

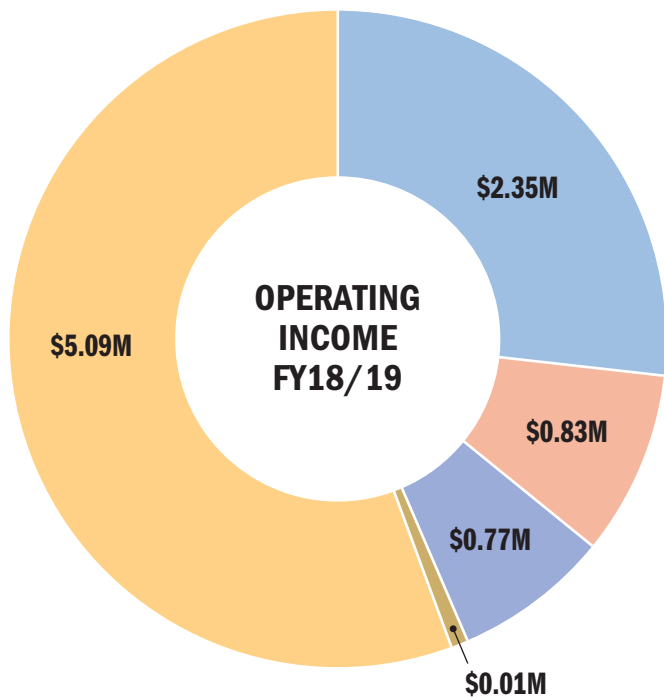


# SINGAPORE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA TURNS 40

Highlights from the Singapore Symphony Group



# INCOME & EXPENDITURE



- Donations & Sponsorship **\$5.09M**
- Ticket Income **\$2.35M**
- Other Income **\$0.83M**
- ABRSM Commission **\$0.77M**
- Rental Income from VCH **\$0.01M**

## Grants for FY18/19

MCCY/NAC	\$12.20M
Tote Board	\$4.00M
Cultural Matching Fund	\$1.29M
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17.49M</b>



**\$2.35M**

Income from ticket sales



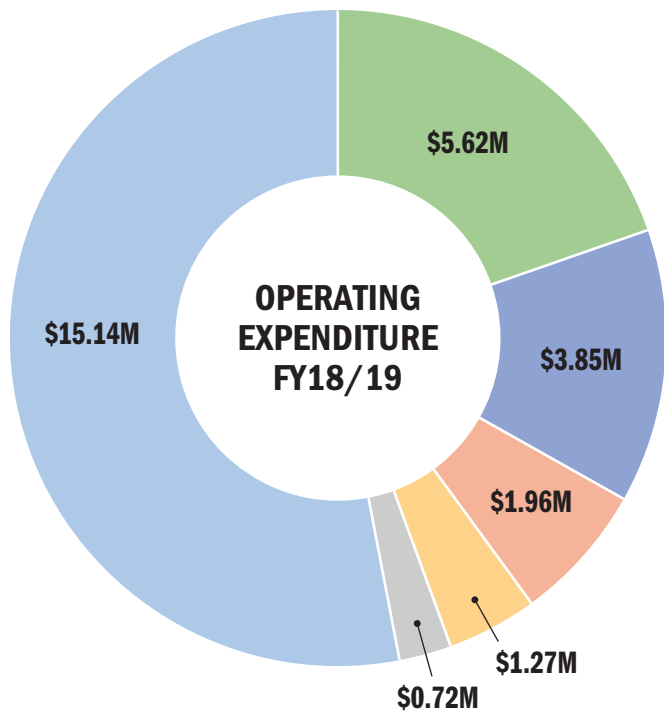
**\$5.09M**

Donations & Sponsorship



**\$17.49M**

Government-related grants



- Staff Costs **\$15.14M**
- Other Operating Costs **\$5.62M**
- Administration Costs **\$3.85M**
- Guest Artists **\$1.96M**
- Marketing & Publicity **\$1.27M**
- Venue Rentals **\$0.72M**

## Financial Performance for FY18/19

Operating Income	\$9.05M
Grants	\$17.49M
Investment Income	\$2.80M
Operating Expenditure	(\$28.56M)
Surplus for the Year	\$0.78M



