



## The Symphony Guild of Charlotte, Inc.

1515 Mockingbird Lane, Suite 406, Charlotte, NC 28209

***Mission Statement:*** *The purpose of The Symphony Guild of Charlotte, Inc. is to create, develop and promote an interest in symphonic music in the community of Charlotte and the surrounding metropolitan area and to provide financial and volunteer support to the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra Society, Inc., the Charlotte youth symphonies and symphonic educational activities.*

May 17, 2006

The Symphony Guild -- Board, Committee Chairs and Membership -- has once again worked tirelessly to promote our Guild's mission in our community. Many of our goals for 2005-2006 centered on continuing our relevance -- to ensure that The Guild, within our organization structure, is prepared to meet the challenges of an ever changing non-profit, volunteer world. At our Board Leadership Retreat in June 2005, we endeavored to create a vision for The Guild; much of our committee work was directed to developing an operating plan to achieve the goals. Our standing committees met many times throughout the year to plan for the future, review existing policies and structure, ensure fiscal soundness and assess the viability of our projects.

We thank the Guild volunteers' "can do" culture and "will do" commitment. We thank the Charlotte Symphony and the Charlotte Symphony Youth Orchestra members for their musical support and friendship. The Guild could never have realized the success of our many projects without you. Finally, I personally thank you for granting me the honor of serving as president of our most remarkable organization.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Weisbruch, President, 2005-2006

### — Annual Report 2005-2006 —

#### **Membership Accomplishments:**

- Printed 400 Guild Directories; membership is 314.
- Sent 48 cards and acknowledgements to members during the year; 30 members and their guests attended an evening reception and Charlotte Symphony Orchestra Rehearsal for Volunteer Appreciation Week.
- Formed 25 new member/mentor pairs during the year as new members joined.
- Hosted 3 New Member activities including: Showhouse Opening Day Reception included a Sunday brunch followed by the CSYO concert on the Showhouse lawn; nationally recognized New Member Retreat featured a Fishing for Fundamental Facts theme held in January; hosted New Member Coffee in March. Mentors were invited to all events, as were New Members.
- Extended for one-year the incubator project, Opus X, the young professionals' symphonic volunteer association.
- Hosted 121 members and guests at Guild Night at the CSO for a classics concert and cocktail reception.
- Held four Membership Meetings including: Fall Meeting, honoring New Members & Mentors was attended by 80; Holiday Party at Longview was attended by 140; Winter Meeting at Bonterra was attended by 78; Annual Meeting at Nolen Kitchen attended by 80.
- Sponsored a day-long Photoshop class for membership training.

#### **Enrichment Accomplishments:**

- Underwrote a week long summer resident camp at Converse College for 100 Charlotte Symphony Youth Orchestra (CSYO) members. Sponsored a Mini Camp for 90 Junior Youth Orchestra (JYO) members.
- Awarded tuition assistance, private study and merit scholarships as well as summer enrichment grants totaling \$15,000; administered the recipient selection for the Brevard scholarship to its summer program
- Established Meg Hutchins Scholarship to honor the lifework of Dr. Hutchins, daughter of Guild members Peg & Tom Hutchins; awarded Marie R. Rowe, Betsy Knight and Past Presidents' Scholarships

- Received over \$10,000 in donations for 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth Festival; Janet and Rick Bean were Honorary Chairs; featured new Program design by Guild member, Phyllis Munson; partnership with NW School of the Arts.
- Featured 48 of this region's top classical student musicians in The Annual Young Artists Competition.
- Provided volunteers for 78 Musical Petting Zoo (MPZ) presentations – 3 volunteers per presentation equals 234 volunteer opportunities; volunteered at Imaginon Street Fair and presented at four Lollipops performances.
- Volunteered at each of the five Charlotte Mecklenburg School Concerts attended by over 18,000 students.
- Collaborated with the CSO on a Master Class with CSO Principal Horn, Frank Portone; featured three horn students.

