



**sydney symphony
orchestra**

David Robertson
Chief Conductor and Artistic Director

2015 ANNUAL REPORT



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SSO 2015

MUSICIANS

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Chief Conductor and
Artistic Director
Sponsored by Emirates
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Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO

JESSICA COTTIS

Assistant Conductor
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Concertmaster

DENE OLDING

Concertmaster

FIRST VIOLINS

Sun Yi
Associate Concertmaster
Kirsten Williams
Associate Concertmaster
Lerida Delbridge
Assistant Concertmaster
Fiona Ziegler
Assistant Concertmaster
Jennifer Booth
Brielle Clapson
Sophie Cole
Amber Davis
Claire Herrick
Georges Lentz
Nicola Lewis
Emily Long
Alexandra Mitchell
Alexander Norton
Léone Ziegler

SECOND VIOLINS

Marina Marsden
Principal
Kirsty Hilton
Principal
Marianne Broadfoot
Associate Principal
Emma Jezek
Assistant Principal
Maria Durek
Emma Hayes
Shuti Huang
Stan W Kornel
Benjamin Li
Nicole Masters
Philippa Paige
Biyana Rozenblit
Maja Verunica

VIOLAS

Roger Benedict
Principal
Tobias Breider
Principal
Anne Louise Comerford
Associate Principal
Justin Williams
Assistant Principal
Sandro Costantino
Rosemary Curtin
Jane Hazelwood
Graham Hennings
Stuart Johnson
Justine Marsden
Felicity Tsai
Amanda Verner
Leonid Volovelsky

CELLOS

Umberto Clerici
Principal
Catherine Hewgill
Principal
Leah Lynn
Assistant Principal
Kristy Conrau
Fenella Gill
Timothy Nankervis
Elizabeth Neville
Christopher Pidcock
Adrian Wallis
David Wickham

DOUBLE BASES

Kees Boersma
Principal
Alex Henery
Principal
Neil Brawley
Principal Emeritus
David Campbell
Steven Larson
Richard Lynn
David Murray
Benjamin Ward

HARP

Louise Johnson
Principal

FLUTES

Janet Webb
Principal
Emma Sholl
Associate Principal
Carolyn Harris

PICCOLO

Rosamund Plummer
Principal

OBOES

Diana Doherty
Principal
Shefali Pryor
Associate Principal
David Papp

COR ANGLAIS

Alexandre Oguey
Principal

CLARINETS

Lawrence Dobell
Principal
Francesco Celata
Associate Principal
Christopher Tingay

BASS CLARINET

Craig Wernicke
Principal

BASSOONS

Matthew Wilkie
Principal
Fiona McNamara

CONTRABASSOON

Noriko Shimada
Principal

HORNS

Robert Johnson
Principal
Ben Jacks
Principal
Geoff O'Reilly
Principal 3rd
Euan Harvey
Marnie Sebire
Rachel Silver

TRUMPETS

David Elton
Principal
Paul Goodchild
Associate Principal
Anthony Heinrichs

TROMBONES

Ronald Prussing
Principal
Scott Kinmont
Associate Principal
Nick Byrne

BASS TROMBONE

Christopher Harris
Principal

TUBA

Steve Rossé
Principal

TIMPANI

Richard Miller
Principal
Mark Robinson
Assistant Principal
Timpani/Tutti Percussion

PERCUSSION

Rebecca Lagos
Principal
Tim Constable

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

In 2015 the Sydney Symphony Orchestra performed more than 179 concerts and more than 100 unique programs to more than 286,000 people.

SYDNEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA SUBSCRIPTION, CLASSICAL SPECIAL AND COMMERCIAL PERFORMANCES

- The Sydney Symphony Orchestra presented 144 concerts in the Sydney Opera House, City Recital Hall Angel Place and State Theatre to a total paid attendance of 226,782 patrons. This includes commercial activities (20 performances).
- A further 19 performances were dedicated to Chamber Music (14) and Regional Touring (5), with a paid attendance of 4,225 patrons.

COMMERCIAL COLLABORATIONS

The Sydney Symphony Orchestra plans its seasons well in advance. Acknowledging that opportunities to perform in collaboration with popular commercial artists require a shorter planning window, the Company allocates a percentage of available orchestral playing time to these projects.

This work is undertaken with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra either taking the role of presenter or as a 'band for hire'.

In 2015 the Sydney Symphony performed 8 events in 20 concerts in this category which attracted 33,954 attendees.

