



ANNUAL REPORT **2021-2022**

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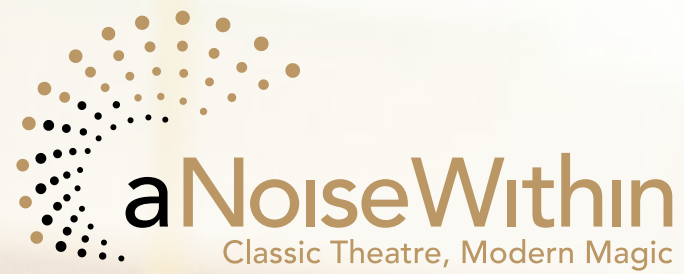
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In Memoriam

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MISSION WHAT DO WE DO?

A Noise Within produces classic theatre as an essential means to enrich our community by embracing universal human experiences, expanding personal awareness, and challenging individual perspectives. Our company of resident and guest artists immerses student and general audiences in timeless, epic stories in an intimate setting.

VISION WHAT ARE OUR IDEALS?

Our most successful art asks our community to question beliefs, focus on relationships, and develop self-awareness. Southern California audiences of all ages and backgrounds build community together while engaging with this most visceral and primal of storytelling techniques. ANW's production of classic theatre includes all plays we believe will be part of our cultural legacy. We interpret these stories through the work of a professional resident company—a group of artists whose work is critical to their community—based on the belief that trust among artists and between artists and audience can only be built through an honest and continuing dialogue. Our plays are buttressed by meaningful supporting programs to create a symphonic theatrical experience for artists and audience.

VALUES WHAT WILL WE FIERCELY DEFEND?

- Artistic excellence means serving the story with integrity
- Classic theatre is an inclusive endeavor, engaging our broadest community by age, gender, ethnicity, physical ability—all people—with universal stories
- Education means eliciting empathy with disparate viewpoints and deepening our students' personal relationship with great literature
- Our resident artist company builds trust that deepens their ability to interpret the work



DEAR FRIENDS,

Our 30th anniversary marked the return of live theatre to A Noise Within. Along with the rest of the global theatrical community, we were forced to remain “dark” for an extended period of time. Thanks to the help of many angels, including our board, our patrons, our staff, and foundation and government support, we have come back artistically energized and with renewed purpose.

Our award winning 2021-22 season closed with Mary Zimmerman's *Metamorphoses*, a challenging and ambitious project during normal times (there is literally a swimming pool onstage!). But given the world we have all been living in—not only due to the pandemic, but to a greater communal awareness of systemic racism and its destructive nature—*Metamorphoses* provided a deeply healing experience for our audiences. We credit this to Ms. Zimmerman's brilliant storytelling ability, as well as the metaphysical power of water as an agent of change. The production was a healing balm for our audiences.

A Noise Within's campus was once again energized by our student audiences with the return of our special student matinees. Having young adults back and impacted by the great classics is both extremely important and exceedingly inspiring for us as a producing organization.

Noise Now, our community engagement program, saw the return of the popular *Latina Christmas Special*. We also partnered with MKM Bollystars and Griot Theatre.

Finally, our 30th Anniversary gala brought us together in person as a community to celebrate A Noise Within's educational outreach programs—including the announcement of a \$1 million endowment toward these efforts. This astounding support was gifted by the Steinmetz Foundation.

We as a community, both globally and locally, have never needed each other more than we do right now. A Noise Within's continuing mission is to provide a safe and inviting space where we can share the greatest stories ever told, and together—joyfully—celebrate our common humanity.

Warmly,

Julia Rodriguez-Elliott and Geoff Elliott
PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTORS

Cover: Nicole Javier from *Metamorphoses*. Photo by Craig Schwartz. Left margin photo by Christopher Alvarez. Background pattern artwork by Dennis S. Juett & Associates Inc. Center photo of Julia Rodriguez-Elliott and Geoff Elliott by Daniel Reichert. Right margin Desean K. Terry in *Seven Guitars*. Photo by Craig Schwartz.