#### **Management & Planning Accomplishments:**

- Long Range Planning: assessed Showhouse, Fashion Show and Youth Festival; created Vision Statement for Guild; developed operational and tactical plans for implementation; Ad Hoc committees studied project branding strategies, new fundraising venues, and composer competition
- Budget & Finance: established Best Practices Ad Hoc Committee.
- Policy & Procedure: continued assessment of all job descriptions; entire Enrichment area was updated.
- Office: renovated office; hired new Office Employee; Records Manager established and implemented retention policies; installed high-speed internet access.

#### **Fundraising Accomplishments:**

- The 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Symphony Guild ASID Showhouse: created an Autumn Serenade at the Cannon House for its three-week run in the fall of 2005. Implemented the first Showteam utilizing four co-chairs in a self-directed team management setting. Project netted \$100,000.
- The Spring Gala, *The Power of Women*: exploded onto the runway netting \$33,000 for Guild Enrichment projects in a single evening; a high-energy fashion show, hundreds of balloon pops and a live auction created electric atmosphere; six of Charlotte's most outstanding women were the Honorary Chairs for the evening.
- The Marie R. Rowe Award for Outstanding Volunteerism: presented to Henry and Daisy Bridges.
- Partnered with Simon Evening of Giving in retail fundraising events.
- Implemented a Classical European Music Cruise for Guild members on the Danube in early April 2006.
- Initiated second Violin Project; auction TBD in Fall, 2006

#### **Marketing Accomplishments:**

- Worked to promote The Symphony Guild of Charlotte, Inc. its projects and activities in the community as well as among Guild membership.
- Developed CSO playbill ads throughout concert season to promote The Guild's projects, activities and to seek new members.
- Supported the timely publishing and printing of *Noteables*.
- Encouraged the photographing and recording of Guild projects for historian.
- Created a new website at great cost savings; Initiated a new ad campaign: "Be Instrumental"
- A greater community presence through news articles, especially as related to The Young Artist Competition and The Youth Festival.

**The Guild continues to receive national attention from the American Symphony Orchestra League. A special award was created for The Guild's following program presented in a 90-minute workshop for all volunteers at the ASOL national conference in Los Angeles, CA:**

- Award of Excellence in Innovation, Showhouse Best Practices Ad Hoc Committee

**In addition, ASOL awarded The Guild:**

- Silver Award for the 2004-2005 Tech Tune-up Classes.

