



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 18, 2005

The Symphony Guild Board of Directors, committee chairs and membership have diligently worked throughout the year to promote The Guild's mission in our community. Goals for the year included expanding the nourishment of our growing base of new members and to establish ways of meeting the needs of the new volunteer as time constraints challenge the existing base. In addition, at the Board Leadership Retreat in May 2004, we began a long range strategic process to look at The Guild's need to plan for the future. Standing committees met throughout the year to study existing policies and to assess their current viability.

Without the tireless effort of our membership, The Guild could not have achieved the accomplishments of this successful year. Thank you for the privilege of serving as president of such a dynamic organization.

Respectfully Submitted,
Melissa J. Woolf, President, 2004-2005

— **Annual Report 2004-2005** —

Membership Accomplishments:

- 30 new member/mentor pairs were formed during the year as new members joined.
- In addition to new members, 6 members returned bringing the number of membership to 314.
- New Member & Mentors Extravaganza on opening day of the 2004 Showhouse included the CSYO concert followed by a guided tour and reception.
- Accepted a two-year incubator project, Opus X, the young professional's symphonic volunteer association.
- Guild Night at the CSO hosted 110 members and guests for a classics concert and cocktail reception.
- Nationally recognized New Member Retreat featured a Treasure Hunt theme.
- Fall meeting honored four 25-year members, 21 new members and 21 members who had graduated from the mentoring program.
- Fall meeting attended by 77, Holiday Party attended by 135, Winter Luncheon meeting attended by 73.
- Sponsored a series of computer classes 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 78 Junior Youth Orchestra (JYO) members.
- Awarded tuition assistance, private study and merit scholarships as well as summer enrichment grants totaling \$19,000.
- Worked to educate parents of youth orchestras' members about Guild's financial and volunteer commitment to CSYO and JYO activities..
- 18th Annual Youth Festival Concert, *The Magic of Music*, received over \$10,000 in donations.
- The 49th Annual Young Artists Competition featured 43 of this regions top classical student musicians.
- Provided 50 volunteers for Musical Petting Zoo (MPZ) prior to four regular and two summer Lollipops Concerts, as well as an ASC summer event. Introduced new "Instrument Family" signage at PAC events.
- Increased number of MPZ preschool visits introduced symphonic instruments to over 1,350 children in 70 classes.
- Obtained donation of service from McFayden Music to clean, repair and replace instruments for the MPZ.
- Introduced *Peter Panda* as the new MPZ mascot for preschool visits.
- Produced Musical Petting Zoo coloring books with Enrichment Endowment Grant.
- Held a Musical Petting Zoo for adults – an afternoon of training in instrument usage by CSYO musicians.
- Volunteered at each of the five Charlotte Mecklenburg School Concerts attended by over 22,000 students.
- Collaborated with the CSO on a Master Class with CSO Concertmaster, Calin Lupanu.

Management & Planning Accomplishments:

- Long Range Planning restructured its committee to bring continuity to its focus.
- Committee Report revised to unify reporting process.
- Financial Policies revamped, as well as continued assessment of all job descriptions.
- Established position of *Records Manager* to catalogue Guild records and create electronic record policies.
- Negotiated a new five-year lease for Guild office.

Fundraising Accomplishments:

- The 33rd annual Symphony Guild ASID Showhouse, created a French faux village on The Robinson Estate at Fairview & Carmel for its three week run in the fall of 2004. Project netted \$100,000.
- The Spring Gala, *The Rites of Spring*, exploded onto the fashion scene netting \$43,000 for Guild Enrichment projects in a single evening. A high-energy runway fashion show, hundreds of balloon pops and a live auction took Guild fundraising to a new level.
- The Marie R. Rowe Award for volunteerism was presented to Kassie Minor.
- Partnered with Simon Evening of Giving, Finks Jewelers & 'O' Magazine and Chico's in retail fundraising events.
- Planned a Classical European Music Cruise for Guild members on the Danube for April 2006.
- Showhouse Best Practices ad hoc committee completed extensive two-year process of evaluation of The Guild's most complicated fundraiser.

Marketing Accomplishments:

- Worked to promote The Symphony Guild of Charlotte, Inc. it's projects and activities in the community as well as among Guild membership.
- Throughout the Charlotte Symphony concert season, developed ads for the CSO playbills to promote The Guild's projects, activities and to seek new members.
- Supported the publishing and printing of the Guild newsletter, *Noteables*.
- Encouraged the photographing and recording of Guild projects for historian.

The Guild continues to receive national attention from the American Symphony Orchestra League. A special award was created for The Guild's following programs presented in a 60-minute workshop for all volunteers at the ASOL national conference in Washington, DC:

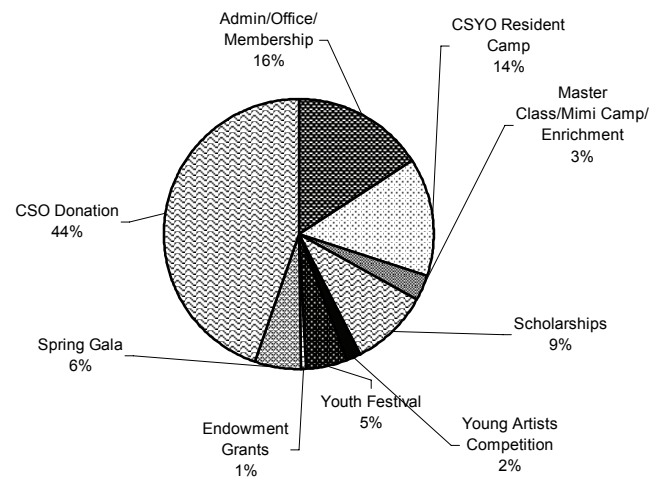
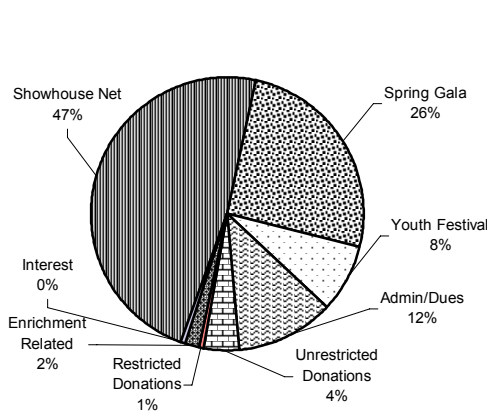
- Award of Distinction, Membership, for reorganization of The Guild to include a Vice President of Membership- a three-year strategic planning process that focused on membership revitalization.
- Award of Distinction, Membership, for our Mentoring Program for new members initiated in 2003.
- Award of Distinction, Membership, for our unique New Member Retreat in 2003.
- Award of Distinction, Membership, for the entire New Members program.

In addition, ASOL awarded The Guild:

- Silver Award for the 2003-2004 Musical Petting Zoo.

Charlotte Symphony Support:

- The Guild met its 2004-2005 pledge of \$82,500, added a special gift of \$10,000 to sponsor the CSO Website.
- Presenting Sponsor of the 2005-2006 Neighborhood Concerts.



Income- \$209,686*

Expenditures- \$207,286*

*Year to date figures are subject to review.

Volunteers Supporting Today's Symphony and Tomorrow's Musicians
The Symphony Guild of Charlotte, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit volunteer organization