2016 Annual Report
Chairman’s Report

2016 will be remembered as a significant year for the West Australian Symphony Orchestra.

It marked the third year of Maestro Asher Fisch’s tenure as Principal Conductor and Artistic Advisor, Laurence Jackson’s first year as Concertmaster, and culminated in the Orchestra’s first international tour in 10 years – arguably the Orchestra’s most significant creative activity in decades. Across the year the company presented 544 performances, workshops and artist development activities to an audience of over 206,000. Recording a profit of $137,671, WASO has enjoyed both artistic and financial success in 2016.

There were many artistic highlights during the MACA Limited Classics and Alcohol Think Again Masters series, with WASO performing alongside an exceptional list of guest soloist and conductors. In 2016 WASO welcomed numerous outstanding guest artists to the Orchestra for the first time. WASO debuts included soloists Javier Perianes, Kiantra Howarth, Derek Welton, Mary Carewe, Eleanor Dennis, Helen Charlston, Gwilym Bowen, Robert Davies as well as WASO’s own Brent Grapes and Laurence Jackson. Conductors making their WASO debut included Kazuki Yamada and Daniel Blendulf.

Other highlights of the 2016 season included a stunning performance of Mahler’s Symphony No.2 Resurrection conducted by Asher Fisch, and a concert led by conductor Simone Young which featured Holst’s The Planets and Stravinsky’s The Rite of Spring in a single program. In his first year as Concertmaster of WASO, Laurence Jackson gave an exquisite performance of Mendelssohn’s Violin Concerto. Another important artistic highlight of 2016 was the concert with Asher Fisch and esteemed Australian tenor Stuart Skelton in November. This concert featured music by Bruckner and Wagner, and was the first step towards WASO’s two-year Wagner project across 2017/18 which will culminate in concert performances of Wagner’s definitive opera Tristan und Isolde in 2018. WASO also released a double CD on the ABC Classics label of the Brahms Symphonies, conducted by Asher Fisch, and thus re-entered the commercial recording space.

Under the outstanding leadership of Chorus Director Christopher van Tuinen and Chorus Vocal Coach Andrew Foote, the WASO Chorus had an exceptional year. The Chorus featured in a variety of concerts throughout the year, including Mahler’s Symphony No.2, Vivaldi’s Gloria, Elena Kats-Schneider’s Prelude and Cube, Holst’s The Planets, Mozart’s Requiem, Handel’s Messiah as well as various repertoire in our Last Night at the Proms and Symphony in the City concerts.

WASO presented a number of special events during 2016. The Orchestra performed Cirque de la Symphonie, featuring mesmerizing acrobats, jugglers, strongmen, contortionists and high-flying aerialists from around the world. WASO presented a sold-out performance titled Last Night at the Proms featuring popular classics and patriotic anthems, and Indiana Jones and the Raiders of the Lost Ark Live in Concert.

WASO’s Community Engagement department continues to blaze a trail in this country. The Orchestra’s Crescendo program is the only El Sistema inspired music education program in Western Australia, and WASO remains the only major performing arts company in the State working with Principals and school communities to deliver long-term sustainable free education programs in schools. WASO continued its Onslow Kids Music Education Program (OK ME!) at Onslow Primary School in North-West WA. Other Outreach programs continued to expand, with an increased number of Harmony Music visits to schools with Special Educational Needs students. Our Hospital Orchestra Project (HOP) at Princess Margaret Hospital for Children in partnership with the School of Special Education Needs catered to all ages. They included the final showing of the Composition Project, the Rusty Orchestra and performances by WASO’s Education Chamber Orchestra (EChO) which celebrated a landmark 21 years of Kids Cushion Concerts and in-school presentations.

On behalf of the Board, we are extremely grateful to those who have made it possible for WASO to present another year of wonderful music to the Western Australian community. In particular I acknowledge and thank the Federal and State Governments, our Principal Partner Wesfarmers Arts, and our generous network of partners, patrons, donors and subscribers, for helping enable our mission, to touch souls and enrich lives through music.

A heartfelt thank you to our musicians and administration staff for their tireless hard work and passion that has contributed immensely to this defining year in our Orchestra’s history. Finally, I thank my fellow Board members, whose wealth of experience, time and efforts contribute immeasurably to WASO.

Janet Holmes à Court
Chairman
At the West Australian Symphony Orchestra’s Patron and Friends Christmas party last year I stated proudly that it was an exciting time to be a part of this company, and as I sit here reflecting on 2016 I’m even more certain in this belief. I cannot help but be proud of the achievements of WASO in 2016, as we returned to international touring after a 10 year hiatus with acclaimed performances in Abu Dhabi, Beijing, and Shanghai, continued to deliver performances under our Principal Conductor of sublime intelligence and musicality, and took huge strides in achieving our mission to touch souls and enrich lives through music as our education and community outreach programs reached over 50,000 West Australian across the state. I am also delighted that WASO was able to deliver a modest surplus (WASO’s 14th surplus in a row) at a particularly volatile time in the West Australian economy. WASO remains the only Australian orchestra to have achieved a surplus every year in the last 14 years and indeed is the only Australian Orchestra to have delivered a surplus in each of the last five years. The fact that we have been able to achieve this at a time when the company is investing more money than ever before into the quality and vibrancy of its artistic program, and in building the most comprehensive education and community engagement program of any Australian orchestra is a testament to the drive of the people who make up this great company, and our community of supporters.

In a year of artistic highlights it is difficult to go past WASO’s extraordinary performances in Abu Dhabi, Beijing and Shanghai. The Orchestra’s performance in Abu Dhabi was the first by a major Australian performing arts company in the United Arab Emirates. The concert was close to a sell-out and we were delighted to have in attendance two members of the Abu Dhabi Royal family, His Excellency Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nayhan, Minister of Culture and Knowledge Development, and His Excellency Mohamed Khalifa Al Mubarak, Chairman, Abu Dhabi Tourism & Culture Authority (TCA). Also in attendance was Senior Royal Court Advisor, His Excellency Zaki Nusseibeh, Cultural Advisor at Ministry of Presidential Affairs. The members of the Royal Family led the standing ovation, and were glowing in their praise of the Orchestra’s performance. After the performance His Excellency Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nayhan stated that “it had been a long time since they had heard a concert of such quality” and His Excellency Mohamed Khalifa Al Mubarak shared his appreciation of the “fabulous” playing of the orchestra. “In that hall tonight there were no states, no religions, and no races. We, all of us, were united as one in our love of music”. As a result of these comments and other feedback received by the TCA, WASO was immediately invited to return to Abu Dhabi.

With the orchestra on a high after a musically exceptional performance in Abu Dhabi, the tour party travelled to Beijing. WASO’s first musical commitments comprised two community engagement performances on 9 October. At Beijing No. 1 Experimental School, one of the city’s most elite public schools attended by children of government officials, over 400 children and local media sang, danced and laughed throughout WASO’s Education Chamber Ensemble Orchestra (EChO) performance of ECHO the Gecko’s Outback Adventure. Later the same day at the No. 8 Middle School, 40 students, including middle and high-school students, benefited from a performance and masterclass from our brass quintet and two students received an individual masterclass in horn and trombone.

