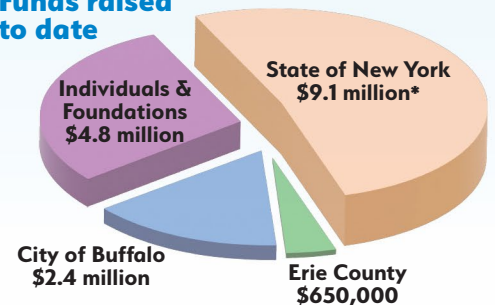
John Yurtchuk & Karen Arrison,
Honorary Co-Chairs

Chris Brown, *Committee Chair*

Jeremy Oczeq, *Board Chair*

Cindy Abbott Letro, Michele Agosto,
Akruti Barbaria, Anne Conable,
Art Cryer, Peter Eliopoulos,
Tania Werbizky, Rick Zakalik

Funds raised to date



*\$8 million-Governor Hochul's 2023 Budget, \$1 million Empire State Incentive Grant, \$100,000 grant from NYS Assembly Member Jon Rivera)

Top Left: Fan unit installation Lower Left: units intalled



Craig Wittmann and Matt Cotton
of Danforth with new fan units

Kleinhans Board of Directors

- Jeremy Oczek, *Chair*
- Karen Arrison, *Vice Chair*
- Peter Eliopoulos, *Treasurer*
- Tania Werbizky, *Secretary*
- Cindy Abbott Letro
- Akruti Barbara
- Buffalo Mayor Byron Brown
- Niagara District Common Council Member David Rivera

Staff

- Daniel Hart
Director
- Nicole Bodemer
Director of Finance
- Jennifer Barbee
Capital Campaign Co-Director
- Adam Cady
Director of Patron Services
- Reneé Radzavich
Building Services Manager
- Luke Borkowski
Capital Campaign Coordinator
- Mike Cassidy
Chief Engineer
- Brian Seibel
Event Manager
- Corrina Scozzaro
Audience Services Manager
- Dennis Nawojski
Concessions Manager
- Lucas Parks
Set-up/Parking Supervisor
- Bob Marth
Vista Security
- Jess Basil
Marketing Consultant
- David Candlena
Graphic Design Consultant

IATSE Local 10:

- Bob Hillman
Audio
- Nick Kogut
Master Electrician

Please check our website for upcoming events and shows:
KleinhansBuffalo.org

Kleinhans Music Hall
3 Symphony Circle
Buffalo, NY 14201
Office: (716) 883-3560
Box Office: 716-885-5000

People Behind the Scenes

Reneé Radzavich

Reneé Radzavich, Building Services Manager, completed her first year with us after spending many years as stage manager at Irish Classical Theater Company and other theaters. She comes to us with a unique perspective on performing arts facilities and an attention to detail second to none. In her role she is an ambassador to clients, coordinator for a variety of staff roles, and contract administrator – in other words, the glue that keeps it all together!



Mike Cassidy

Mike Cassidy, Chief Building Engineer, has been with Kleinhans going on three years now. His experience in facilities management and knowledge of building infrastructure has paid off in so many ways. When Mike is not on duty he manages a seasoned group of part-time engineers, which now includes his son Sean, Donald Davison, Chris Lukaszewski and Sean Sullivan. We are fortunate to have him on our team!



Babel Q&A with Barbara Cole and Min Jin Lee
PHOTO: Nancy J. Parisi



BPO Concertmaster Nikki Chooi & Yo-Yo Ma
PHOTO: Brett Deneve



Author Colson Whitehead at Babel
PHOTO: Nancy J. Parisi



Amina Figarova Septet
PHOTO: Jack Zuff



Marty Biron

Booker Edgerson

Rob Ray



Annual luncheon for Buffalo Renaissance Foundation in the Mary Seaton Room