**51**

SSG admin staff (incl. stage crew & librarians)



**89**

SSO musicians



**79**

Singapore-based freelance musicians



**65**

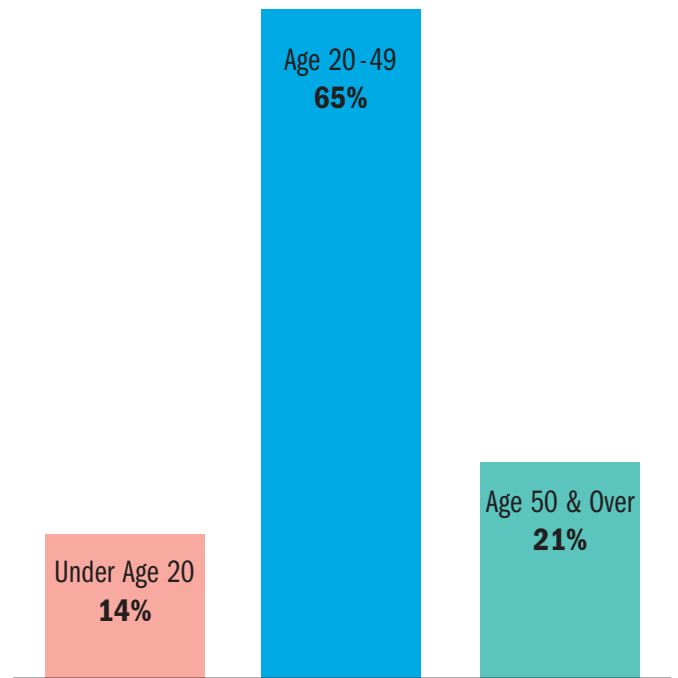
Volunteers

# ENRICHING OUR DIVERSE COMMUNITIES



**80%** are under 50 years old

**26%** are new concertgoers



**AUDIENCE BY AGE**



**208** concerts & events



**75** free concerts & events



**124,604** lives touched

# SHARING THE LOVE FOR MUSIC



Students from schools like Lakeside Primary School and Zhenghua Secondary School have enjoyed our concerts at greatly reduced ticket prices, thanks to our funders and donors.



**8,000** Discounted student tickets



**460** Free tickets for charities & students

Grants from the government, Tote Board and Temasek Foundation enable us to stage **non-ticketed concerts** and keep ticket prices **affordable**.

Private sector donors like John Swire & Sons and Santa Lucia Asset Management help the SSO to extend **further discounts** and **free** tickets to students and underprivileged groups through the **SSO Young Symphony Explorers** initiative. Concertgoers can also do their part when buying tickets by adding a small donation.



We warmly welcomed beneficiaries and health workers from organisations and charities such as Daughters of Tomorrow, The Purple Symphony and St Luke's Hospital to enjoy our concerts.



*“Through the generous support of SSO and its sponsors, SSO has provided immense value in giving our children from diverse backgrounds exposure to the beauty of high-quality classical music experiences.”*

– **Nirmala Murugaian**, Child@St11

*Swire is committed to supporting communities in Singapore. Since 2013, through the SSO, we have brought fine classical music to students and other young people in underprivileged communities, thereby introducing them to cultural performances and appreciation of the arts.*

– **Peter Langslow**,

John Swire & Sons (S.E. Asia) Pte. Ltd



# SSO SEASON HIGHLIGHTS



## 'Side-by-Side' with SNYO

On 15 March 2019, the SSO and the Singapore National Youth Orchestra had their first 'side-by-side' concert, led by SSO Principal Guest Conductor Andrew Litton, featuring violinist Ray Chen.



## Inaugural SSO National Day Concert in August 2018

SSO celebrated Singapore's 53rd birthday with an all-Singaporean National Day Concert at the Esplanade Concert Hall. It showcased homegrown composers, from veteran Phoon Yew Tien to rising young composer Syafiqah 'Adha Mohd Sallehin. It also featured favourite folk songs and a rare version of Dick Lee's "Home", performed with the Singapore Symphony Choruses. The performance was streamed live on Facebook, a first for the orchestra.