The level of joy the performances brought to the children was obvious for all to see, clearly achieving WASO’s mission of touching souls and enriching lives through music. I was lucky enough to be in the audience at the EChO performance, and it will go down as one of the most memorable and emotional experiences of my time at WASO. The level of engagement and good will developed between our orchestra and the school students was beautifully symbolised through the gift of an exquisite silk scroll, over three metres wide, hand-painted by the students of Beijing No. 1 Experimental School. This will remain a treasured gift of WASO, and an enduring memory of the China Tour for many decades to come.

WASO performed the following day to a sold out audience at the Forbidden City Concert Hall (capacity 1,200) as part of the Beijing Music Festival. The concert, which was live streamed on LeTV and watched by over 600,000 people live and many, many more on demand (WASO’s concert was the most watched concert in the Beijing Music Festival), was a resounding success, with the Orchestra and our Principal Conductor Asher Fisch receiving a standing ovation. The encore, a special arrangement of a very well known Chinese folk song My Mother Taught Me a Song was so warmly received that many in the audience were in tears, as were the Chinese born members of WASO.

As WASO made its way to Shanghai it performed at the truly amazing 1,200 seat Shanghai Symphony Hall, regarded as the best concert hall in China and indeed one of the finest halls in the world, the Orchestra and its performance in Beijing was trending on Chinese social media. This sold out performance was without doubt the finest of the tour. Aided by an extraordinary acoustic in the hall, the orchestra have never heard each other more clearly and as a result never played together better. I have never seen an audience respond to an orchestra at the end of the performance the way they did in Shanghai. WASO principal Conductor Asher Fisch made curtain call after curtain call whilst the audience stood, stamped their feet, cheered and clapped in time; it was an extraordinary experience.

Our Community Engagement and Education programs continue to be a priority for WASO, and in 2016 WASO presented 434 community outreach and education performances, workshops, classes and masterclasses to almost 20,000 participants and/or audience members in diverse locations across Western Australian and internationally. These included our wonderful Hospital Orchestra Project at Princess Margaret’s Hospital for Children, Harmony Music – a program for children with special educational needs, our OK ME! program in the far north community of Onslow, and our extraordinary Crescendo program that operates in two Primary schools in Kwinana. We are immensely proud of these programs and believe they are wonderful illustrations of WASO’s mission to touch souls and enrich lives through music in action.

WASO’s commitment to visiting regional and remote locations across the state took WASO on the Road to Leinster, Leonora, Menzies, Boulder...
Chief Executive’s Report

and Kalgoorlie. Our new Regional Arts Program (ReAP) is presented with support from the Department of Education. WASO is the only arts company accessing the Video Conferencing platform established as part of the Pilbara Cities Education Project – E-Learning, to work alongside staff and schools across the Pilbara region to support academic and music extension.

WASO takes its role in the development of the next generation of orchestral musicians, composers and conductors seriously. As such WASO again undertook a number of young and emerging artists programs in 2016 including international masterclasses, series, and our composition project. The latter provides a number of young and emerging composers the opportunity to write a composition for WASO’s ECHO ensemble and to be mentored by esteemed Western Australian composer James Ledger.

Of course none of the success of 2016 would have been possible without the extraordinary contribution from our community of supporters, and I wish to echo the thanks of our Chairman to the Australian and West Australian Governments, our sponsors, donors and valued audience members. In particular I would like thank Richard Goyder and the team at Wesfarmers for the phenomenal leadership role they play in supporting the arts in Western Australia, and in particular WASO. All of us at WASO are immensely proud to be associated with this great West Australian company, and with the announcement in 2016 of an extension of their Principal Partnership for a further five years, we look forward to building on our successful relationship for many years to come.

I would also like to thank the Board of Directors and in particular Chairman Janet Holmes à Court for their strong corporate governance and wise counsel. Last but by no means least I would like to acknowledge the Orchestra, Chorus and administrative staff who make up the WASO team. Without the collective and impressive talent and creative endeavour of all our people – our musicians, chorus and administrative team alike we would not be able to serve the community of Western Australia in the way we do.

Craig Whitehead
Chief Executive
Overview of Activities

WASO presented 544 performances, workshops and artist development activities to in excess of 206,000 people.

Classical Music Performances

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Other Performances, Workshops and Artist Development Activities

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*Data includes China and Abu Dhabi performances.
**Data includes Opera in the Park performance.
In an ever increasingly difficult financial climate, WASO has now achieved 14 surplus results in a row.
Financial Statistics Cont.

RESERVES

WASO is currently maintaining its reserves level above 20% as requested by the federal and state funding agencies.

FUNDING GAP

The gap between base government funding and employee expenses has increased by $1m over the last 5 years.
The Company

ORCHESTRA

Asher Fisch  Principal Conductor & Artistic Adviser
Vladimir Verbitsky  Conductor Laureate
Lachlan Skipworth  Composer in Residence

Violin
Laurence Jackson  (Concertmaster)
Semra Lee-Smith  (Assistant Concertmaster)
Graeme Norris  (Associate Concertmaster)
Rebecca Glorie  (Acting Principal 1st Violin)
Zak Rowntree  (Principal 2nd Violin)
Kylie Lang  (Associate Principal 2nd Violin)
Vacancy  (Associate Principal 2nd Violin)
Sarah Blackman
Fleur Challen
Stephanie Dean
Beth Hebert
Sunmi Jung
Christina Katsimbardis
Ellie Lawrence
Shaun Lee-Chen
Akiyo Miyazawa
Anna O’Hagan
Ken Peeler
Melanie Pearn
Graham Pyatt
Louise Sanderscock
Jolanta Schenk
Jane Serrangeli
Jacek Slawomirski
Kate Sullivan
Bao Di Tang
Cerys Tooby
David Yeh

Viola
Vacancy  (Principal)
Alex Brogan  (Acting Principal Viola)
Kieran Arleksmith
Nikola Babic
Ben Caddy
Alison Hall
Rachael Kirk
Allan McLean
Helen Tuckey

Cello
Rod McGrath  (Principal)
Louise McKay  (Associate Principal)
Shigeru Komatsu
Oliver McAslan
Nicholas Metcalfe
Eve Silver
Fots Skordas
Tim South
Xiaole Wu

Double Bass
Andrew Sinclair  (Principal)
Joan Wright  (Associate Principal)
Louise Elaerts
Christine Reitzenstein
Andrew Tait
Mark Tooby

Flute
Andrew Nicholson  (Principal)
Mary-Anne Blades  (Associate Principal)

Piccolo
Michael Waye  (Principal)

Oboe
Peter Facer  (Principal)
Liz Chee  (Associate Principal)

Cor Anglais
Leanne Glover  (Principal)

Clarinet
Allan Meyer  (Principal)
Lorna Cook

Bass Clarinet
Alexander Millier  (Principal)

Bassoon
Jane Kitcher-Lindner  (Principal)
Adam Mikulicz  (Associate Principal)

Contra Bassoon
Chloe Turner  (Principal)

Horn
David Evans  (Principal)
Sharr McIver  (Associate Principal)
Robert Gladstones  (Principal 3rd)
Julia Brooke
Francesco Lo Surdo

Trumpet
Brent Grapes  (Principal)
Evan Cromie  (Associate Principal)
Peter Miller

Trombone
Joshua Davis  (Principal)
Liam O’Malley  (Associate Principal)

Bass Trombone
Philip Holdsworth  (Principal)