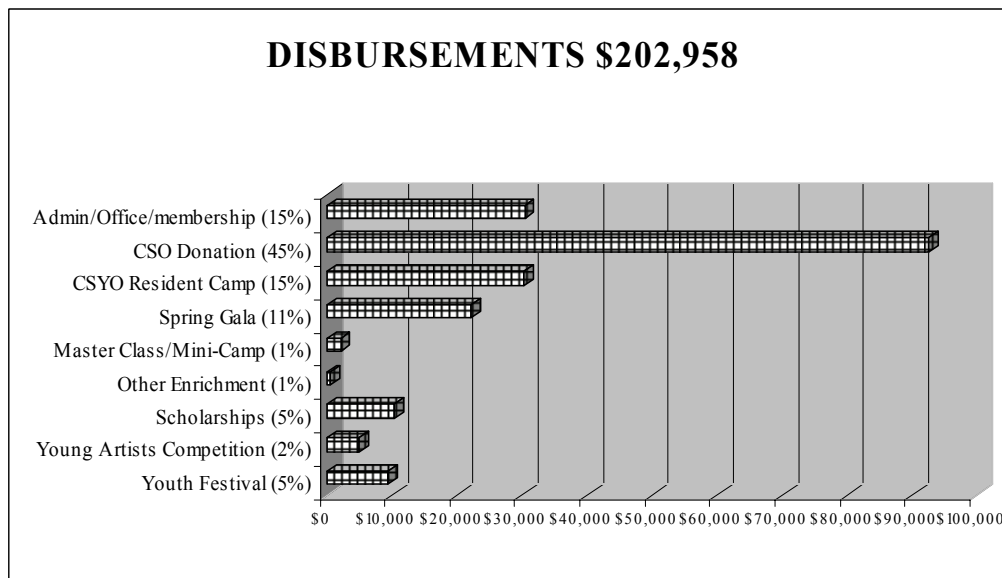
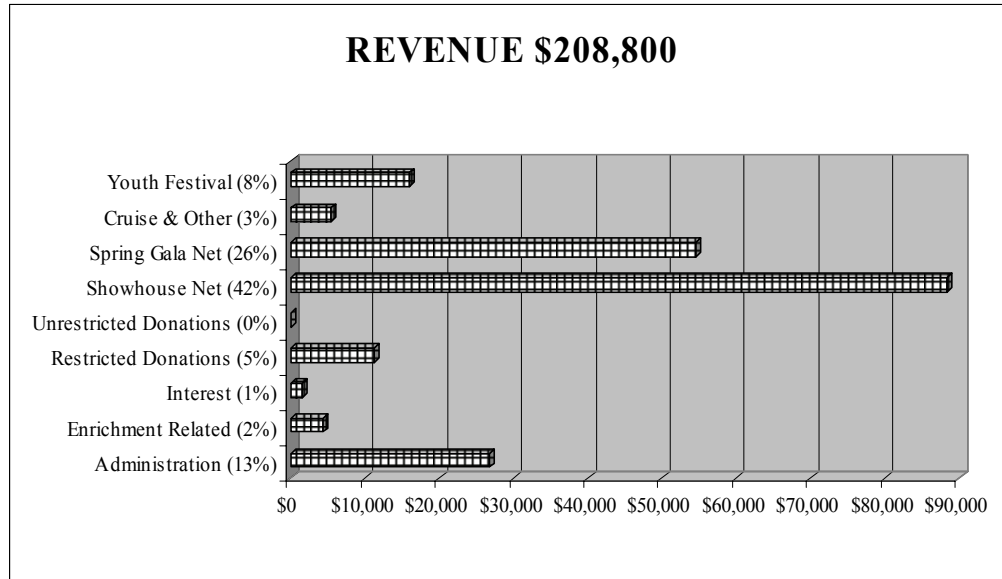
#### **Charlotte Symphony Support:**

- The Guild met its 2005-2006 pledge of \$82,500 and added an additional gift of \$10,000. We will be acknowledged throughout the Charlotte Symphony 2006-2007 season as the Presenting Sponsor of the Charlotte Symphony Youth Orchestras, the 2005-2006 Neighborhood Concerts, Title Sponsor for one Classics Weekend performance, Title Sponsor for one Lollipops Concert and the Charlotte Symphony Website Sponsor.

**The Symphony Guild of Charlotte, Inc.:** *Volunteers Supporting Today's Symphony and Tomorrow's Musicians*  
A 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Volunteer Organization



**The Symphony Guild of Charlotte, Inc.**  
*Financial Overview 2005-2006*



*\*Year-to-date figures as of May 11, 2006 are subject to review.*



## **SYMPHONY GUILD VISION STATEMENT**

*By the year 2011 . . .*

*The Symphony Guild of Charlotte will be a highly visible organization dedicated to promoting the cultural value of symphonic music and championing youth music education.*

*To accomplish this, we will*

- *be an inclusive organization;*
- *have a greater community presence;*
- *identify and address the changing needs within our community and organization;*
- *identify additional fundraising opportunities to allow our enrichment and donations to grow as needed;*
- *increase our membership and volunteer hours per member;*
- *provide members with training and educational opportunities.*

This Vision Statement is the product of two years' in-depth study to successfully position The Symphony Guild of Charlotte for future growth, relevance and sustainability. The work of two annual Board & Committee Chair Retreats (in 2005 and 2006) focused entirely on creating the infrastructure for a new Five-Year Strategic Plan - the Vision, and the Operational and Tactical Plans to get us there. The Guild Standing Committee for Long Range Planning took the volumes of creative input from these Retreats and crafted the Vision Statement which was presented at the 2006 Annual Meeting held on May 17, 2006.

Each of the six goals above will be the focus of much work in the coming years, and several new projects will be introduced this year. Look for more information in an ongoing column, "Your Strategic Plan at Work," in the coming year's Noteables as the creative ideas of our Board of Directors and Long Range Planning Committee begin to bloom!