Throughout the year we welcomed many esteemed guest soloists, including Leslie Odom Jr., Renée Fleming, Chris Botti, Vanessa Williams, Kenny G, Stewart Copeland, and more. We performed four world premieres of works by Daron Hagen, Kenneth Fuchs, Russell Platt, and Wang Jie, and welcomed esteemed American composer Adolphus Hailstork for a concert featuring his piano concerto performed by Stewart Goodyear. Other special moments included our hosting of young virtuoso pianist Alexander Malofeev for his US solo recital and full orchestra debut, a collaboration with the Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus and the Crane School of Music Chorus for Brahms German Requiem, and breathtaking performances from our concertmaster, Nikki Chooi, and principal cellist, Roman Mekinulov.

We provided exciting multimedia experiences, such as our concert at Beyond Van Gogh: The Immersive Experience and our performance accompanying a Q&A with author Martin Goldsmith and screening of the film Winter Journey. We also collaborated with the Albright-Knox Art Gallery to premiere Russell Platt’s Symphony in Three Movements (For Clyfford Still) alongside projections of Still’s works.
ADAPTING TO THE NEW NORMAL

Our BPOnDemand broadcasts continued with a series of six Classics and Pops concerts for audiences to enjoy virtually. Our Music for Youth Education Hub was expanded with two new youth concert videos and content for teaching students about musical cultures of the world. We also grew our educational #PlayOnWNY video series to include the new #SingOnWNY project, debuted the Musician Profiles video series for viewers to get to know our musicians, and released more BPO Out of the Box performances on YouTube.

CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

We led with compassion and courage, showing support for our community and sensitivity to world events through dedicated performances. We presented American Resilience to fundraise for the Western NY Families of 9/11 Memorial Fund, Slava Ukraini to raise money for relief in Ukraine, and A Concert for Healing to give comfort and inspire hope in the Buffalo community after the tragedy in May.

We continued to invest in Western NY’s bright next generation through educational outreach programs, including three new initiatives created to focus on access, equity, and connection across differences in student backgrounds.

We ended the year with 14 summer concerts in accessible outdoor venues all over Western NY, eight of which were free to enrich lives throughout Buffalo-Niagara.
We proudly released two new CDs this year, born from our 2020-21 BPOnDemand broadcasted season:

- The Four Seasons
- Light in a Time of Darkness

We received $4.6 million in donations to our Annual Fund this year. We would like to extend our utmost gratitude to our 4000 donors for the generous support.
Dear Friends of the BPO,

In our 2021-22 season, we had the long-awaited pleasure of welcoming audiences back to Kleinhans Music Hall. We emerged from the pandemic with dynamism through innovation, collaboration, and your generous support, and we would like to take a moment to reflect upon the season with you.

The following themes were our focus for the year:

REVITALIZING THROUGH COLLABORATION

We brought new life to our performances by programming an exciting, diverse range of repertoire and guest artists. Collaborating with other art forms, we also had opportunities to present unique multimedia experiences to audiences. The year’s programming satisfied pledges we made in our new Strategic Plan to enrich the community and begin efforts toward advancing orchestral music performance.

ADAPTING TO THE NEW NORMAL

The pandemic taught us the benefits of digital content and influenced our online presence for the season. We added to 2020-2021 innovations including BPOnDemand and the Music for Youth Education Hub, pointing our efforts toward both in-person and virtual elements to determine how they best complement each other.

CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Throughout the season we strived to be an orchestra for everyone. We prioritized showing our care for the Buffalo-Niagara community and sensitivity toward world events through free, accessible public concerts and charity events, to provide comfort, help, and hope for people through the year’s difficult times.

The realization of these goals, as shown throughout this report, made our 2021-22 season one we can all be proud of. It has been wonderful having you back in Kleinhans, and we are immensely thankful for your support.

We look forward to seeing you for another year of great music!

Warm regards,

John Yurtchuk
21-22 Chair

JoAnn Falletta
Music Director

Daniel Hart
Executive Director

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The Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra Society, Inc.
employs and supports a professional major symphony orchestra of artistic excellence that is integral to Buffalo-Niagara’s vitality through the presentation of live symphonic music and other musical events, which inspire, educate, and entertain the broadest possible audiences within Buffalo-Niagara and beyond.

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