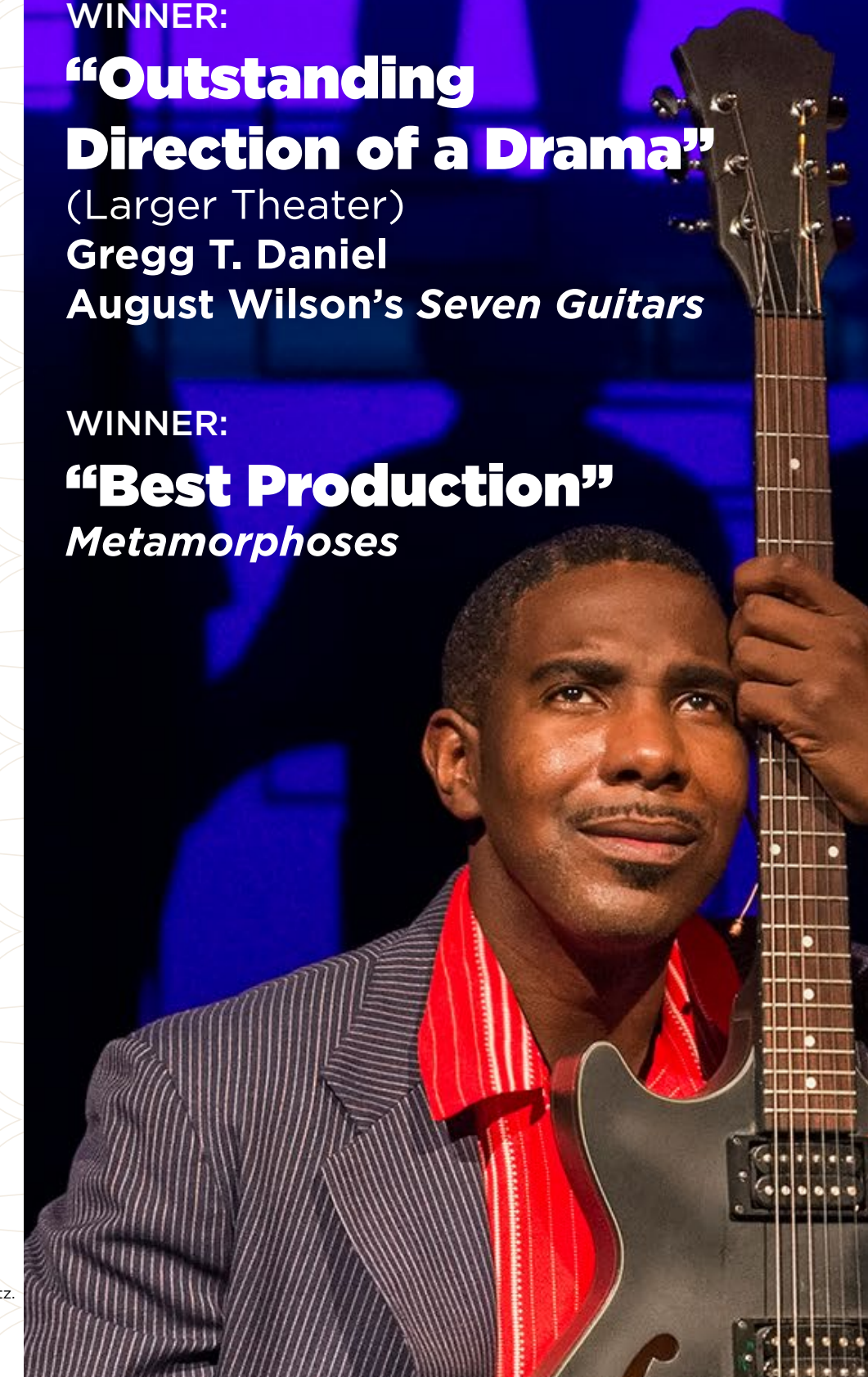
Production Recognition 2021-22 Season

StageRaw
Best Ensemble
Anna in the Tropics

StageScene LA:
WINNER:
**“Outstanding Production
of a Classic Play”**
All's Well That Ends Well