Tuba
Cameron Brook  (Principal)

Timpani
Alex Timcke  (Principal)

Percussion
Brian Maloney  (Principal)
Troy Greutz  (Associate Principal Percussion & Timpani)

Harp
Sarah Bowman  (Principal)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Janet Holmes à Court AC (Chairman)
Barrie Lepley (Deputy Chairman)
Mark Coughlan
Keith Kessell
Anne Nolan
Paul Shannon
Julian Sher
Michael Utsler

ADMINISTRATION

Executive Office
Craig Whitehead Chief Executive
Rebecca Smith Executive Assistant

Human Resources
Tony Pickburn Human Resources Manager
Narelle Coghill Human Resources Coordinator
Svetlana Williams Payroll Administrator

Artistic Planning
Evan Kennea Executive Manager, Artistic Planning
Alan Tyrrell Program Manager
Natalie De Biasi Program Coordinator

Orchestral Management
Keith McGowan Executive Manager, Orchestral Management
David Cotgreave Production and Technical Manager
Alistair Cox Orchestra Manager
Beaanna Evangelista Orchestral Coordinator
Wee Ming Khoo Music Librarian
Jenna Boston Orchestral Operations Manager

Business Services
Peter Freemantle Chief Financial Officer
Andrew Chew Systems Administrator
Angela Miller Accountant
Renu Kara Accounts Officer
Alexander Spartalis Information Systems Support

Community Engagement
Cassandra Lake Executive Manager, Community Engagement
Fiona Taylor Education Coordinator
Lily Procter Community Engagement Assistant
Fiona Campbell Crescendo Teaching Artist
Michaela Ivory Crescendo Teaching Artist
Alicia Metusela Crescendo Teaching Artist

Corporate Development
Marina Woodhouse Executive Manager, Corporate Development
Cliona Hayes Corporate Partnerships Coordinator
Ginny Luff Corporate Partnerships & Events Coordinator

Philanthropy
Alecia Benzie Executive Manager, Philanthropy
Jane Clare Fundraising & Philanthropy Manager
Sarah Tompkin Planned Giving Manager
Megan Lo Surdo Philanthropy & Events Coordinator

Marketing
Kelli Carnachan Executive Manager, Marketing
Marc Missaen Relationship Marketing Manager
Luke Pownall Public Relations Manager
Kirsty Chisholm Marketing Coordinator
The Company Cont.

ADMINISTRATION

New West Australian Symphony Orchestra employees:

- Fiona Campbell: Teaching Artist
- Lawrence Grosvenor: Graphic Designer
- Michaela Ivory: Teaching Artist
- Laurence Jackson: Concertmaster
- Sunmi Jung: Violin Rank & File
- Brian Maloney: Principal Percussion
- Chiron Meller: Assoc. Principal Percussion
- Jamie Parkin: Corporate Partnerships Manager
- Julie Read: Payroll Officer
- Sarah Tompkin: Planned Giving Manager

And farewell to:

- Maya Kraj-Krajewski: Artist Liaison/Chorus Administrator
- Nancy Hackett: Marketing Manager
- Zoe Lawrence: Marketing Officer
- Graham Pyatt: Violin Rank & File
- Lawrence Grosvenor: Graphic Designer
- Svetlana Williams: Payroll Officer
- Alicia Metusela: Teaching Artist
- Rebekah Ryan: Sales Consultant – Team Leader

We thank them for their professional and personal contributions to the company.
The Company Cont.

WASO CHORUS

Christopher van Tuinen Chorus Director
Andrew Foote Vocal Coach
Lea Hayward Accompanist

Soprano
Julie Anderson
Valerie Bannan
Lisa Barrett
Marian Birtwistle
Anna Börner
Annie Burke
Kathryn Buselich
Alinta Carroll
Jennifer Clarke
Perenokee Colgan
Clara Connor
Rebecca Cooper
Cate Creedon
Erika Dietrich
Ciara Donegan
Jordan Dunne
Ceredwen Dumergue
Bronwyn Elliott
Niki Titíola Etin
Fay Farah Edwards
Davina Farinola
Joanna Favicci
Lindsay Foster
Louise Gillett
Kath Goodman
Lesley Goodwin
Pauline Handford
Diane Hawkins
Blanche Holzman
Michelle John
Emma Lambert
Katherine Langdon
Ginny Luff
Marie McKinnon
Alicia Mitsuoka
Gemma Mullaney
Elysia Murphy
Stephanie Parkinson
Sheila Price
Rochelle Rabel
Erika Rieckten
Fiona Robson
Jane Royle
Chelsea Seymour
Sarah Shneider
Rachel Singer
Gosia Slavomirska
Magdalenia Todea
Margot Warburton
Rochelle Williams
Nicole Zago

Lyn Mills
Margot Morgan
Lynne Naylor
Philemona Nulsen
Deborah Pearson
Deborah Piesse
Shannon Red
Liz Rombawa
Neb Ryand
Louise Sutton
Claire Taylor
Olga Ward
Moira Westmore
Jacquie Wright

Bass
Justin Audcent
Michael Berkeley-Hill
Charlie Bond
Allan Davies
Tony Errington
Ken Gasmier
Stephen Hastings
Brian Kent
Tony King
Benjamin Lee
Justin Luo
Andrew Lynch
Tony Marrion
Benjamin Martis
Patrick Melling
Peter Ormond
Jim Rhoads
Glenn Rogers
Steve Sherwood
Christopher Smith
Tim Strahan
Robert Turnbull
Mark Wilkund
Donald Wilson
Andrew Wong

Alto
Marian Agombar
Lisa Barz
Janet Baxter
Lleewla Benn
Daniela Birch
Patsy Brown
Imogen Castledine
Sarah Choy
Sue Coleson
Catherine Dunn
Julie Durand
Kaye Fairbairn
Jenny Fay
Susanna Fleck
Diane Graves
Louise Hayes
Victoria Hoog
Jill Jones
Serena Kay
Gaylene Kelso
Shew-lee Lee
Kate Lewis
Diana MacCallum
Chissie Marofridis
Tina McDonald

Tenor
John Beamish
Rod Gonzales
Allan Griffiths
Peter Handford
David Lancaster
John Milton
Donald Moore
John Moreton
John Murphy
Grant O’Neil
Andrew Paterson
Jay Reso
Rey Rombawa Jr
Christopher Ryland
Simon Tang
Stephen Tulney
Malcolm Vernon
Matthew Vukomanovic
Brad Wake
Artistic Report

2016 will undoubtedly be remembered as a “banner year” in the history of the West Australian Symphony Orchestra. The musical relationship between the Orchestra and Principal Conductor and Artistic Adviser, Asher Fisch, continued to strengthen and develop, with outstanding performances across the year. At the end of his first three-year contract it is clear that Asher is achieving his artistic vision for the Orchestra, improving its overall sound quality and creating a more distinctive, richer sound profile. It is notable that so many of the finest concerts throughout the year were conducted by Asher, which is a clear demonstration of the great artistic relationship and understanding that he has developed with his Orchestra.

