



Richmond Orchestra & Chorus Association
Annual General Meeting
October 18, 2022
South Arm United Church 7:45pm

1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of tonight's Agenda
3. Adoption of the Minutes from October 2021
4. Reports: (all uploaded to the members' section of the website)
 - i) President – Laura Rhead
 - ii) Administrator- Vincent Ho
 - iii) Artistic Directors- Brigid Coult; James Malmberg
 - iv) Treasurer- Victor Schmid
5. Budget 2022
6. Election of Directors- Adele Armstrong
(*known nominees: Bernie Barrett, Anatoly Brusylovskiy, Laura Rhead, Victor Schmid, Susan Stolberg, Alison Cole, Graeme Stager, Kathy Hori, Chris Haas)
7. Thank you to our staff, to our leaving Board members, to our membership.
8. Meeting Adjournment.

Hello ROCA members-- an easy fundraiser for us: the annual BCCF raffle with cash prizes!
Click here to buy a ticket, or cut and paste this link to send to
friends: <https://bccf.rafflenexus.com/a/roca>

ROCA President's Report
October 18, 2022 AGM
Laura Rhead
lrhead.roca@gmail.com



Reflecting on the Year:

Since Bernie and I traded jobs last summer, we have continued to work together to lead the ROCA Board and members. We continue to seek a VP, but the collaboration of the executive on the Board has been fulfilling and effective. I want to thank Bernie for his concert production leadership, and Victor in particular, for working so closely with Vincent on everything financial- we now have a credit card and pay all our staff electronically. We are 'in the black' and continue to spend frugally on things we feel are most important. This year, we will spend a portion of the budget on recordings again- we would love to find a donor for this type of project. **Do you know of a sponsor or community partner you'd like to connect us with?**

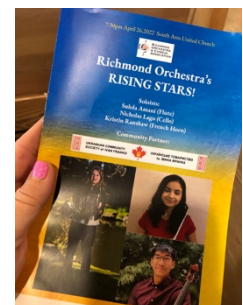
We have recently applied for the Richmond Community Foundation grant and continue to maintain our connection with the RCF. We are applying this week for the City of Richmond Arts and Culture grant as well. This last year was a BUSY one, full of decisions about health and safety as well as about how to extend our reach and support to the community this was documented in our grant applications.

Last year, we began our collaboration with West Coast Recordings and started to look at our online ticket sales/donations platform in new ways. Our office administrator, Vincent Ho took on more organizational work and met with me each month to determine all the tasks the ROCA office needed to manage in a given year. Brigid again created zoom lessons for the singers when we weren't able to be together due to Covid-19, and James curated young talent to showcase at the Rising Stars concert.

We raised over \$4000 for the Ukrainian Community Society of Ivan Franko, and we took time to perform and participate in our community with events like the Food Bank



concert, an elementary school pop up concert, and caroling at Winter Wonderland. With huge kudos to Vincent and the Board, we were able to create beautiful moments ranging from our Christmas concert music being shared in care homes, to selling tickets and bringing in new donors and community partners-even during a pandemic! This summer, the chorus performed at a wedding (mine!) and added another experience to the year. We do weddings! Tell your friends!





We have had a great start to the 2022-2023 season with rehearsals throughout September and a couple of events Richmond's "Culture Days"! Thank you to the singers who came to "Moth-Like Silvery Blue"—a true performance art experience at sunset- wow! And, thank you very much to Bruno and James who performed a quiet little show (what a treat!) in the Minoru atrium where we had our culture days booth (thanks Susan and Bernadette!).

We handed out many rack cards and recruitment flyers... please see the members section for these pdfs if you'd like to share. They've been circulating on social media- send them around again!

Articles of interest to me at this time:

<https://socialimpactarchitects.com/nonprofit-lifecycle/>

-a quick overview of some of the concepts being discussed at the Board level

<https://www.choralcanada.org/en/news/updates-on-our-2022-2027-strategic-plan> -nation-wide choral planning- reflective of our own...

<https://tinyurl.com/23xxkfsa>-- an interesting blog post about communication for choirs-especially during times of change. Thanks to Brigid for sharing this with me!

Last fall, we were nominated for a Richmond Business Excellence award in the non-profit category, and we started to talk about "where we are at" as a volunteer run organization. We are so fortunate to have Brigid's visioning and James' can-do attitude—they carry us far! *However, this is an organization of community volunteers and just like rehearsal, it takes doing more than just Tuesday night to make it all happen.* Thank you to Brigid and James especially for their many hours of work in preparing and leading us in making music! We are excited about this season, and I'm thrilled to work with all our volunteers!