SERIES	NO. OF PERFORMANCES	NO OF PROGRAMS	PAID OCCUPANCY
Master series	27	9	46,571
Thursday afternoon symphony	9	9	17,752
Emirates metro series	8	8	14,274
Meet the music	8	8	16,978
Kaleidoscope	8	4	15,931
Great classics	7	7	13,672
Tea & symphony	8	8	16,240
Mondays @ 7	5	5	8,181
Discovery program	4	4	3,970
International pianists in recital	4	4	4,112
Mozart in the city	4	4	4,093
Special events	13	8	26,829
Chamber and regional tours	19	12	4,225
Commercial concerts	20	8	33,954
TOTAL	144	98	226,782



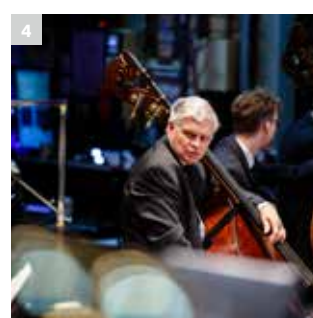
*Overall more than
30,500 people connected
with the Sydney
Symphony Orchestra
through its learning and
engagement activities.*

THE EDUCATION PROGRAM

- 13,564 school children, aged four to 18, and their teachers attended one of 32 schools concerts across greater Sydney, Albury, Wagga Wagga and Griffith.
- Ten Education programs were delivered in regional areas in conjunction with the SSO's touring activities in Albury, Wagga Wagga and Griffith, and the SSO's pop-up music camp Playerlink.
- Four open rehearsals were held at the Sydney Opera House for 818 students and their lecturers. On the SSO's international tour to Korea, David Robertson led a day-long workshop at the Seoul National University where approximately 90 music students worked with 16 SSO musicians.
- Under a new MOU between the SSO and the Shanghai Orchestra Academy, the SSO's Concertmaster Andrew Haveron visited the Academy in Shanghai to hold masterclasses with the students. He selected four players who then visited Sydney for a 10-day performance residency with the SSO.
- Eight Playerlink activities were held in 2015, in Bellingen, Coffs Harbour and Thora, regional NSW, connecting with 160 local musicians of all ages and their teachers.
- The Emerging Artists Program engaged 50 young musicians aged 18-30. Fourteen musicians were selected for the SSO Fellowship, a full-time year-long orchestral training program, and 36 were selected for the SSO Sinfonia, a part-time mentoring orchestra.
- The 2015 SSO Fellowship ensemble presented 23 performances and workshops in Sydney and regional NSW to a combined audience of 2,614. The 2015 SSO Sinfonia performed four Discovery concerts at City Recital Hall, Sydney to a combined audience of 3,970.
- Fifteen professional learning workshops were held across NSW, attracting 1,155 teachers, who were also provided additional classroom lesson material for use throughout the year.
- Teaching resources were created for 48 orchestral works and delivered in digital format to infant, primary and secondary teachers across NSW.
- Twelve Meet the Music programs were delivered in a new format tailored to the two different Stage Six HSC music courses, with an emphasis on attending live performances of new Australian works. One of these performances was by popular singer-songwriter Josh Pyke, who played new arrangements of his works by 10 emerging Australian composers commissioned by the SSO.
- The five-day intensive training residency for teachers, TunED-Up!, was increased from one to two, and trained 49 primary school teachers from across NSW to become confident and effective music educators.
- Overall more than 30,500 people connected with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra through its learning and engagement activities, spanning concerts to special school performances, teacher training and orchestral workshops.

TOURING AND OUTREACH

- The Sydney Symphony Orchestra performed at two free outdoor concerts in 2015:
 - Symphony in the Domain on 18 January – 23,727
 - Parramatta Park on 14 March – 6,000
- On its annual Regional Tour, the Sydney Symphony Orchestra performed in Albury, Wagga Wagga and Griffith to a total audience of 1,402.
- The Sydney Symphony Orchestra also gave concerts in Orange and Wollongong.
- Further solidifying its role as the premier orchestra of the Asia Pacific, the SSO undertook a major international tour to China and South Korea with David Robertson.
- 25 Sydney Symphony performances were broadcast on ABC Classic FM in 2015, and six concerts were sent to the European Broadcasting Union .
- The SSO became the first professional orchestra and resident company at the Sydney Opera House to be projected live in concert onto the sails of the building in 2015 in the *Visions of Vienna* project. Footage of the sails was live streamed on the SSO YouTube channel to audiences across the world, with the video-on-demand footage attracting more than 24,000 views [at the time of compilation for this report].
- SSO Live released one disc in 2015 – Gustav Holst's *The Planets* with the SSO's Chief Conductor and Artistic Director David Robertson.
- The SSO recorded and released the entirety of David Robertson's Opera in Concert production of *Tristan und Isolde* on its YouTube channel, accumulating 7,549 views.
- In 2015 the Sydney Symphony's mobile app attracted a total of 44,483 views and was downloaded 2,640 times.
- Recognising the increasing demand for digital content, the SSO launched its own news site, Backstage News+, featuring the latest news, video and galleries from the orchestra.
- In 2015, the SSO continued its award-winning Music4health Program which sees SSO musicians perform in retirement homes and hospitals throughout Sydney and NSW. An ensemble from the SSO performed for the Autism Advisory and Support Service in Mt Pritchard.