The artistic highlight of 2016 was the Orchestra’s impressive performances on WASO’s first international tour in 10 years. Taking two different concert programs, with two different soloists and two different conductors to two very different parts of the work (Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates and Beijing and Shanghai in China) was a huge musical challenge, but one that the Orchestra responded to magnificently, giving outstanding performances in all three cities. In Abu Dhabi the Orchestra performed an all-Wagner program conducted by Sir Richard Armstrong and with soloist Simon O’Neill, the great New Zealand heldentenor. This was the first performance by a major Australian performing arts company in the UAE and the Orchestra made a deep impression on the audience in Abu Dhabi with its idiomatic performance. In Beijing and Shanghai the Orchestra was joined by Principal Conductor Asher Fisch and soloist Jean-Yves Thibaudet. The Orchestra’s performance of Mahler’s Symphony No.5 was a real tour de force, drawing acclaim from both audiences and critics alike. Most memorable was the encore performed in both cities, an arrangement of a popular Chinese song entitled A Song My Mother Taught Me, which deeply moved the audiences in both Beijing and Shanghai.

Other highlights of the 2016 season included a stunning performance of Mahler’s Symphony No.2 Resurrection conducted by Asher Fisch, which was also notable for the impressive Perth debut of Australian soprano Kiandra Howarth. Conductor Simone Young returned to Perth for two concert weeks, the highlight of which was undoubtedly her Masters Series concert which featured Holst’s The Planets and Stravinsky’s The Rite of Spring in the one program! Our new concertmaster Laurence Jackson gave a fine performance of Mendelssohn’s Violin Concerto and also demonstrated his exceptional leadership when he stepped in on little notice to direct concerts due to be conducted by Bernard Labadie, who had to withdraw through ill-health.

The other important artistic highlight in the 2016 season was our concert with Asher Fisch and the great Australian tenor Stuart Skelton in November. This concert featured music by Bruckner and Wagner, and was the first step towards our two-year Wagner project in 2017/18 which will culminate in concert performances of Wagner’s opera Tristan und Isolde in August 2018.
Building ongoing relationships with great established artists and exciting emerging musicians is something WASO takes great pride in and that helps ensure a high level of music-making across the season. In 2016 we welcomed back returning and regular guest conductors including Simone Young, Andrew Grams, Johannes Fritzsch, Paul Dyer, Guy Noble, Benjamin Northey, Christopher Dragon, Christopher van Tuinen and Stephen Layton and soloists Behzod Abduraimov, Stuart Skelton, Simone Lamsma, Ning Feng, Alban Gerhardt, Stefani Irányi, Steve Davislim, Jean-Yves Thibaudet, Baiba Skride, Fiona Campbell, Andrew Collis, Paul McMahon, Andrew Foote, Richard Butler, Sally-Anne Russell and Sara Macliver.

Making their WASO debut were conductors Kazuki Yamada and Daniel Blendulf and soloists Javier Perianes, Kiandra Howarth, Derek Welton, Mary Carewe, Eleanor Dennis, Helen Charlston, Gwilym Bowen, Robert Davies as well as WASO’s own Brent Grapes and Laurence Jackson.

Once again our Morning Symphony Series featured eight concerts across the season and continued to attract large audiences. Our Family Series concerts are a vital part of our concert offerings, enabling the orchestra to engage with and entertain children, parents and grandparents in large numbers to Perth Concert Hall. We were also delighted to welcome back our former Assistant Conductor Christopher Dragon with whom we performed at the Mandurah Performing Arts Centre and the Bunbury Regional Entertainment Centre, as well as with the brilliant Jazz at Lincoln Centre Orchestra as part of the Perth International Arts Festival.

One of WASO’s core beliefs is that great music is for everyone and we aim to bring world-class concerts and events to as broad an audience as possible. Our Pops Series, Films and other Special Events enable us to connect with a large and diverse audience both at Perth Concert Hall and in other venues across Perth. The first Perth performance by Cirque de la Symphonie astonished audiences with daring acrobatics, aerialists and contortionists, all accompanied by live music. British vocalist Mary Carewe performed timeless hits from the stage and screen in From Broadway to Hollywood and we continued our highly successful series of classic films performed live with orchestra at the Perth Exhibition and Convention Centre with Indiana Jones and the Raiders of the Lost Ark.

The orchestra commenced its concert season supporting the great American jazz diva Diana Krall at Kings Park, performed with Australian legends Hilltop Hoods at the Perth Arena, and in November paid tribute to the late David Bowie with a spectacular concert of his greatest hits sung by Australian rock/pop legends including Tim Rogers and Deborah Conway.

WASO also re-entered the commercial recording space, releasing a double CD on the ABC Classics label of the Brahms Symphonies, conducted by Asher Fisch.

WASO was proud to highlight the exceptional talents of Principal Clarinet Allan Meyer, Concertmaster Laurence Jackson, Principal Cello Rod McGrath, Principal Trumpet Brent Grapes and Principal Horn David Evans in our 2016 season.

WASO believes that it plays a vital role in developing new orchestral repertoire, particularly that written by Australian composers. We also believe in revisiting recent repertoire by Australian and international composers, helping their works to continue to have life in the concert hall. In 2016 we were pleased to welcome Lachlan Skipworth as our Composer in Residence and are eagerly looking forward to premiering the first work he composes as part of this residency in early 2017. We were delighted to give the first performance of Elena Kats-Chernin’s Prelude and Cube in its new orchestral version, the work having originally been composed for the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra. We gave our first performance of Brett Dean’s Testament, our second performance of Magnus Lindberg’s Expo and gave the Australian premiere of Colin Matthew’s exquisite arrangements of two Debussy Preludes.
Artistic Report Cont.

Broadcasts
The ABC supports WASO through regular broadcasts of our concerts throughout the year. A total of 36 broadcasts of WASO performances were heard on ABC Classic FM around Australia and around the world. WASO webcast two performances live, which are also available on-demand on the WASO website. Selected webcasts were screened at the Northbridge Piazza and the Symphony in the City webcast was also simulcast at theatres in Albany, Kalgoorlie and Port Hedland. It was also broadcast live at 24 Community Resource Centres, including Toodyay, Nannup, Kununurra, Bridgetown, Norseman and Cocos Island via Westlink.

WASO Chorus
The WASO Chorus continued to be led by Chorus Director Christopher van Tuinen and Chorus Vocal Coach Andrew Foote. The chorus performed a wide variety of repertoire across the season including Mahler’s Symphony No.2, Vivaldi’s Gloria, Elena Kats-Chernin’s Prelude and Cube, Holst’s The Planets, Mozart’s Requiem, Handel’s Messiah as well as various repertoire in our Last Night at the Proms and Symphony in the City concerts.

Symphony in the City
In 2016 we celebrated the 10th Anniversary of Symphony in the City, and this annual season-ending concert drew approximately 21,000 people to Langley Park. Guy Noble (who conducted the very first SITC) returned as both conductor and host, and we featured West Australian soloists in the program.

Collaborations
Perth International Arts Festival
Wynton Marsalis: Swing Symphony
Conductor – Christopher Dragon

West Australia Opera
Puccini: Gianni Schicchi
[Opera in the Park]
Conductor – Brad Cohen
Iain Grandage: The Riders
Conductor – Brad Cohen
Donizetti: L’elisir d’amore
Conductor – Stuart Stratford

West Australian Ballet
Beauty & the Beast
Conductor – Myron Romanul
Prokofiev: Romeo and Juliet
Conductor – Nigel Gaynor
WASO’s passion for and dedication to reaching audiences across Western Australia has resulted in new initiatives in our Community Engagement portfolio, and increased efforts to deliver live musical experiences across multiple platforms. In 2016, after stellar years of growth in this area of programming, WASO presented 434 Community Outreach and Education performances, workshops, classes and masterclasses to almost 20,000 participants and/or audience members in diverse locations across the State, and internationally.