WINNER:
**“Outstanding
Direction of a Drama”**
(Larger Theater)
Gregg T. Daniel
August Wilson's Seven Guitars

WINNER:
“Best Production”
Metamorphoses





They Shattered the **CHRYSA LIS**

SEASON STATS

- 6** Fully Staged Productions
- 45** Actors Onstage
- 22,461** Attendees
- 119** Performances

FALL 2021

“Strang... took center stage to deliver a **tour de force, must-see performance.”**
—*South Pasadena*

Lisa Peterson and Denis O'Hare's
An Iliad
based on Homer's *The Iliad*, translated by Robert Fagles
Directed by Julia Rodriguez-Elliott

Sept. 12-Oct. 3, 2021

“EPIC, CHURNING! An evening of awakening and revelation.”
—*Pasadena Now*

August Wilson's
Seven Guitars
Directed by Gregg T. Daniel
Oct. 17-Nov. 14, 2021

“One of the best events your family can attend during the holiday season.”
—*Examiner*

Charles Dickens'
A Christmas Carol
Adapted for the stage by Geoff Elliott
Directed by Julia Rodriguez-Elliott and Geoff Elliott
Dec. 3-23, 2021

SPRING 2022

“NOT JUST WELL BUT EXCELLENT! Solidly entertaining production [that] boasts a particularly strong core of women.”
—*BroadwayWorld*

William Shakespeare's
All's Well That Ends Well
Directed by Nike Doukas
Feb. 6- March 6, 2022

“A great American play that poetically delivers a fascinating look into a simpler world we will never see again.”
—*TicketHoldersLA*

Nilo Cruz's
Anna in the Tropics
Directed by Jonathan Muñoz-Proulx
March 20 - Apr. 17, 2022

“MESMERIZES... a stunning and captivating production... DON'T MISS IT!”
—*Colorado Boulevard*

Mary Zimmerman's
Metamorphoses
Based on the Myths of Ovid
Directed by Julia Rodriguez-Elliott
May 8 - June 5, 2022



ANW EDUCATION IMPACT

“IT WAS AMAZING! IT MADE ME FEEL SO MANY DIFFERENT EMOTIONS THAT I NEVER KNEW THAT I COULD FEEL.”

—10th grader from Glendora High School

Education puts A Noise Within's mission into action by connecting students, educators, and the community with classic theatre and modern magic. In a typical year, ANW enriches the lives of 18,000 students at our theatre, online, and in classrooms around Southern California. When the pandemic necessitated closures, Education was the first of our departments to pivot to digital, offering a wide range of distance-learning theatre arts programs at a time when students, parents, and teachers needed us most. As always, our programs primarily served low-income schools.



2021-22 PROGRAMMING



7,598

STUDENTS & TEACHERS SERVED



1,598 STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOLARSHIPS



45 SCHOOLS FROM 13 SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN 3 COUNTIES



11 STUDENT MATINEES



14,500

STUDENTS & TEACHERS SERVED



3,000 STUDENTS TO RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS



100 SCHOOLS FROM 30 SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN 5 COUNTIES



24 STUDENT MATINEES



OUR COMMITMENT

2 REDMOND STAGE EVENTS | **5 RESIDENCIES** | **1,000 PATRONS SERVED**

2021-22 NOISE NOW PARTNERS:

**Griot Theatre | MKM Bollystars Dance Company | The Resonance Collective
TheatreWorkers Project | Towne Street Theatre**

Noise Now is an enhanced commitment to being of service to all audiences, an opportunity to expand our family by engaging with our neighboring communities and peer organizations, and an initiative for building stronger relationships as we demonstrate our eagerness to listen well and respond courageously. Through these collaborative interdisciplinary partnerships, we strive to celebrate underrepresented populations, communities of color, young people, and all others not equitably represented in the theatre. Our stages have always been a space for healing, and connecting over universal human stories has never been more necessary.