The SSO became the first professional orchestra and resident company at the Sydney Opera House to be projected live in concert onto the sails of the building in 2015.

IMAGES / 1. Audience applaud the SSO. 2. Sydney Opera House sails lit up for the SSO Visions of Vienna concert. 3. SSO musicians Sophie Cole, First Violin, Carolyn Harris, Flute, Ronald Prussing, Principal Trombone and Shuti Huang, Second Violin, on tour with the SSO in Beijing 4. Neil Brawley, Principal Emeritus Double Bass. 5. Nicola Crowe, 2015 Flute Fellow, and Owen Morris, 2015 Trumpet Fellow, with NSW school students at the launch of the Sydney Airport and SSO partnership announcement.





CHAIRMAN'S PERSPECTIVES



These are dynamic times at the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. As I look back on 2015, it seemed to fly by. We were treated to outstanding performances of the Schumann symphonies at the season start, Wagner's *Tristan und Isolde* in June and Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* in October conducted by David Robertson in his second

season as our Chief Conductor and Artistic Director. Exciting guest soloists entertained throughout the year, ranging from Christian Tetzlaff playing Widmann to Yuja Wang playing Brahms and Anne-Sophie Mutter performing Dvořák masterfully. The season was capped off with the return of Edo de Waart, one the SSO's favourite former conductors, presenting Mozart and Elgar.

Under David Robertson's leadership, the SSO enjoyed spectacular receptions everywhere it performed this season – from the Sydney Opera House and City Recital Hall in Sydney, throughout regional NSW and in Asia, at the spectacular National Centre for Performing Arts in Beijing to the sonorous Seoul Arts Centre in South Korea.

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I am delighted to support this fine endeavour that is the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. It was an honour to be appointed Chairman mid-year, and I thank my fellow Directors for their trust. So it's a privilege to present these reflections on the 2015 Season.

Sydney is a great city, so it's appropriate that it has a great orchestra. We can be enormously proud of our talented musicians, and that the already strong ensemble is attracting special new talent. They have chosen an energetic, charismatic and articulate Chief Conductor in David Robertson, who is building on the success of the Vladimir Ashkenazy years. Moreover, we enjoy the leadership and acumen of Managing Director Rory Jeffes and his executive group. I acknowledge and thank the whole SSO team for their commitment, enthusiasm and energy that underpins the special performances our audiences have grown to expect and appreciate.

Oscar Wilde once said that "anyone who lives within their means suffers from a lack of imagination." He's wrong vis-à-vis the SSO – we need to do both. The SSO does enjoy the creativity and spirit so

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necessary for excellent artistic endeavour, but it also husbands its resources carefully to make sure we can continue to delight and inspire tomorrow. Unfortunately, the company recorded a financial deficit of 2% of income this year, after four years of small surpluses. This highlights the fragile balance of sustainability that needs to be managed between ambitious artistic performance aspirations, expanded audience offerings, education and community outreach, and touring commitments. While we are restless to improve, grow and develop, we need to balance those aspirations with our supporters' financial realities and pace our initiatives at a digestible rate. The company is crafting the 2016 and 2017 season offerings to seek a modest surplus each year.

The Orchestra appreciates greatly the assistance from the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, and the New South Wales Government through Arts NSW. On behalf of the Board and the entire company, I thank them for their ongoing and invaluable foundation support.

We acknowledge also our generous sponsors, patrons and donors and thank them all for their wonderful support during the year, without which we couldn't stretch to surprise and delight.

Thanks also to my fellow directors for their efforts during the year. I am most grateful for their wisdom, judgement, and insight. I particularly thank my predecessor as Chairman, John Conde AO, who stepped down from the Board at the AGM in May 2015, after eight

years in that role. His dedication and leadership of the organisation over that period has seen the organisation flourish to become the world-class orchestra that it is today. We also note the enormous and generous contribution made to the Orchestra over many years by Andrew Kaldor AM, who stepped down from the Board at the same time. The Board now enjoys fresh contributions from two new directors bringing much needed skills to the Board, namely Andrew Baxter with a depth of marketing and digital world experience, and Karen Moses who brings public company finance and strategic expertise.

Our community has every right to be immensely proud of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and everyone who is part of it. The SSO is central to the cultural and musical life of Sydney. It's not a nice to have, it's a must have. It is inspiring to view our audiences passionately enjoying music presented by such a world-class orchestra – and we look forward to continuing this relationship in the years ahead.

Terry Arcus AM



CHAIRMAN

DAVID ROBERTSON CHIEF CONDUCTOR AND ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

"In my second year as Chief Conductor and Artistic Director of the Sydney Orchestra, I continued to be amazed by the inspired artistry of the musicians of this great orchestra. From opening the season with the Schumann symphonies and Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, through participating in a worldwide digital presentation of *The Planets* for Earth Hour, our third instalment of the Opera in Concert with *Tristan und Isolde* to the incredibly transcendent performances of Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis*, we demonstrated how important and enriching is the mission of this orchestra. I was so gratified to see the continuing artistic trajectory of our musicians as demonstrated in our second international tour together, performing in some of the most sophisticated concert halls in China and South Korea. I'm honoured to continue my partnership with this incredible orchestra at the beginning of my third year."





MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT



“This was the second season of David Robertson’s tenure as Chief Conductor and Artistic Director, and saw the deepening of his relationship with the orchestra ...”

IMAGE / Chief Conductor and Artistic Director David Robertson with SSO musicians and students from the Seoul National University in South Korea.

Sydney Symphony Orchestra’s 2015 season saw ambitious artistic projects both in Sydney and on tour, as well as innovative media initiatives targeted at sharing the orchestra’s outstanding performances with global audiences, further expanding its reputation as one of the world’s leading orchestras. This was the second season of David Robertson’s tenure as Chief Conductor and Artistic Director, and saw the deepening of his relationship with the orchestra and its audiences through compelling performances across a wide swath of the great symphonic repertoire.

A season of significant artistic achievement, 2015 was also a year when the orchestra made an operating deficit, after four years of surpluses. This was despite a continued pattern of strong ticket sales, with 226,782 tickets sold during the course of the season. The year saw a transition in the structure and approach to programming and performances in partnership with commercial presenters which had resulted in a reduction in the opportunities available during the year. This was a response to a reduction in concert paid attendance to this segment of our presentations of 20% and this was the primary driver of the deficit result. While total tickets sold were down by 3% as compared to 2014 across all categories, they were up by 1% when these commercial concert activities are excluded. The changes to how we approach commercial activities implemented during 2015 are already demonstrating a significantly improved

performance and I am confident this will provide a strong basis for the Company to return to surplus in 2016.

The season began in spectacular fashion, with a sold-out Vienna New Year’s concert projected live onto the sails of the Sydney Opera House and broadcast live around Circular Quay. While Sydneysiders marvelled at the sound and images and waltzed around Campbell’s Cove, audiences worldwide could tune in to the live stream of the concert via the SSO’s YouTube channel. The orchestra would continue its exploration of the possibilities of live concert streaming in a global ‘Earth Hour’ project, led by David Robertson, which allowed pop-up orchestras worldwide to play alongside the SSO’s performance of Holst’s *The Planets* at the Sydney Opera House.

David Robertson began his 2015 performances with committed and stylish performances of the complete symphonies of Robert Schumann, turning the orchestra’s focus on this great but underperformed German Romantic symphonic master, while performances of Widmann, Boulez and the premiere of a newly-commissioned Australian work by the orchestra’s own world-renowned violinist-composer Georges Lentz showed the flexibility of both David Robertson and the SSO over a range of contemporary styles. Closing his first period with the musicians were deeply powerful performances pairing Act 3 of Alban Berg’s devastating opera *Wozzeck* with the

great, redemptive statement of Beethoven's Symphony No. 9. His return to Sydney in June saw a signature highlight of the season in Wagner's epic *Tristan und Isolde*, featuring great international and Australian singers and specially commissioned video projections accompanying the performances. These concerts showed the orchestra in outstanding form, and were captured in HD video and audio, then shared with global audiences through on-demand streaming via the orchestra's YouTube channel.

David Robertson led his second major tour to Asia in 2015, returning for a sold-out performance at Beijing's National Centre for the Performing Arts with Peter Serkin as soloist, followed by three concerts in Daegu and Seoul, Korea, with star soloists Vadim Repin and Yundi Li joining the orchestra. Along the way, the orchestra undertook community engagement work, with outreach chamber music concerts in three schools across Beijing and workshops at Seoul National University, where David Robertson led a working rehearsal with their student orchestra on Mendelssohn's 'Italian' Symphony, eliciting spirited and enthusiastic playing from the young artists.

The year saw the return of many world-class collaborators to the SSO, including a veritable who's who of the world's greatest violinists: Christian Tetzlaff, Janine Jansen, Anne-Sophie Mutter, Gil Shaham, Adele Anthony, Isabelle Faust and Anthony Marwood, as well as our own concertmaster, Andrew Haveron, in stunning performances of the Walton Violin Concerto. The orchestra also welcomed pianists Louis Lortie, Kirill Gerstein, Simon Trpčeski, Peter Serkin and the phenomenally gifted Yuja Wang; cellists Daniel Müller-Schott and Australian Yelien He; and two legends from the popular music realm,

Michael Williams, were presented in collaboration with the NZSO in unique, cross-Tasman ANZAC centenary concerts, led by Richard Gill, and featuring the Gondwana Chorale performing alongside young singers from Turkey, New Zealand and France, and featuring Turkish-Australian soprano Ayse Goknur Shanal. And two significant commissions from great Australian composers each had strong SSO connections. The first featured a commissioned work from a member of the orchestra's first violin section, Georges Lentz: a stunning new work for large orchestra co-commissioned with the Orchestre Philharmonique du Luxembourg. And the second featured the SSO's own Associate Principal Oboe Shefali Pryor as soloist, in a new concerto commissioned from Alan Holley.