**Community Outreach**

WASO’s Crescendo program is the only El Sistema inspired music education program in Western Australia, and WASO remain the only major performing arts company in the State working with Principals and school communities to deliver long-term sustainable free education programs in schools. The Crescendo program delivered weekly music lessons to all Pre-primary to Year 2 students at Medina Primary School and North Parmelia Primary School. The vocal based program seeks to empower participants and school communities by using music as a tool to develop the whole child through group lessons, with opportunities for students to perform for peers and community, as well as experience chamber and full symphony orchestra performances throughout the year.

Onslow Kids Music Education Program (OK ME!) continued at Onslow Primary School in North-West WA, with teaching artists utilising percussion instruments and instrument making as the foundation to teach music.

Other Outreach programs continued to expand, with an increased number of Harmony Music visits to schools with Special Educational Needs students. Our Hospital Orchestra Project (HOP) at Princess Margaret Hospital for Children in partnership with the School of Special Education Needs: Medical & Mental Health with support from the Starlight Children’s Foundation, was featured at the 8th Annual International Arts and Health Conference in Sydney.

Our Rusty Orchestra performed to a capacity audience with almost 50 amateur musicians from Perth and regional WA performing alongside WASO musicians in a 90+ orchestra.
Community Engagement Report cont.

Education
In 2016, our Education program received international acclaim as part of our tour to Abu Dhabi and China, with performances by our 15-piece Education Chamber Orchestra (EChO) and Brass Quintet for elementary and middle school students in Beijing.

EChO is one of the most established education programs delivered by an Australian Orchestra, and celebrated a landmark 21 years of Kids Cushion Concerts and in-school presentations.

Our Education Week reached more than 7,000 audience members across 7 days of performances at 5 different sites, presenting a total of 13 workshops and performances for audiences of all ages.

The ATAR Western Art Music Designated Works Concert, Open Rehearsals, Backstage Pass and Morning Symphony concerts featured a number of our finest international soloists and conductors across a wide range of orchestral repertoire, and tailored resources supported teachers across all streams of the Music Syllabus in the Western Australian Curriculum. We also presented The Sound of Picture Books, featuring Parachute (Danny Parker - Author, Matt Ottley – Illustrator/Composer) in partnership with The Literature Centre.

WASO's commitment to visiting regional and remote locations across the state took WASO on the Road to Leinster, Leonora, Menzies, Boulder and Kalgoorlie. Our new Regional Arts Program (ReAP) is presented with support from the Department of Education. WASO are the only arts company accessing the Video Conferencing platform established as part of the Pilbara Cities Education Project – E-Learning, to work alongside staff and schools across the Pilbara region to support academic and music extension.

Young and Emerging Artists
WASO’s Young & Emerging Artists programs are designed to bridge the gap between student life and professional career. With a focus on mentoring and hands on training experiences, we are delighted to be working with the UWA School of Music to develop a Masters in Orchestral Performance. Four composition students participated in the 3-month long Composition Project with Artistic Director James Ledger, and our International Artist Masterclass series featured Ning Feng (violin), Steve Davislim (voice) and Alban Gerhardt (cello).
Philanthropy Report

WASO staff, musicians and Board enjoy a strong relationship with our philanthropic community of Patrons, Friends, bequestors and volunteers. 2016 was a remarkable year for the Orchestra. We toured for the first time in ten years, extended the tenure of Principal Conductor Asher Fisch for another three years and continued to expand our Education & Community Engagement programs. This was made possible in large part due to the generous and ongoing support from our philanthropic community. Excluding bequests, WASO Philanthropy income grew by 36% in 2016, with annual giving contributing over $600,000.

Our Annual Giving community is an essential component of WASO Philanthropy and special acknowledgement and thank you goes to the Patrons who have made annual donations since 2007, celebrating ten years of giving to WASO:

Catherine Bagster
David & Suzanne Biddles
Gavin Bunning
Betty Barker
Gay & Bob Branchi
Hon June Craig AM
Stephen Davis & Linda Savage
Gilbert George
Graham & Barbara Goulden
Deidre Greenfeld
Alan Harvey & Dr Paulien de Boer
Lilian & Roger Jennings
Dr Patricia Kallis
Noelle & Anthony Jennings AM
Rosalind Lilley
S.B. Monger-Hay
Pamela Platt
Thomas & Diana Potter
Alpha & Richard Pilpel OAM
Joshua & Pamela Pitt
James & Nicola Ridsdill-Smith
Judith E Shaw
Mary Townsend
Rox Thomson
Janet Williams
Jean & Ian Williams AO
Anonymous (3)

Alongside Annual Giving, we have philanthropy campaigns supporting different programs that WASO undertakes over the course of the year. In 2016 our Touring Campaign directly supported our tour to China and Abu Dhabi as well as our local touring of ensembles across regional WA. Our Excellence Circle is leading the way in supporting our upcoming Wagner programs over the next two years, helping enable WASO to undertake one of our most exciting artistic programs to date.

Reach Out is a philanthropic campaign that supports our Education & Community Engagement programs. We are extremely grateful for the Trusts, Foundations and many individual donors who support these programs.

Patrons who purchased instruments for the WASO made a very special contribution to the Orchestra. In 2016 Susan Lorimer and Dr John Albright funded the purchase of a double bass made by luthier and WASO musician Andrew Tait for WASO’s Education Chamber Orchestra (EChO)’s 21st birthday. Peter & Jean Stokes also made a generous contribution enabling WASO to purchase a tuba and cello.

Compose Your Legacy

Leaving a gift in your Will is a decision that an increasing number of WASO Patrons and subscribers are making, enabling WASO to look towards the future with confidence. 2016 saw a significant increase in bequest notifications with a total of 21 notifications, taking the total number to 63. We are deeply grateful to our Symphony Circle members.

One important way we connect with our philanthropic community is through events. Our Patrons & Friends Committee supports events we hold for the broader Patrons & Friends community and all proceeds from these events go toward the Friends of WASO Scholarship providing professional development opportunities for full-time WASO musicians. In 2016 this Scholarship was awarded to Associate Principal Cello Louise McKay. The Patrons and Friends Committee also volunteer their time to help with other WASO events, including fundraising at our Symphony in the City each year. Our thanks to the 2016 Patrons & Friends Committee:

Robyn Glindemann, President
Barry Neubecker, Vice President
Chris Rthiladze, Secretary
Dr Glenda Campbell-Evans
Jennifer Gardiner (new 2016 member)
Gina Humphries
Wolfgang Lehmkuhl
Graham Mahoney
Margaret Marston
Ian Watson (new 2016 member)
Frankie Lo Surdo, Musician representative
Alecia Benzie, WASO management representative

And thank you to Christine Reitzenstein for her role as Musician representative in 2014 and 2015.
OUR SUPPORTERS

We thank the following Patrons for their generous contributions to WASO Philanthropy across 2016.

