2018-19 SEASON IN REVIEW

Dear Friends,

In more ways than one, Society for the Performing Arts’ 2018-19 Season was one of renewal. In addition to moving past the significant impact of Hurricane Harvey in 2017, SPA began another important transition with a national search for a new CEO. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to lead this 53-year-old organization into an exciting future.

While I have only been a part of the SPA Family since December, I am already so impressed with the community of supporters Society for the Performing Arts enjoys. As we reflect on the past season, I want to thank our tremendous Board of Directors, who welcomed eight new members last season, and our extraordinary staff of 14, who worked diligently every day to deliver SPA’s important programs for Houston area audiences. I also want to thank Leslie Nelson, who led the organization as Interim CEO for the first half of the 2018-19 Season.

The 2018-19 Season had such a tremendous impact on our community. Your donations of time, talent and resources helped SPA achieve many milestones last year, highlighted in this report: a record-breaking Annual Fund Campaign, new outreach programs and partnerships, record submissions to our Annual Art Contest and much more.

Society for the Performing Arts is more relevant than ever before. As the largest non-profit presenter in the most diverse community in the country, SPA is uniquely positioned to reflect and amplify Houston’s diversity on stage and in programs throughout the community. We hope you’ll join us as we continue our work to enrich the cultural life of our city.

Looking forward,

Meg Booth
CEO, Society for the Performing Arts

2018-19
SPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Kristina Trauger
Robert B. Tudor III†
Marcus A. Watts††
Margaret Alkek Williams

*Executive Committee Member
†Former Board Chair

FINANCIALS

REVENUE

39.9% | Earned: $5,000,000
60.1% | Contributions: $3,023,070

CONTRIBUTIONS

33.5% | Individuals
20.9% | Foundations
18.7% | Special Events
8.7% | Corporations

EXPENSE

7.6% | Government
5.7% | Hurricane Relief
5.4% | In-Kind

74.7% | Program Expenses
13.8% | Fundraising
11.5% | Administration & General
BY THE NUMBERS

39 MAINSTAGE PERFORMANCES

26 ARTISTS AND COMPANIES PRESENTED IN HOUSTON

4 STAGES
Jones Hall, Cullen Theater, Zilkha Hall, Miller Outdoor Theater

96 EDUCATION & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

32 DEMONSTRATIONS, LECTURES AND MASTER CLASSES
led by touring artists

50 COLLABORATING PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

99 PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS
throughout the greater Houston area

968 SUBMISSIONS
to the Wells Fargo Student Art Contest (a record!)

MISSION MOMENT

When Preservation Hall’s bassist was delayed, they invited junior Carlos Ortiz of Chavez High School to set up on stage and play with the band during his school’s rehearsal observation. The 2018-19 Season was full of transformative, inspirational opportunities like this one.

“I can’t believe they let me play with them!”

Carlos Ortiz, Chavez High School

NEW INITIATIVES

• New National Geographic LIVE! Series, featuring thought-provoking presentations by today’s leading explorers, scientists and photographers

• The inaugural Student Art Contest Art Sale, raising funds in support of young artists and SPA’s Education & Community programs

• New Choreographer Discussions delivered over the course of the season in partnership with Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, the Menil Collection and Asia Society

• First-ever Family Days and Student Nights, featuring expanded lobby activities prior to presentations of Finding Neverland and Wizard of Oz

• A new collaboration with Harris County and Ballet Hispánico to deliver a week-long program at the Katy Leadership Academy, a youth detention and rehabilitation center