Finally, 2015 saw the release of Gustav Holst's *The Planets*, David Robertson's second CD recording with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra on SSO Live, released simultaneously on SACD, the first Australian orchestra to embrace this new super audio format.

"The SSO remains firmly a destination for the world's leading conductors, and 2015 saw returns by leading young artists Lionel Bringuier, James Gaffigan and Jakub Hruša."

Australian jazz icon James Morrison and Broadway living legend, vocalist Audra McDonald, whose November performances with the SSO were broadcast on Foxtel Arts in early April, 2016.

The SSO remains firmly a destination for the world's leading conductors, and 2015 saw returns by leading young artists Lionel Bringuier, James Gaffigan and Jakub Hruša as well as debut subscription performances by Ward Stare, Daniel Blendulf and Australian Daniel Carter. We also welcomed back two of the world's leading senior conductors, beloved guest Charles Dutoit, who led weeks of the colourful, virtuosic repertoire for which he is so rightly renowned; and former Chief Conductor Edo de Waart, who closed the SSO season with two weeks of thrilling concerts covering two of his most beloved composers, Elgar and Strauss.

Two of the SSO's principal commissioned works in 2015, by Australian composer James Ledger and New Zealand composer



And 2015 also saw the SSO joining six other leading world orchestras with three live recordings on the new Google Play Classical Live platform, which is dedicated to new releases from the greatest international orchestras of selected live concert repertoire. The SSO released Schumann's Symphony No. 2 and Sibelius' Symphony No. 2 under David Robertson, alongside an excerpt of Respighi's *Pines of Rome*, under Charles Dutoit, placing the orchestra firmly alongside the world's best, and as the sole orchestra from Australasia to feature on that platform.



IMAGES / 1. Conductor Lionel Bringuier. 2. SSO *The Planets* CD. 3. Violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter performs with the SSO and conductor Jakub Hruša at the Sydney Opera House.

SYDNEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PARTNERS

Sydney Symphony Orchestra remains the only state symphony orchestra in Australia that generates significantly more revenue through its activities than the level of funding it receives from Federal and State governments. We are proud of this achievement, which is built on an unwavering dedication across the organisation to artistic excellence as our licence to operate. Government funding is nevertheless critical to the success and vibrancy of the organisation and we acknowledge this support from the Australia Council for the Arts and Arts NSW and remain committed to delivering artistic excellence and excellent value through our work and activities both on stage and across the community.

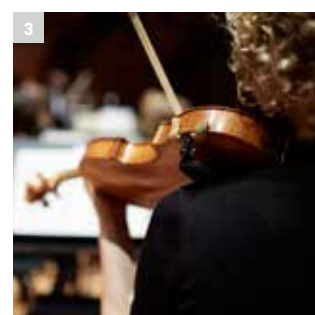
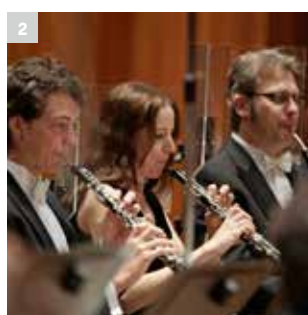
We are proud of our corporate partnerships and the relationships we have with individual patrons and donors. The ongoing support of our Principal Partner, Emirates, is something that deserves special mention, now in its fourteenth year. Premier Partner Credit Suisse likewise continues to provide us with strong support. To both – and our other valued partners, we extend our gratitude and thanks for their enlightened support of the arts. This is a critical factor in the ongoing vibrancy and innovation of the organisation.

Philanthropic support from our patrons has again played a significant role in enabling us to achieve many of our artistic ambitions, growing significantly compared to 2014, and we thank them all for their vision and inspirational support of the orchestra on behalf of the whole Sydney Symphony Orchestra community.

The year was not without its challenges, as reflected in the financial outcome for the year, but I am pleased to report on an orchestra that is artistically dynamic, connected ever more strongly to its community and demonstrating a restless determination to innovate in these areas under the inspirational leadership of David Robertson. This, tied to a clear ambition for the future, gives confidence for the future of this extraordinary collection of talent. Feedback from visiting



“We are proud of our corporate partnerships and the relationships we have with individual patrons and donors.”



conductors and soloists confirms that the orchestra is in exceptional form and I pay tribute to the extraordinary talents and commitment of our players that make being in the audience such a pleasure and privilege for us all.

Finally, I thank outgoing Chairman of the Board, John Conde, for his many years of dedication and support for the orchestra. His part in shaping the success and vibrancy of the SSO should not be underestimated. So too the commitment and dedication of Andrew Kaldor, who also stepped down as a Director at the AGM in 2015. To all our Directors, and especially to Terrey Arcus to whom the role of Chairman has passed, I sincerely acknowledge my thanks for their wisdom and strong support in helping this wonderful orchestra achieve its ambitions. Their commitment, counsel and boundless enthusiasm contribute immeasurably to the success of the company and I am very grateful to them for their involvement.