FEATURED PARTNERS:

The Conference of the Birds: based on Sufi mystic poet Attar's seminal text about the journey of the soul as it seeks union with the Divine. Composed by Fahad Siadat with a libretto by Sholeh Wolpé and directed/choreographed by André Megerdichian, *The Conference of the Birds* tells the story of the birds of the world, who embark on a journey to find their king, the Simurgh, a divine, mythical creature. Traveling through The Seven Valleys, the birds follow the spiritual trials of the Sufi path as they journey to the Simurgh's door. In partnership with The Resonance Collective, the cast and crew of *The Conference of the Birds* presented selections and scenes from the oratorio.

External Forces: Greek Tragedy Travels to the 21st Century: Experience a retelling of classic Greek tragedies through the lens of Towne Street Theatre, Los Angeles' premiere African-American Theatre Company. This production of short plays explores drama, humor, love, and loss spanning from the Civil War to modern-day America. Experience engaging, complex, and rich stories showcasing diverse and brave voices.



EQUITY, DIVERSITY, INCLUSION, AND ANTI-RACISM

ANW is committed to the lifelong work of Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Anti-Racism (EDIA), which includes an ongoing analysis of how we work, what we put onstage, and audience experiences at our theatre. Over the past few seasons, we've taken several steps towards advancing these core institutional priorities. Our 2021-22 initiatives included bi-weekly staff meetings to discuss the systemic changes we'd like to see implemented throughout every level of the organization; a vastly expanded approach to community-representative marketing and engagement; the creation of an EDIA Onboarding video for our volunteer ushers (*pictured, right*); and the continued, intentional expansion of our Staff, Board, and Resident Artist Company.



For a more comprehensive look at our approach, please visit anoisewithin.org/equity-diversity-inclusion-at-anw/

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF EDUCATION AT A NOISE WITHIN



30TH ANNIVERSARY GALA
TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2022

More than 180 guests joined us at the theatre in May 2022 for our 30th Anniversary Gala—our first in-person gala since 2019! The event, “Dinner Under the Stars,” took place on the theatre’s front lawn and featured performances from throughout the 2021-22 Season. Throughout the night, we celebrated the outstanding impact of our Education Program as well as the incredible support of our entire community; honorees were longtime Resident Artist, Deborah Strang (the Chuck and Bette Redmond Legacy Award) and our dear friends from Capital Group (the Community Matters Award).

The Gala was a smashing success, raising more than \$280,000 for ANW’s Education Program, while attendees were the first to hear that the Steinmetz Foundation had contributed the company’s inaugural endowment gift: \$1 million to support the Education Program in perpetuity. This generous contribution launches ANW into our next 30 years with remarkable investment and support from our community.

We were so grateful to be back at the theatre to celebrate with you all and look forward to seeing you this May for our 2022-23 Gala!



SPECIAL THANKS TO THE INCROWD

A Noise Within gratefully acknowledges the generosity of our donors.
The following represent donors of \$125 or more between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022.