SINGAPORE  
SYMPHONY  
ORCHESTRA



**7** Singapore guest artists & soloists



**31** Singapore works performed



## Choo Hoey Celebrates with SSO

Our pioneering maestro and Conductor Emeritus, Choo Hoey, returned to conduct the SSO during the 18/19 season.

## Lan Shui's Farewell Concerts

Lan Shui first conducted the SSO in 1993, performing Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition* and Strauss's *Death and Transfiguration*. In January 1997, the Hangzhou-born conductor became Music Director of the SSO, taking over from founding Music Director Choo Hoey.

In January 2019, Lan Shui stepped down after 22 years at the helm and was accorded the title of Conductor Laureate for his contribution.



# CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF GREAT MUSIC



*The SSO faced many difficulties in the beginning – for example, it had no proper venue for rehearsals. But with hard work and determination, things slowly improved. Today, Singaporeans can enjoy world-class performances by the SSO not only at our concert halls, but also our heartlands, schools, and parks.*

– Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong



## Tracing SSO's History

Celebrating 40 years, exhibition panels showing SSO's milestones were on display at the Victoria Concert Hall Atrium throughout 2019. A special website was also published ([www.sso.org.sg/sso40](http://www.sso.org.sg/sso40)), detailing the history of the orchestra and well wishes from musicians and supporters near and far.



40th Anniversary exhibition panels at the Victoria Concert Hall Atrium

## From Gala Concerts to Community Gigs

2019 was a year of celebrations as the SSO marked its fourth decade.

On 18 January, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong joined us at our **SSO 40th Anniversary Gala Concert**.

On 30 March, the SSO Ladies' League led efforts to raise \$1.16 million through our **40th Anniversary Benefit Dinner**, graced by Deputy Prime Minister Heng Swee Keat.

Throughout the year, the orchestra travelled around the island to entertain residents with familiar favourites. Our **free community concerts** drew enthusiastic turnouts at the MPC@Khatib, Botanic Gardens, Victoria Concert Hall, and Paya Lebar Methodist Girls' School.



(L-R) SSO founding member and violinist Lynnette Seah, Music Director Lan Shui, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, Chairman Goh Yew Lin and CEO Chng Hak-Peng

*SSO has been responsible for much of the transformation of the classical music scene in Singapore.*

– Akshita Nanda,  
The Straits Times

*I've had such a wonderful history with the SSO.*

– Yo-Yo Ma, Cellist



40th Anniversary website - [www.sso.org.sg/sso40](http://www.sso.org.sg/sso40)

# OUR AFFILIATED PERFORMING GROUPS



The Singapore Symphony Children's Choir performed for heads of states at the ASEAN Gala held in Singapore in 2018, including Canadian PM Justin Trudeau.

The Singapore Symphony Group manages the national flagship **Singapore Symphony Orchestra**, the **Singapore Symphony Chorus**, and the **Singapore National Youth Orchestra (SNYO)**.

Through these groups, we create an ecosystem for nurturing talent as well as provide exciting performance opportunities for our budding musicians.

**83** Singapore Symphony Chorus members

**41** Singapore Symphony Youth Chorus members

**196** Singapore Symphony Children's Choir members

**193** Singapore National Youth Orchestra members



Led by SNYO Principal Conductor Joshua Tan, the SNYO toured Guangzhou and Hong Kong in 2018. Members of the SNYO come over 60 schools in Singapore, from Yu Neng Primary School to Ahmad Ibrahim Secondary School.

# SINGAPORE SYMPHONY GROUP

## Vision

A leading arts organisation that engages, inspires and reflects Singapore through musical excellence.

## Mission

We create memorable shared experiences with music. Through the Singapore Symphony Orchestra and its affiliated performing groups, we spread the love for music, nurture talent, and enrich our diverse communities.

## Singapore Symphony Group

Singapore Symphony Orchestra  
Singapore Symphony Chorus  
Singapore Symphony Youth Choir  
Singapore Symphony Children's Choir  
Singapore National Youth Orchestra  
Victoria Concert Hall  
ABRSM

*The Singapore Symphony Group is a charity and not-for-profit organisation. To support us and share the gift of music, please visit [www.sso.org.sg/support-us](http://www.sso.org.sg/support-us).*



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