Rory Jeffes

MANAGING DIRECTOR



IMAGES / 1. Audience applaud the SSO. 2. David Papp, Oboe, Shefali Pryor, Associate Principal Oboe, and Alexandre Oguey, Principal Cor Anglais 3. Brielle Clapson, First Violin. 4. Chair Patron Jane Matthews with Timothy Constable, Percussion.



IMAGE / Chief Conductor and Artistic Director David Robertson conducts the SSO.

COMMUNITY

EDUCATION AND ARTIST DEVELOPMENT

2015 solidified the transition for the education arm of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra's program. The rebranding to Learning and Engagement effectively represented the diverse array of activities and encompassed the expansion of outreach initiatives and community engagement opportunities linked to the main-stage work of the orchestra.

Over 30,000 people participated in learning and engagement activities from concerts to special school performances, teacher training and orchestral workshops. School children aged from four to 18 attended one of our 32 schools concerts across greater Sydney, Albury, Wagga Wagga and Griffith. Fifteen professional learning workshops were held across NSW. These were delivered by leading practitioners to help teachers prepare their students for their concert experience with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and provide additional classroom lesson material for use throughout the year.

Lesson resources were written on 48 orchestral works with material for infants, primary and regional schools



TunED-Up!, initiated in 2014, grew to two weeks. This unique five day intensive program, designed to upskill and build confidence in teaching and rehearsing music, trained 49 NSW primary teachers to share their knowledge within their own school communities in a mentoring capacity. The program was delivered by leading music educators and provided 40 hours of training for teachers across a range of musical skills, as well as allowing them to spend time with the orchestra observing the rehearsal process. The initiative was established through the generous determination of Fred Street AM and Dorothy Street, and so successful was the program that new donors enabled the expansion of the program for 2015.



Lesson resources were written on 48 orchestral works with material for infants, primary and regional schools delivered in digital form for ease of classroom implementation. Tailoring the Meet the Music program specifically to the two different Stage Six HSC music courses proved insightful and popular. A feature for teachers and students is the access to live performances of new Australian works. In 2015 these included music by Andrew Schultz and young composers' orchestral arrangements of Josh Pyke's songs.





Community connection is evident in the diverse work of the Learning and Engagement activity of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. In 2015 ten young Australian composers were commissioned to compose orchestral arrangements of popular songs by Australian artist Josh Pyke.

1,283 students and teachers at the Meet the Music concert experienced Josh Pyke's songs in new depth through the compositions of: **Andy Aronowicz** (VIC); **Philip Jameson** (NSW); **William Gardiner** (NSW); **Lachlan Skipworth** (WA); **Thomas Green** (QLD); **Joseph Twist** (TAS); **Andrew Howes** (NSW); **Jared Yapp** (WA); **Alice Humphries** (VIC) and **George Ellis** (NSW).

Across the concert, Josh Pyke led the audience through his unique experience working with the composers and the orchestra, giving the audience insight into his learning as a popular artist. He expressed his genuine awe at the depth and rigour embedded in his songs attained when re-imagined through the rich texture of the orchestra.

In 2015 ten young Australian composers were commissioned to compose orchestral arrangements of popular songs by Australian artist Josh Pyke

The growth of the Emerging Artist program continued. For the second year, school-aged orchestral players selected for our regional orchestra training program Playerlink were able to audition online, allowing the SSO musicians the chance to effectively and efficiently evaluate and select the successful participants.

The resulting selection saw 72 young musicians gather in Bellingen for an intensive orchestral workshop weekend which culminated in a performance in the Bellingen High School gymnasium for 200 people from across the local community.

The Fellowship program supported 14 positions in 2015. The Fellows presented five concert programs including a concert series in St James' King St, a correctional centre performance, a tour across the mid North Coast of NSW and a sold-out concert in the Sydney Opera House Utzon Room, culminating in a final concert at Verbruggen Hall. The Fellows performed in the final season of Discovery, the schools concerts series and many of the SSO concerts at the Sydney Opera House. Performing in the SSO for the regional tour to Albury, Wagga Wagga and Griffith, the Fellows also appeared as guest artists in a number of subscription series across greater Sydney and NSW. Some more unusual performance opportunities included an early morning appearance at Sydney's Central Station. There were also master classes with visiting guest artists across the year. The Fellows mentored 106 young aspiring musicians in the Western Sydney orchestral workshops held in Parramatta and Casula. Auditions for the 2016 expanded Fellowship program received more than 140 expressions of interest from young musicians nationwide.