DONOR LISTING

SEASON SPONSOR (\$25,000+)			
Heather & Paul Haaga Richard & Sally Roberts		James & Treveesa Terrile Robert & Ann Ronus	Anonymous (2)
PRODUCING SPONSOR (\$12,500 TO \$24,999)			
Dr. Patricia Hoppe Bill & Priscilla Kennedy*		Terri Murray Robert Ronus	Anonymous
SPONSOR (\$4,000 TO \$5,999)			
Peter & Molly Bachmann* Bill & Claire Bogaard Kathy & Jim Drummy Sharon & Rick Ellingsen Paul Gamberg		Jeanie & Terry Kay* Alan M. & Sheila R. Lamson* Jay Lesiger & Tom Klebba Joseph & Denise Lumarda Anne Marston & Jan Paul Favero	Tieu-My Nguyen & Chris Burt Elizabeth & Rhodes Trussell Lee & Deborah Walcott Joyce A. White*
ADVOCATES (\$750 TO \$1,249)			
Jeannine & John Ballister David Baltimore & Alice Huang B. Barton & J. Dawson* Vince Beggs Christopher Berry Ken Booth & Gigi Garcia Bill & Susan Boyd Alec Brooks & Carol Samek Jim Brunet & Anne Pautler Patricia Jean Burg Susan Burnett Dr. Norm Cadman & Eloise Cadman Darrell Carr & Susan Toler Carr Sherie Carroll Wendy Chang Alfred Clark & Rebecca Reagan Rosa Cumare Douglas Duno & James Walker Stephen Dyer Cynthia Edwards Malik B. El-Amin & Kelsey Scott Fred & Sandy Engler Judith Enright*, in Honor of Philip Saeta Elizabeth A. Evans Prudence Fenton Walt Fidler	Kay & Fred Findley Craig & Yvonne Flint* David D. Fox & Diane R. Morrison Carole Fritz Ralph Goldstein & Barbara Comoe, in Memory of Richard & Nina Comoe & Ted & Estelle Goldstein Richard & Ruth Goldstein*, in Honor of Eugene Stein Manny Grace Steven Green Sheila Grether-Marion & Mark Marion Diane Grohulski Richard & Ruth Halverstadt David Hanpeter* Perry & Marina Herman Jaime Hernandez* Melinda Herrold-Menzies & Nick Menzies Bill & Leni Hultstrom Nan & Bill Johnson, in Honor of Miranda Johnson-Haddad Mark Haddad & Miranda Johnson-Haddad Veralyn Jones Thomas Kallay* Loma Karklins John & Leann Arcia Deanna Lohse Warren & Rose Chan Loui	Bob Low, in honor of wife Anni Frandsen Low, Ph.D. Marilyn McKay* Rob McManus Tanya Mink & James Collier Allan & Susan Mohrman Esther Mott Dr. & Mrs. Arnold Mulder Michael M. Mullins & James A. Newman Mishele & Benjamin Myers* Scott Myers Michael & Marianne Newman Janice Ohta & Fred Weiss Jessie & Nathan Okelberry Rebecca Omahen Michael R. Oppenheim* Glenn Orton & Linda Brown Cheryl & Tom Palfrey Leni Richardson Sally & Brian Rivera John & Jennifer Robinson Peter Robinson Sarah Rogers Dr. Ellen Rothenberg, in Memory of Jerome Rothenberg Elan Ruskin Jane W. Schlegel	George & Carolyn Seitz William Shepherd & Arthur Fisher Beverly & Brydon Shirk Robert & Laurie Silton Jeff Simmonds & Valerie Duval* Mike & Peggy Sloan Patricia & Lawrence Sparks Richard Stadler* Eliazar Talamantez* John D. Taylor Shivani Thakkar Charlene & Vernon Tolo* Takao Tomono Christine Upton Jorge & Guadalupe Uribe Stephanie Vassallo, in Honor of Joseph Vassallo Stennis & Joanne Waldon Greg & Beth Weisman Laurie & Stan Whitcomb Ian & Barbara White-Thomson* Jim & Lynn Winegarden William Wirshing Nancy Wischhusen* John Zaylor

*Indicates ProducerPass holders who have generously paid double the cost of their season pass to support the full cost of theatre operations.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR INSTITUTIONAL FUNDERS

Thank you to the following institutions who support A Noise Within’s operations, education, artistic development, and other special projects. The following represents institutional donors of \$500 or more between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022. If you are interested in the benefits of institutional giving or sponsorship, please contact Zach Davidson, Assistant Director of Development, at zdavidson@anoisewithin.org or 626.356.3114.