Recognition:

- THANK YOU to our staff: Vincent Ho, Jeon Mok, Larisa Lebeda; Brigid Coult, James Malmberg- Brigid and James- thank you for your support and for all the conversations- I'm so glad to spend time with you and learn from you in this role.
- I am grateful to our former Board members, Graham Hope and Wilson Ng who stepped down at the end of summer. Graham spearheaded the education committee and Wilson the volunteer committee. Even through times of great change, both of them served ROCA for many years, and as community members, we will miss their perspective and support. Graham started our education concerts back up again in spring 2022, so we will seek new committee members for this role and continued legacy. We will also continue to work with Wilson's volunteer guidelines and contact list- thank you, Wilson, and Graham!



for



- I am grateful to new volunteer Rachel Eaton, who has been sharing her graphic design/tech talents by creating our concert flyers/images. Thank you, Rachel!
- ROCA Health & Safety Committee- Doris Bruce, Jennifer Dufour, Shannon Long, Bernie Barrett, Brigid Coult: I'm grateful that we have a team of people willing to work together and do things for the good of the group in such unprecedented times for performing musicians. Thank you for your organizational skill and health-focus for all of us.
- THANK YOU to our current Board Members: Bernie Barrett, Anatoly Brusylovskiy, Alison Cole, Susan Stolberg, Victor Schmid for the hours spent each month discussing and brainstorming new ideas and the logistics necessary for each concert and event. Your dedication to ROCA is admired and appreciated most sincerely. I look forward to another year with you. VP anyone?

Need Info? Check [here](#):

Please bookmark this link and check it regularly—all our upcoming dates and details are here on the Member section of the website (password: rocaisgr8). Here you'll find a chronological list of all the upcoming events. When you click on one, you'll find the details around where, when, what to wear, etc. Laura & Vincent will update it frequently and hope that our members all use it on regular basis:

<https://www.roca.ca/roca-member-calendar> We are not continuing the ROCA report at this time, but are open to feedback about what members would like in the way of communication and promotion- share your thoughts!

Do you use social media? Follow us @rocamusicians on Instagram or at Richmond Orchestra & Chorus on Facebook. Share posts and events with friends and family easily- help get our name out there!

Are you interested in helping with seeking sponsorship, website updates, program design/printing or social media promotion? Please reach out to a Board member or to Vincent in the office. Even if you don't have time for ongoing work, there are always small tasks – especially in the month before a concert!

And finally, it's an easy fundraiser for us—the annual BCCF raffle with cash prizes! Click here to buy a ticket, or cut and paste this link to send to friends: <https://bccf.rafflenexus.com/a/roca>

Thank you for trusting me in this role, and for creating beautiful music in our community!