Endowment Fund for the Orchestra

This fund includes major donations and bequests
Tom & Jean Arkley
Janet Holmes à Court AC
Minderoo Foundation
Sagitte Yom-Tov Fund

Estates

WASO is extremely grateful for the bequests received from Estates
Rachel Mabel Chapman
Mrs Roslyn Warrick
Judy Sienkiewicz
Anonymous (3)

Symphony Circle

Recognising Patrons who have made a provision in their Will to the Orchestra
Ms Davilia Bleckly
Mr John Bonny
Dr G Campbell-Evans
Deidre Carlin
Anita & James Clayton
Dr Michael Flacks
Judith Gedero
Robyn Glindemann
Gwennyth Greenwood
The Guy Family
Emi & Warren Jones
Rachael Kirk & Tim White
Paul Lee (deceased)
Wolfgang Lehmkuhl
Deborah Marsh
Tosi Nottage in memory of Edgar Nottage
Nigel & Dr Heather Rogers
Gavin Tookey & Jaehan Lee
Sheila Wileman
Sagitte Yom-Tov Fund
Anonymous (31)

Excellence Circle

Supporting excellence across all we do
Jean Arkley
Bob & Gay Branchi
Janet Holmes à Court AC
Dr Patricia Kailis
Torsten & Mona Ketelsen
Rod & Margaret Marston
Michael Utsler
Leanne & Sam Walsh

The WASO Song Book

We are grateful to those who have supported new works commissioned for the Orchestra
Janet Holmes à Court AC
Peter Dawson
Geoff Stearn

The WASO Song Book group commission

Catherine Bagster in memory of Christine Bagster
Bernard & Jackie Barnwell
Geoff Stearn
Anonymous (1)

Reach Out

Supporting our Education & Community Engagement programs
John Albright & Susan Lorimer – purchase of the ECHO Double Bass
Jean Arkley
Creative Partnerships Australia
Ron & Penny Crittall
Ken Evans
Feilman Foundation
The James Galvin Foundation
Robyn Glindemann
Barrie & Jude Lepley
Mrs Morell
Lynn Murray
Joan Reyland
John & Alison Rigg
Simon Lee Foundation
The Stan Perron Charitable Foundation
Jean & Peter Stokes
Trish Williams – Strategic Interactions

Crescendo Giving Circle

Supporting our El Sistema-inspired ‘Crescendo’ music education program in Kwinana
AOT Consulting Pty Ltd
Euroz Charitable Foundation
Madeleine King MP, Federal Member for Brand
Rosalind Lilley
Pamela Pitt
Valerie Vicich

Touring WASO

Supporting WASO’s international and regional tours in 2016
Lead Gifts ($5,000 and above)
Jean Arkley
Gay & Bob Branchi
Bridget Faye
Gilbert George
Janet Holmes à Court AC
Keith Kessell
Torsten & Mona Ketelsen
John Poynton AO
Michael Utsler
Anonymous (1)

Gifts
Bernard & Jackie Barnwell
Pamela Beard
Gabor Bedo
Davilia Bleckly
Bill & Jenny Bunbury
Dr G Campbell-Evans
Sandra Carruthers
Keith & Frauke Chambers
James & Anita Clayton
Barry J Cobb
Miss Ann Darby
Associate Professor Wayne Iwan Lee
Davies
Lesley Davies
Monique De Vianna
Paul Duncan
Bev East
Rowena Eirrell
Margaret Ellerton
Jenny Fay
David Forster
Gary Giles & Stuart Pekin
Dale Halnan
Philanthropy Report Cont.

Laura Hamilton
Dr Penny Herbert in memory of
Dunstan Herbert
Jo Hiller
Helen Hollingshead
Rosemary Howarth
Margaret I Huntsman
Cynthia Jee
Bob Kelliher
Wolfgang Lehmkuhl
David Lewis
Rosalind Lilley
Gregg & Sue Marshman
Pam Mathews & Mark Brogan
Mrs Morrell
Suzanne Nash
Barry & Val Neubecker
Marianne Nilsson
Tim Pavy & Cathy Cole
Pamela Platt
Eveline Read
Shirley Ridgwell
John & Alison Rigg
Leigh Robinson
Chris Rthsiladze
Michael Snell & Vicki Stewart
Geoff & Christine Soutar
Geoff Stearn
David Stevenson
Dr Donald Stewart
Ann Ten Seldam
Jan Trazona
Sheila Wade
Craig Whitehead & Gabrielle Shepherd
Margaret Whitter
B M Wilcox
Ian Williams AO & Jean Williams
Trish Williams – Strategic Interactions
Sally Willis
Anonymous (30)

**ANNUAL GIVING**

We are proud to acknowledge the following Patrons for their generous contribution to WASO in the last twelve months through WASO’s Annual Giving program.

**Principal Conductor’s Circle**

**Gifts $20,000+**

Janet Holmes à Court AC
Patricia New

**Impresario Patron**

**Gifts $10,000 - $19,999**

John Albright & Susan Lorimer
Gay & Bob Branchi
Gavin Bunning
Peter & Lesley Davies
Tony & Gwennyth Lennon
Margaret & Rod Marston
Joshua & Pamela Pitt
Trish Williams – Strategic Interactions

**Maestro Patron**

**Gifts $5,000 - $9,999**

Jean Arkley in memory of Tom Arkley
Dr Roland & Therese Brand
Ian & Elizabeth Constable
Moira & John Dobson
Tim & Lexie Elliott
Bridget Faye AM
Gilbert George
Warwick Hemsley & Melissa Parke
Dr Patricia Kailis
Kelly Family
Alison Kennedy
Keith & Gaye Kessell
Dr Ronny Low & Dr Emma Richardson
Bryant & Louise Macfie
Paula & John Phillips
Peter & Jean Stokes
Richard Tarala & Lyn Beazley AO
Rox Thomson
Alan Whitham
Sue & Ron Wooller
Anonymous (4)

**Virtuoso Patron**

**Gifts $2,500 - $4,999**

Prof Fred & Mrs Margaret Affleck
Neil Archibald & Alan R Dodge AM
Tony & Mary Beeley
David & Suzanne Biddles
Peter & Marjorie Bird
Alan & Anne Blankensee
Dr G Campbell-Evans
Prof Jonathan Carapetis & Prof Sue Skull
Mark Coughlan & Dr Pei-Yin Hsu
Stephen Davis & Linda Savage
Richard Farago
Robyn Glindemann

Brian & Romola Haggerty
Sue Howell
Sylvia & Wally Hyams
Eleanor John
Michael & Dale Kitney
Mrs Morrell
Jane & Jock Morrison
Anne Nolan
Tim Pavy & Cathy Cole
Dr Lance Risbey & Ms Elizabeth Sachse
Melanie & Paul Shannon
Gail & Tony Sutherland
Gene Tilbrook
M & H Tuie
Stan & Valerie Vicich
Ian Watson
Joyce Westrip OAM
Andrew & Marie Yuncken
Anonymous (2)

**Principal Patron**

**Gifts $1,000 - $2,499**

Caroline Allen & Sandy Dunn
Prue Ashurst in memory of Eoin Cameron
Margaret Atkins
Dan & Gail Barn
Betty Barker
Noelle Beasley
Michael & Nadia Berkeley-Hill
Kevin Blake
Matthew J C Blampey
Namy Bodinner
Susy Bogle
Peter & Eve Boland
Dr & Mrs P Breidahl
Jean Brodie-Hall AM
James & Gay Brown
Marilyn & Ian Burton
Dr Anne Chester
Peter & Sue Clifton
David Cooke
Arthur & Nerina Coopes
Hon June Craig AM
Gay & John Cruckshank
Rai & Erika Dolinschek
Julian Dowse
Bev East
Megan Edwards
Lorraine Ellard

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Philanthropy Report Cont.