INSTITUTIONAL FUNDER LISTING

SEASON SPONSORS

The Ahmanson Foundation	The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation
Cal OSBA	The Steinmetz Foundation
The Capital Group Charitable Foundation	U.S. Small Business Administration

PRODUCING SPONSORS

Ann Peppers Foundation	National Endowment for the Arts
David Lee Foundation	The Rose Hills Foundation
Dwight Stuart Youth Fund	The Shubert Foundation

SPONSORS

BCM Foundation	Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors & Los Angeles
The California Wellness Foundation	County Department of Arts and Culture
The Green Foundation	Michael J. Connell Foundation
Helen and Will Webster Foundation	Sally and Dick Roberts Coyote Foundation
The Kenneth T. & Eileen L. Norris Foundation	Shakespeare in American Communities: National
	Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest

DIRECTOR CIRCLE

City of Pasadena Cultural Affairs Division	Michael & Irene Ross Endowment Fund of the Jewish
Crawford Family Foundation	Community Foundation of Los Angeles
Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger	Pasadena Community Foundation
Mara W. Breech Foundation	The Youssef and Kamel Mawardi Fund

PLAYWRIGHT CIRCLE

Maria’s Italian Kitchen	Rotary Club of Pasadena Foundation
MonteCedro Inc.	

ARTIST CIRCLE

Caplin Foundation

ADVOCATES

It Takes a Village Kids	Paycom
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FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Led by sheer resilience and our mission to produce great theatre in Southern California, last season we returned triumphantly to the Redmond Stage—resuming in-person productions and holding our annual Gala under the stars.

Like theaters across the US in the fall of 2021, we got off to a slow start last year with some patrons skittish about returning to the theatre. We saw ticket sales pick up in the spring and students returning to student matinees and our popular Summer With Shakespeare Camp. Overall, 2021-22 season ticket sales were down by 44 percent from pre-pandemic levels. Yet, despite an extended absence due to the COVID outbreak, we closed the year on solid financial footing thanks to the \$1.5 million in COVID government support and a \$1 million gift from the Steinmetz Foundation that kicked off our ANW Education Endowment Fund, and thanks to support of our wonderful contributors and subscribers.

We are optimistic and extremely grateful for the impact these outstanding one-time donations will continue to have on ANW in the next months and years.

However, it should be noted that these one-time gifts are just that, “one-time,” which is why we are committed to building our audience, donor, partner, and sponsor communities. The lingering repercussions of the pandemic continue to threaten the financial health of the performing arts community in Southern California, especially in theaters.

We will continue to make strategic calls when interests and actions shift, just like everyone else in the Pasadena area committed to preserving the art and brilliance for which the city is recognized. We are working tirelessly to prepare for unexpected challenges and using prudent financial management to keep our working capital intact, along with fostering growth. Based on the escalating trend in ticket sales, we have nothing but confidence in a full-strength return to our long history of financial stability.

As we sit here in the spring of 2023, we are encouraged by record-setting ticket sales from *A Christmas Carol* as well as record sales for *Much Ado About Nothing*. While we are working to recover from COVID impacts, we are encouraged that our programs resonate with our audiences and that we have momentum towards greater financial strength to match our artistic and educational work. Thank you for being a part of our journey.