Sincerely,

Laura Rhead

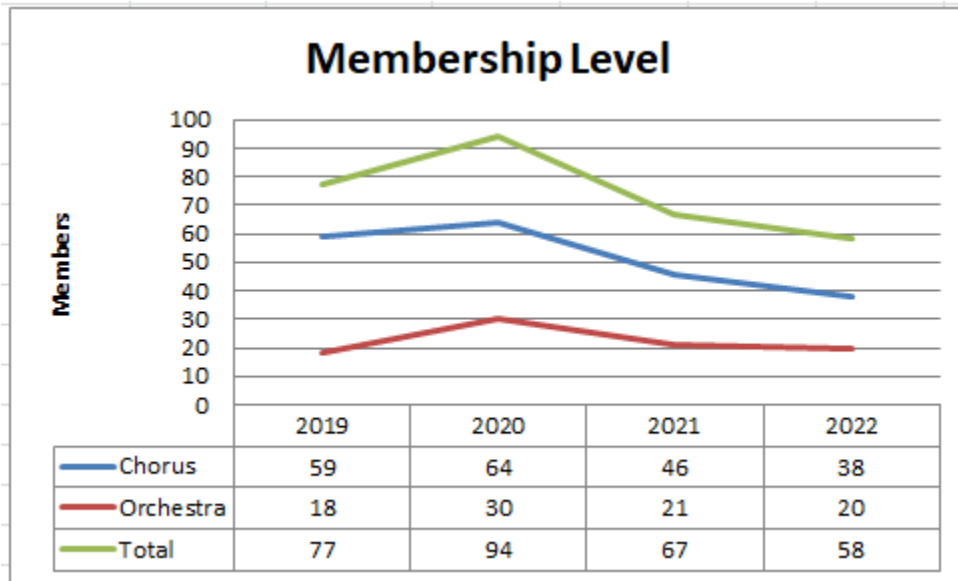




AGM 2022 Office Administrator Report

Submitted by: Vincent Ho

Membership



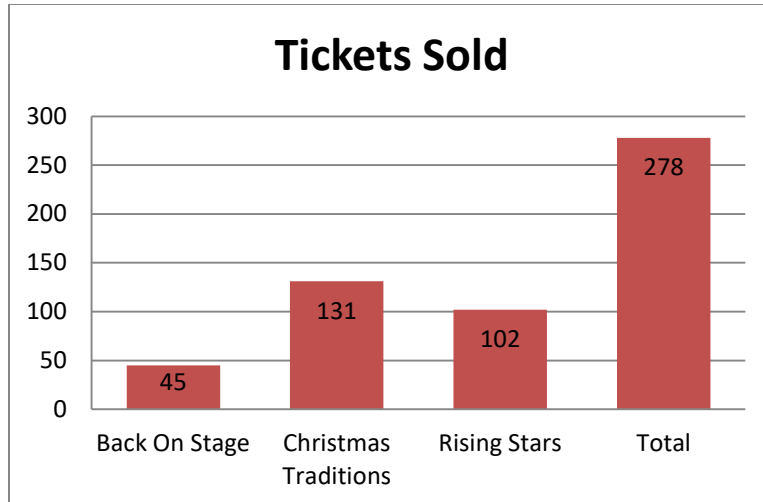
As it stands the current membership level is at 38 chorus members and 20 orchestra members for a total of 58. Compared to previous years, it is a decline. This is likely due to the still lingering effects of the pandemic and changes we have all made to our lifestyles. Hopefully, the step up in our recruitment efforts will result in some new members soon.

Donations

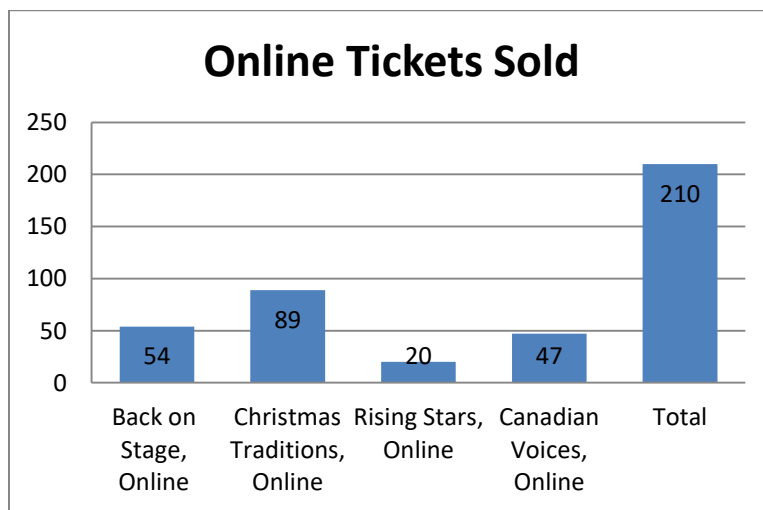
Last year we were able to raise \$262.00 for the Richmond Foodbank and an astounding \$4000.00 for the Ukrainian Community Society of Ivan Franko. This is truly amazing work from everyone and exemplifies the generous spirit of the ROCA community. I look forward to continuing our charitable efforts this season as well.



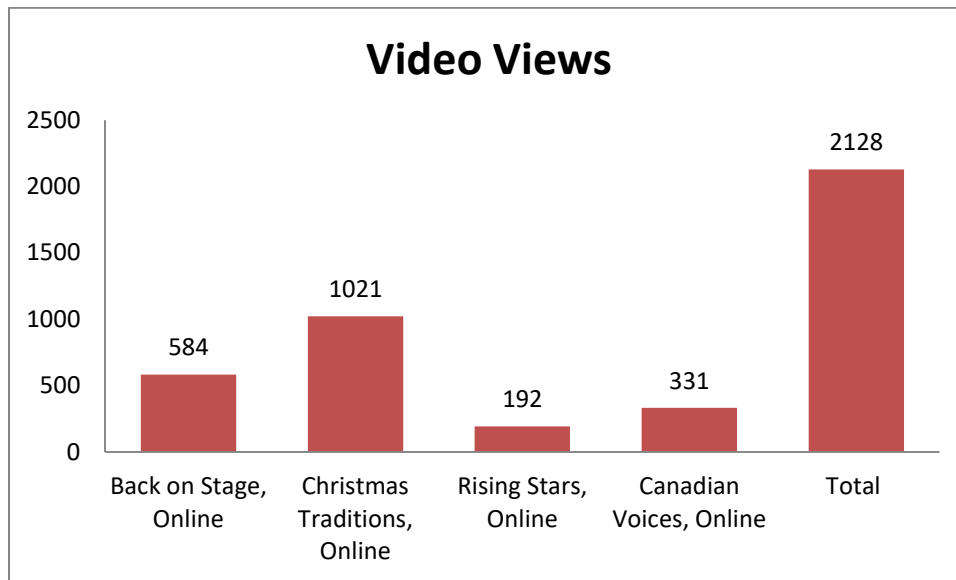
Tickets



The total amount of tickets sold for our live in-person concerts were 278. But please note that Canadian Voices was a friends and family event so no tickets were sold for that performance. Overall the actual number of attendees should be higher.