Dane Etheridge & Brooke Fowles
Annette Finn
P & J Fisher
Don & Marie Forrest
E & EA Fraunschiel
Dr Andrew Gardner
Roger & Ann Gillbanks
Graham & Barbara Goulden
Jannette Gray
Deidre Greenfeld
Grussgott Family Trust
Richard B Hammond
Pauline & Peter Handford
Dr Penny Herbert in memory of Dunstan Herbert
Jacoba Hohnen & Stuart Cooksey
Michael Hollingdale
Helen Hollingshead
John & Katrina Hopkins
J & S Huan
Jim & Freda Irenic
Cynthia Jee
Lilian & Roger Jennings
Anthony Kane in memory of Jane Leahy-Kane
Bill Kean
Noelle & Anthony Keller AM
Stephanie & John Kobelke
In memory of Eileen Hayes
Irving Lane
Paul Lee (deceased)
Meg Lewis
Teresa & Jermina Loveland
Graham & Muriel Mahony
Gregg & Sue Marshman
Betty & Con Michael AO
Mrs Carolyn Milton-Smith in loving memory of Emeritus Prof John Milton-Smith
Hon Justice S R Moncrieff
Valmae & Geoff Morris
Val & Barry Neubecker
Delys & Alan Newman
Dr P J Noble
John Overton
Ron & Philippa Packer
Michael & Lesley Page
Athena Paton
Rosemary Peek
Charmian Phillips in memory of Colin Craft
Pamela Platt
Thomas & Diana Potter
Barry & Dot Price
Dr Leon Prindiville
Chester Reeve
Joan Reyland
John & Alison Rigg
Leigh Robinson
Nigel & Dr Heather Rogers
Gerry & Maurice Rouset OAM
Roger Sandercock
Dr R & J Schwenger
Glencie Shephard
Julian & Noreen Sher
Laurel & Ross Smith
PAI Smith & DA Harry
Michael Snell & Vicki Stewart
Geoff & Christine Soutar
Ruth Thomas
Gavin Toovey & Jaehan Lee
Mary Townsend
James & Rosemary Trotter
Dr Robert Turnbull
Maggie Venerys
Adrienne & Max Walters
Diana Warnock
Watering Concepts
Ann Whynie (deceased)
Dai & Anne Williams
Ian Williams AO & Jean Williams
Jim & Gill Williams
Judith Wilton & David Turner
Hilary & Peter Winterton AM
Anonymous (27)

Tutti Patron
Gifts $500 - $999
Geoff & Joan Airey
Ian Apps
Catherine Bagster
Merle I Bardwell (deceased)
Bernard & Jackie Barnwell
Shirley Barraclough
Mrs Berwine Barrett-Lennard
Pamela M Bennet
John & Sue Bird in memory of Penny Bird
Dermot & Jennifer Blackweir
Elaine Bonds

Diane & Ron Bowyer
Alison Bunker & Myles Harmer
Lucia Buralli
Ann Butcher & Dean R Kubank
Michelle Candy
Nanette Carnachan
Claire Chambers & Dr Andrea Shoebridge
Fred & Angela Chaney
Dr Sarah Cherian
Lyn & Harvey Coates AO
Agatha & Alex Cohen AO
Helen Cook
Gina & Neil Davidson
Professor Wayne Iwan Lee Davies FRSB
Jop & Hanneke Delfos
Judy Dolan
Simon & Pamela Douglas
Mrs G Even
Maxine & Bill Farrell AM
Joan Gagliardi
Jennifer & Stephen Gardiner
George Gavranic
Elaine Gimson
Isobel Glencross
Pitsamai & Kevin Green
David & Valerie Guillard
Alan Harvey & Dr Paulien de Boer
Eric & Elizabeth Heenan
John Hill
Christopher, Julie, Rosemary & Bronwyn Hudson
Peter Ingram
Peter S Jones
Warren & Emi Jones
B M Kent
Dorothy Kingston
Nelly Kley
Ulrich & Gloria Kunzmann
John Kusinski & Annie Motherway
Trevor & Ane Marie Lacy
Martin & Ruth Levit
Megan Lowe
The Lucas Family
Mary Ellen in memory of Kerensa
Geoff Massey
Jennifer & Arthur McComb
James Meneghello & Mabel Chew
S B Monger-Hay
André & Barbara Morkel
Dr Peter Moss
Phuong Nguyen
Philanthropy Report Cont.

Peter O’Sullivan
Dr Walter Ong & Graeme Marshall
Marjan Oxley
Graham & Hildegarde Pennefather
Bev Penny
Adrian & Ruth Phelps
Alison & John Price
James & Nicola Ridsdill-Smith
Paul Roberts
Chris & Serge Rtskiladze
Her Excellency The Hon. Kerry Sanderson AC
Carole Sexton
The Sherwood Family
Paul & Margaret Skerritt
Hendrik Smit
Dr L Sparrow & Family
Peggy & Tom Stacy
Eleanor Steinhardt
In Memoriam of Mr Andrew David Stewart
Lisa & Andrew Telford
Ruth E Thorn
Patricia Turner
Margaret Wallace
John & Nita Walshe
Anne Watson
Joy Wearne
Patricia Weston
Dr Chris & Mrs Vimala Whitaker
B M Wilcox
Geoff Wilkinson
Violette William
Janet Williams
Chris Ziatis
Anonymous (26)

Friends
Gifts $40 - $499
Thank you to all our 753 Friends who supported WASO through their gift.
A combination of new partnerships and renewed commitment from WASO’s long-term sponsors contributed to a successful year in Corporate Development during an economically challenging time. In 2016, WASO retained 86% of its partnerships and welcomed a record number of new supporters.

WASO is very proud of the strong and successful partnership established with Wesfarmers Arts and in 2016 they continued to lead WASO’s family of corporate partners as Principal Partner - supporting the company’s mission to touch souls and enrich lives through music.

Alongside Wesfarmers Arts, the long-term commitment and support from WASO’s network of partners provided an important foundation for many artistic, education and community activities.

- 2016 marked the 10th Anniversary of WASO’s free and largest community concert – City of Perth Symphony in the City which saw the orchestra perform to approximately 21,000 people in Langley Park and reach many more across the state through webcasts and broadcasts. The 10th Anniversary celebrations were bolstered with thanks to support from Lotterywest and Water Corporation.

- WASO also acknowledges Healthway and MACA Limited for their ongoing and growing support of WASO’s flagship Masters Series and Classics Series, respectively.

- WASO’s Tertiary Education partnership with UWA was secured for a further three years as the framework for a Masters in Orchestral Performance continued to take shape.

In 2016, WASO was delighted to secure a number of new partnerships and welcome back some previous sponsors:

- WASO is grateful to Woodside for making a generous contribution towards the Orchestra’s annual artistic and community programs.