Sincerely,
Maryellen H. Gleason
INTERIM MANAGING DIRECTOR

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (IN DOLLARS)		
	JUNE 30,	
ASSETS	2022	2021
Cash and cash equivalents	3,112,957	1,682,780
Accounts and Other Receivable	5,102	241,257
Contributions receivable, net of allowance of \$3,398	63,629	212,263
Prepaid expenses and other assets	32,492	18,913
Deferred compensation investments	359,345	373,650
Property and equipment, net	10,154,926	10,375,983
Total Assets	13,728,451	12,904,846
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	129,961	47,944
Deferred revenue	273,688	401,171
Deferred compensation liability	359,345	373,650
Long-term obligations	102,657	721,086
Total Liabilities	865,651	1,543,851
NET ASSETS		
Without Donor Restrictions		
Undesignated	11,480,627	10,697,772
Board designated—plant fund	398,601	350,212
Total Without Donor Restrictions	11,879,228	11,047,984
With Donor Restrictions	983,572	313,011
Total Net Assets	12,862,800	11,360,995
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	13,728,451	12,904,846



PHOTO BY BRIAN HASHIMOTO.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES (IN DOLLARS)						
	YEAR ENDED JUNE 30,					
	2022			2021		
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
REVENUES AND SUPPORT						
REVENUES						
Ticket sales	1,023,013	-	1,023,013	24,672	-	24,672
Education programs	150,565	-	150,565	99,838	-	99,838
Other income	10,183	-	10,183	16,249	-	16,249
	140,759	-	140,759	140,759	-	140,759
SUPPORT						
Contributions and grants	1,462,879	1,071,529	2,534,408	1,301,937	266,476	1,568,413
Special event, net	1,518,850	-	1,518,850	853,452	-	853,452
Interest income	209,373	-	209,373	144,102	-	144,102
	(5,580)	(87,957)	(93,537)	2,299,491	266,476	2,565,967
NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTIONS	313,011	(313,011)	-	62,480	(62,480)	-
Total revenues and support	4,682,294	670,561	5,352,855	2,502,730	203,996	2,706,726
EXPENSES						
PROGRAM						
Theatre productions	1,853,737	-	1,853,737	813,886	-	813,886
Education programs	1,048,143	-	1,048,143	426,931	-	426,931
	2,901,880	-	2,901,880	1,240,817	-	1,240,817
SUPPORTING SERVICES						
General and administrative expenses	286,441	-	286,441	219,145	-	219,145
Fundraising and development costs	282,793	-	282,793	218,941	-	218,941
	569,234	-	569,234	438,086	-	438,086
Total expenses before depreciation and interest	3,471,114	-	3,471,114	1,678,903	-	1,678,903
Change in net assets before depreciation and interest	1,211,180	670,561	1,881,741	824,173	203,996	1,028,169
Depreciation	(365,080)	-	(365,080)	(359,628)	-	(359,628)
Interest	(14,856)	-	(14,856)	(16,627)	-	(16,627)
NET CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	831,244	670,561	1,501,805	447,918	203,996	651,914
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	11,047,984	313,011	11,360,995	10,600,066	109,015	10,709,081
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	11,879,228	983,572	12,862,800	11,047,984	313,011	11,360,995



ANW HAS ACHIEVED THE HIGHEST “4-STAR” RATING WITH CHARITY NAVIGATOR, AND THE GUIDESTAR PLATINUM RATING DEMONSTRATING ANW’S COMMITMENT TO SOUND FISCAL MANAGEMENT AND TRANSPARENCY.



A man with short brown hair, wearing sunglasses and a dark blue short-sleeved shirt with a white geometric pattern, is sitting on a blue and yellow inflatable chair in a swimming pool. He is looking towards the camera. The background shows the pool's edge and some foliage.

THANK YOU

Thank you for supporting A Noise Within during these difficult times.

Your generosity has saved and strengthened us during what many arts organizations have described as “an existential threat.” For that, we are eternally grateful.

Now, we hope that you will donate as we turn our sights towards the future. Your support is critical as we stabilize, and celebrate all that you have enabled us to do over the past 30 seasons!

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#)




 **aNoiseWithin**
Classic Theatre, Modern Magic

Photo (from left to right) Amir Abdullah, Veralyn Jones, Kevin Jackson, De Juan Christopher, and Cherish Monique Duke in *Seven Guitars*. Photo by Craig Schwartz.