For the online concerts, the total amount of tickets sold was 210, with Christmas Traditions being the most popular. The total tickets sold altogether are 488.



The total amount of views on our online videos comes in at a total of 2128 views. Christmas Traditions is again the most popular, accounting for almost half of all online views.

It is important to point out that the new online concert recordings option accounts for around 43% of the total number of tickets sold. Those who purchased the video recordings are watching them about 10 times each; however we cannot tell if they are watching it many times by themselves or being shared with family and friends. It's probably a combination of both. Most likely the pandemic is partially responsible for some of the online concert recording ticket purchases, but it certainly does show an interest from people that like to watch our concerts from the comfort of their own home.

Conclusion

The 2021-2022 season was marked by many changes. We were able to return to in person concerts after several years of strict pandemic restrictions, Education School Concerts also resumed, and we added a new online concert recordings option. Now that we are slowly returning to some semblance of normality in our daily lives, I am looking forward to what the new 2022-2023 season will bring.

Chorus Conductor's Report to AGM 2022

Our 2021-2022 Season was a welcome improvement on the one before, though still not back to "normal" after the long battle with COVID. We are now embarking on a new season in which we hope that, with caution, we can return to something closer to our usual mode.

Season '21-'22 was pretty hybrid. It was SO good to be able to sing together – but the things that made it possible, also made it frustrating. My deep gratitude to all on the Safety Committee who kept us focused on looking out for each other as we embarked on a new season of rehearsals.

We were fortunate enough to be working in Fraserview Sanctuary, where it is possible to give people good spacing, and to have lots of room around us. Although it's an old ventilation system, and probably without a good air-exchange rate, it has been a big improvement on singing in the Fireside Room with its low ceiling. Initially, we kept rehearsals shorter and made sure that we had good break-time outside. Singers were careful about masking and distancing, and if concerned, joined us by Zoom. Zoom rehearsals, however, are not satisfactory either for the Zoomers, or for the remaining choir, who miss their singing cohorts.

Our accompanist for the season was Jeremiah Chua, accompanying at this level for the first time, and learning the basic skills needed. We thank him for his time with us.

It was a two-concert season, and one that evolved rather than was planned, since we had no idea how things might develop. We established early that Orchestra and Chorus would work separately, and that we would not try to cram everyone onto a stage. In the early fall we established some repertoire that I thought we would use in the spring, and then we focused on music for a Christmas concert, based around Christmas traditions. I think everyone was pleasantly surprised by the sound-quality of the concert recording by Chris Haas, despite wearing masks, and we heard from both in-person audience members, and those receiving the recorded version about their pleasure in what they heard.

Things closed down for a while after Christmas as COVID numbers surged again, but we returned to the online meeting pattern of the season before, and did not feel that our time was entirely wasted. When we returned to in-person rehearsals at the end of February, it was to focus on preparation for a concert program of Canadian singer-songwriters, which gave us all both a challenge and much joy. We took an early end to the season, and a subset of the Chorus spent time in preparing music for Laura's wedding – singing outside, maskless, was a great pleasure!

It was a limited season, but not a wasted one – full of good music and keeping us together as a musical family. Though many Chorus members have had COVID, there has been no breakout through Chorus rehearsals, and I thank all who have been so careful to observe all the protocols that help keep us safe.

My gratitude goes to everyone who has borne with us for a sometimes challenging, but musically satisfying, season, and who have held together and cared for each other. It has been sad not to work with James and the Orchestra, but we look forward to performing together again in the upcoming season. My thanks to the members of the Board for their constant support, and especially to President Laura and Vice/Past-President Bernie – it has been a joy and a privilege to work with you all. Making music together is one of the most important things we can do.

Respectfully submitted

BRIGID COULT



Report to AGM: October 15th, 2022

Committee: Orchestra Conductor

Submitted by: James Malmberg

This past year has been one of incredible challenges both globally and personally. However through all of this there has remained one constant and that is the great friendship and support from all the members of ROCA.