- WASO was thrilled to establish a new arts partnership with Tokyo Gas who joined as Sonata Partner, supporting the Musician Chair - Principal Cello, Rod McGrath.

- Perth Airport provided support toward a special Harmony Music session for the students of Moorditj Noongar Community College, Middle Swan, a school of disadvantaged Aboriginal students who come from backgrounds of generational poverty.

- WASO also established an exciting new partnership with the prestigious COMO The Treasury to provide accommodation and hospitality for visiting artists.

- After a brief sojourn, Juniper Estate and Happs Wines returned as Margaret River Wine Partners providing premium wines for guests to enjoy at WASO’s corporate functions and event.

A major artistic and community engagement achievement, WASO’s first international tour in 10 years was made possible with the generous support of a number of partners and we sincerely thank The State Government of Western Australia through the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, Department for State Development and Department of Culture and Arts, Rio Tinto, Lepley Properties, Driftwood Pty Ltd, COMO The Treasury and Metals of Africa.

Tour events were also gratefully supported by WASO partners, Pierro and Howard Park Wines.

WASO also acknowledges the support of Australia’s Embassies in Abu Dhabi and Beijing, and Consulate in Shanghai for their collaboration and keen engagement in local events.

Throughout the year WASO’s corporate partners were treated to networking events offering exclusive access to “behind-the-scenes” experiences. On Stage with the WASO Chorus offered sponsors and philanthropic supporters a unique insight into the world of a symphonic chorus with first-hand experience as guests joined the WASO Chorus during a rehearsal warm-up.

On the eve of WASO’s International Tour, WASO hosted a Farewell Gala Dinner at Frasers, Kings Park where over 200 guests dined with Principal Conductor Asher Fisch, virtuoso pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet and the Orchestra. Guests were warmly welcomed by Chairman, Janet Holmes à Court and The Premier of Western Australia and heard about the Orchestra’s preparations for their performances.

Executive Manager Artistic Planning, Evan Kennea provided sponsors an overview of the upcoming season at the 2017 with WASO event. This provided some special season highlights and support for sponsors in planning and maximising their sponsorship benefits in the year ahead.

Finally, the corporate events calendar came to a close as we celebrated the 10th anniversary of the spectacular annual community concert, City of Perth Symphony in the City under the stars at Langley Park.
2016 Corporate Partners

WASO thanks all 2016 corporate partners for their long-term vision and commitment:


2016 International Tour Partners

The State Government of Western Australia  Rio Tinto  Lepley Properties  Driftwood Pty Ltd  COMO The Treasury  Metals of Africa
Corporate Governance Statement

General
As the largest performing arts company in Western Australia, WASO is committed to high standards of corporate governance.

WASO is a wholly owned subsidiary of WASO Holdings Limited. The Board consists of a maximum of ten directors.

The Company's Board is currently made up of 8 highly qualified individuals with credentials across a wide spectrum including backgrounds in business, music, law, accounting, economics, marketing, investment and banking.

Role of the Board
The Board is responsible for providing strategic guidance to the Company, and for the effective oversight of management. As such the Board is accountable for the West Australian Symphony Orchestra’s overall performance and for ensuring the Company performs its functions in a manner consistent with sound commercial practice.

The Board has adopted a charter which defines the roles and responsibilities of the board and management. A separate board policy (BS-005 “Authority Limits”) ensures an appropriate delegation of authority to management.

The Board sets the Company’s key objectives and strategies through a rolling five year strategic plan, which is revised annually. It also approves the artistic program and budget on an annual basis, and monitors the major risks facing the organisation.

New Board members are provided with appropriate information to ensure that they understand their roles and responsibilities, including the Board Charter, Constitution and other relevant information.

Board Sub-Committees
In order to deal with the many issues that confront the Orchestra and to assist the Board in the discharge of its responsibilities, a number of Board sub-committees have been formed. These comprise the following:

Artistic
Mark Coughlan
Keith Kessell

Finance, Audit and Risk
Anne Nolan
Paul Shannon
Julian Sher

Development, Marketing & Sales
Barrie Lepley
Mike Utsler

Accommodation
Janet Holmes a Court AC
Julian Sher
Barrie Lepley

Nominations & Remuneration Committee
Janet Holmes a Court
Barrie Lepley
Keith Kessell

WAVE
Paul Shannon
Mark Coughlan
Barrie Lepley

The sub-committees each have a charter that defines the role of the committee, its members, terms of reference and duties. The sub-committees meet on a regular basis and meetings are minuted. The minutes are tabled at Board meetings and any issues raised from the minutes are discussed and dealt with as appropriate. The Board sub-committee structure is regularly reviewed.

This Committee reporting structure allows the Board to receive and review regular comprehensive reports on all key business areas.

Board Size, Composition & Terms of Appointment
The Board is comprised of an appropriate number of well qualified individuals who have a proper understanding of the current and future issues facing the organisation.

All Board members are non-executive.

The composition of the Board is regularly reviewed to ensure that the composition meets the current and future needs of the Company. Directors are appointed for specific terms and re-appointment is not automatic. The Board does not believe that a maximum term of tenure would be in the best interests of the Company.

Ethical Decision Making
The Board is committed to maintaining ethical and responsible decision making processes based on the principles of fairness, integrity and honesty and to ensure compliance with Australian laws and regulations.

Directors who may have a material personal interest in a matter to be considered by the Board or a board committee are required to make the nature of that interest known and must not be present while the matter is being considered. Details of such disclosures are recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

Where an issue to be considered by the Board or a board committee is thought to present a Director with a potential conflict of interest, that Director will not be provided with the related material in the first instance.

The Board has adopted the code of conduct promulgated by the Australian Institute of Company Directors.
Integrity in Financial Reporting

The Board requires the CEO and CFO to attest in writing that the Company’s financial reports present a true and fair view of the Company’s financial condition and operational results and are in accordance with relevant accounting standards.

The Board has established a Finance, Audit & Risk Committee that has a charter and includes at least one member who has financial expertise. The Finance, Audit & Risk Committee considers the effectiveness of the external auditor on a regular basis.

Management of Risk

The Board has approved a risk management policy and implemented a risk management program, designed to identify the sources of risk, quantify the impact of these risks and any related controls, and reduce risk through practical and cost effective measures.

The program involves the development of standards throughout the Company, which require awareness and action from all sub-committees to minimise risks and losses. In addition, the Company uses risk management techniques, including insurance, to reduce the financial impact of any uncontrollable or catastrophic losses. The Company carries sufficient insurance for the size and nature of its business to protect its assets.

The Company’s risk management framework is reviewed annually by the Board and the risk environment is monitored regularly for changes that may be relevant to the Company.

Board Performance Appraisal

The Board has participated in an external review of its performance in 2015. The Board has also undertaken to ensure such a review is completed at least once every two years. In alternate years, the Directors will conduct an informal review of the Board’s performance during the previous twelve months.

Remuneration Practices

The Board adopts remuneration policies that are designed to attract and retain talented and motivated individuals and to encourage enhanced company performance. The Board has input to the remuneration of the CEO and Principal Conductor.

Board members do not receive any remuneration from the Company.

Interests of Stakeholders

The legitimate interests of stakeholders are recognised by the Board. Procedures have been established to guide compliance with legal obligations in areas such as OHS and to ensure the timely provision of relevant information to funding agencies.
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