Again in 2015 the Sydney Symphony Orchestra delighted audiences in Sydney, across NSW and also in China and Korea. Initiatives for personal engagement with music students and amateur musicians within each community were explored: local musicians of Griffith, Wagga Wagga and surrounds joining musicians from the SSO to spend a morning playing music; working with young musicians from western Sydney to Bellingen and Griffith; orchestral, instrumental and conducting master classes in Seoul, Korea. Tertiary students and senior secondary students worked with leading instrumentalists, composers and conductors at open rehearsals, creating new connections and nurturing friendships. Such projects bring depth to our engagement initiatives, expand our reach, and play to our strengths, by imagining new opportunities linked to the orchestra's main-stage work.

COMMUNITY TOURING



OUTER-METRO AND REGIONAL TOURING SUMMARY

The following list summarises all outer-metropolitan Sydney, regional and international activity conducted by the Sydney Symphony Orchestra in 2015.

OUTDOOR CONCERTS

18 Jan	Sydney Festival, Domain concert
14 Mar	Outdoor concert, Parramatta Park (including Learning & Engagement activity)

OUTER-METROPOLITAN SYDNEY

17 May	Fellows concert, Parramatta
26-28 May	Schools concerts [6], Parramatta
19 July	Fellows concert, Casula
30-31 July	Fellows workshops at Australian Music Day, MLC School, Burwood
29 Aug	Fellows workshops, Parramatta
5 Sep	Fellows workshops, Parramatta
20 Sep	Fellows concert, Wyvern Music Club, Forestville
26-27 Sep	Fellows workshops, Casula
4 Oct	Schools Fellows concert, Parramatta [6], Parramatta

In 2015, the SSO continued its award-winning Music4health Program which sees SSO musicians perform in retirement homes and hospitals throughout Sydney and NSW.

REGIONAL

6 Feb	Mozart in the City concert, Orange
22-26 Apr	Fellows residency, Bundanon
24 Apr	Fellows workshop and concert, South Coast Correctional Centre, Nowra
19 May	Regional Tour, one major public performance, two schools concerts (20 May), Albury
20 May	Regional Tour, one major public performance, two schools concerts (21 May) plus Learning & Engagement activity with Riverina Conservatorium (21 May), Wagga Wagga
22 May	Regional tour, one major public performance, two schools concerts, plus Learning & Engagement activity with local music students and musicians, Griffith
17-18 Jul	Fellows workshop and concert, Taree
25 Jul	Fellows workshop and concert, Goulburn
7 Aug	Mozart in the City concert, Wollongong
6-8 Nov	Playerlink, Coffs Harbour, Bellingen, Thora

INTERNATIONAL

20 May	Chamber music concert, Beijing, China (plus Learning & Engagement activities, Zizhong Primary School; Beijing News Plaza; Qing Miao International School [19 May])
26 Oct	Major public performance, Beijing, China
29 Oct	Major public performance, Daegu, South Korea
30 Oct	Major public performance, Seoul, South Korea (plus Learning & Engagement activity, Seoul National University School of Music [28 Oct])
31 Oct	Major public performance, Seoul, South Korea



IMAGE / Le Grand Tango dancers Laura Wood and Luke Mangraviti with SSO musicians Kirsten Williams, Associate Concertmaster, Andrew Haveron, Concertmaster, and Catherine Hewgill, Principal Cello.

COMMUNITY ACCESS

The Sydney Symphony Orchestra belongs to everyone throughout NSW and, as such, the SSO ensures it provides access to its world-class performances annually for all.

OUTDOOR CONCERTS

The SSO has a long history of performing free outdoor concerts for the people of NSW.

In 2015, the SSO continued its tradition of performing two annual free outdoor concerts: Symphony in the Domain on January 18, which attracted 23,727 people, and a free performance at Parramatta Park on March 14, attended by more than 6,000 people.

WEBCASTING

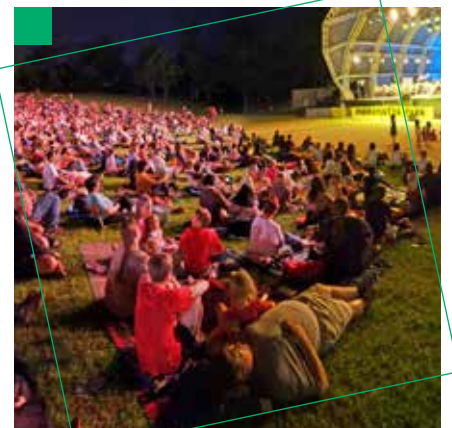
Through the use of technology, the SSO can now be viewed by everyone throughout Australia and the world.

In 2015 the SSO undertook two major webcasting projects. The Visions of Vienna project saw the SSO become the first professional orchestra to be projected live in concert onto the sails of the Sydney Opera House. The footage of the sails was live streamed on the SSO YouTube channel to audiences across the world, with the video-on-demand footage attracting more than 24,000 views (at the time of compilation for this report).

As part of the Earth Hour initiative the SSO performed the Concert for the Planet. Musicians across the world played along at home to this performance of Holst's *The Planets* by watching a live-stream of David Robertson conducting the concert in the Concert Hall.