In the 2021/2022 season the orchestra was able to perform two concerts. In the first I had the distinct pleasure of performing the Bruch Violin Concerto. It had been my pandemic project to learn the concerto so it was an immense thrill to not only be able to rehearse it extensively with the orchestra but also to perform and record.

In the spring we were also able to continue our long standing tradition of featuring young soloist at our Rising Stars Concerts. This was a particular treat as it featured the less common solo instruments the flute and a french horn.

The 2022/2023 season is off to a great start with a full return to rehearsals and concerts. This season will feature our In Memoriam Concert with the first combined orchestra and chorus performance in several years, Christmas Mall and Food Bank concerts, Rising Stars, Libby Yu and a Grand Finale of favourites from the past decades!

I would like to thank the board of directors and all the members of ROCA for your continued support during the past year. It is very heartwarming to know that there is such a caring group of people that not only love great music but also know how important the people are in our organization. We have made a strong return to in person rehearsals and concerts and I am optimistic this is the beginning of a renewed dedication to music and the performing arts.

James Malmberg

Treasurer Report

ROCA

Annual General Meeting
October 18, 2022

Highlights

We were able to finish our financial year with a **Net Income (or profit) of 13,894** thanks to a Revenue increase of 23% compared to the previous year.

A welcome change in how we process recurring monthly payments: we make direct deposits whenever possible. We used to issue cheques which needed 2 signatories who had to drive to the office every time. Furthermore, we are now able to receive membership dues by etransfers.

Revenue

We were lucky to receive the highest Endowment Fund Distribution ever: 8,899 or 35% more than in the previous year.

We achieved ticket sales of 8,591 compared with zero in the previous year when we did not have concerts at all due to COVID restrictions.

Expenses

We spent 3,100 for the choir's accompanist in the reporting year. Zoom meetings in the previous year did not require an accompanist (as a coincidence Toby had retired).

We are finally back in the business of performing: to produce four concerts, we spent 10,675 (other production costs). The rehearsal and concert venues cost us 5,400.

Budget 2022-23

We are projecting a balanced budget for the current financial year.

On the **Revenue** side we are expecting a lower endowment fund distribution by 9,720, or -28% due to unfavorable markets.

We applied for a grant of 7,200 from the Richmond Community Foundation to cover the cost of the recording of our six concerts this year.

On the **Expenses** side we are expecting very similar figures like in the past year.

Victor Schmid

Budget of Operations

ROCA

September 1, 2022 -August 31, 2023

	2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Actual	2022-23 BUDGET
Revenue:			
Advertising and Sponsorships	-	585	1,000
BC Community Gaming Grant	27,000	27,000	27,000
Donations received	10,524	6,930	5,000
Endowment Fund Disbursement	24,821	33,720	24,000
Fundraising	1,702	6,243	1,400
Interest Income	131	255	700
Membership Dues	11,330	12,025	10,800
Municipal Grant	8,000	7,600	7,600
Performance Fees and other	125	-	-
RCF Arts & Culture Grant	-	-	7,200
Ticket Sales	-	8,591	9,000
TOTAL REVENUE	83,633	102,949	93,700
Expenses:			
Accompanist	-	3,100	4,500
Administrator	15,200	15,993	17,600
Advertising Flyer Tickets	-	1,433	1,500
Community Outreach	-	-	-
Computer and Internet	720	720	1,200
Conductors	30,310	28,339	28,500
Education Outreach	-	2,820	2,800
Guest Artist	400	700	700
Insurance	2,210	2,056	2,100
Marketing	-	-	-
Miscellaneous (Office)	2,065	2,274	2,000
Other Production Costs	391	10,675	8,700
Professional Development	-	-	-
Professional Fees accountant	2,250	2,250	2,800
Rehearsal Venue	460	3,275	3,400
Rent Office	4,680	4,680	4,680
Storage	6,788	7,017	7,700
Telephone	1,255	1,598	1,300
Venue	-	2,125	4,200
TOTAL EXPENSES	66,729	89,055	93,680
Net Income (Loss) / Revenue over Expenses	16,904	13,894	20

BALANCE SHEET

ROCA

Assets

Current

Cash + Bank Accounts

79,359

69,261

Term Deposits

52,130

50,091

Prepaid Expenses

2,478

5,697

Government agencies receivables

699

978

134,666

126,027

Liabilities and Fund Balance

Current

Accounts payable + accrued liabilities

1,245

2,500

Deferred Revenue

27,000

31,000

Fund Balance

Net Assets

106,421

92,527

134,666

126,027

Increase in Net Assets

13,894