COMMUNITY PERFORMANCES FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING

In 2015, the SSO continued its award-winning Music4health Program which sees SSO musicians perform in retirement homes and hospitals throughout Sydney and NSW. An ensemble from the SSO performed for the Autism Advisory and Support Service in Mt Pritchard. Sydney Symphony musicians also continued to contribute to the wider community in their capacity as teachers and members of community music groups.





IMAGES / 1. Josh Pyke performs with the SSO at the Sydney Opera House. 2. Shefali Pryor, Associate Principal Oboe, Oscar McMahon, SSO Board Member Andrew Baxter and SSO Managing Director Rory Jeffes at the SSO and Young Henrys Vanguard event. 3. SSO Assistant Conductor Toby Thatcher at the SSO Playerlink program in Bellingen. 4. Former SSO Director of Learning and Engagement Kim Waldock and teachers at a TunED Up! workshop. 5. Concertmaster Andrew Haveron gives a master class at the Shanghai Orchestra Academy. 6. Chief Conductor and Artistic Director David Robertson and the SSO in rehearsal. 7. Principal Cello Catherine Hewgill and Nathan Waks toast the SSO and Kilikanoon partnership. 8. *Time for Three* in rehearsal with the SSO. 9. SSO Managing Director Rory Jeffes, Head of Communications Bridget Cormack and Australia-Korea Foundation Director Ms Hyo-Jin (Jinny) Lee at the Seoul National University. 10. An SSO workshop with Parramatta school students. 11. TunED Up! 2015.

SUPPORTERS – DONORS & SPONSORS

Thank You

The Board, staff and musicians of the SSO thank our family of patrons for their visionary and inspirational support of the orchestra in 2015. Philanthropy, comprising donations from individuals, trusts and foundations and bequests, continues to grow year by year. Your commitment and generosity have resulted in an exceptional year of innovation and excellence for the orchestra and we are truly grateful to you all.

MAESTRO'S CIRCLE

We extend our special thanks to the Maestro's Circle, an intimate group of some of the SSO's most committed donors who support the artistic vision of Chief Conductor and Artistic Director David Robertson.

- Peter Weiss AO *Founding President* & Doris Weiss
- Terrey Arcus AM *Chairman* & Anne Arcus
- Brian Abel
- Tom Breen & Rachel Kohn
- The Berg Family Foundation
- John C Conde AO
- Andrew Kaldor AM & Renata Kaldor AO
- Vicki Olsson
- Roslyn Packer AO
- David Robertson & Orli Shaham
- Penelope Seidler AM
- Mr Fred Street AM & Dorothy Street
- Brian White AO & Rosemary White
- Ray Wilson OAM in memory of the late James Agapitos OAM

FELLOWSHIP

The generosity of our Fellowship patrons and supporting patrons enables talented young musicians to experience life in a professional orchestra – invaluable experience in developing a life-long career in music.

- Robert Albert AO & Elizabeth Albert *Flute Chair*
- Christine Bishop *Percussion Chair*
- Sandra & Neil Burns *Clarinet Chair*
- In Memory of Matthew Krel *Violin Chair*
- Mrs T Merewether OAM *Horn Chair*
- Paul Salteri AM & Sandra Salteri *Violin and Viola Chairs*
- Mrs W Stening *Principal Patron, Cello Chair*
- Kim Williams AM & Catherine Dovey *Patrons of Roger Benedict, Artistic Director, Fellowship*
- June & Alan Woods Family Bequest *Bassoon Chair*
- Anonymous *Double Bass Chair*
- Anonymous *Trumpet Chair*

Additional Support – Bronze level and above

- Mr Stephen J Bell
- Gary Linnane & Peter Braithwaite
- Joan MacKenzie Scholarship
- Drs Eileen & Keith Ong
In Memory of Geoff White

CHAIR PATRONS

Chair Patrons generously support individual musicians in the orchestra. These relationships are rewarding for both musicians and Patrons and we are very grateful for the ongoing support. In 2015 we are delighted to acknowledge the new Lowy Chair of David Robertson, Chief Conductor and Artistic Director. 2014. Thank you to all of our chair patrons for their support.



David Robertson
*The Lowy Chair of Chief
Conductor and Artistic
Director*



Richard Gill OAM
Artistic Director,
DownerTenix Discovery
*Paul Salteri AM &
Sandra Salteri Chair*



Scott Kinmont
Associate Principal
Trombone
Audrey Blunden Chair



Diana Doherty
Principal Oboe
John C Conde AO Chair



Emma Sholl
Associate Principal Flute
*Robert & Janet Constable
Chair*



Roger Benedict
Principal Viola
*Kim Williams AM &
Catherine Dovey Chair*



Jane Hazelwood
Viola
*Bob & Julie Clampett Chair
in memory of
Carolyn Clampett*



Leah Lynn
Assistant Principal Cello
*SSO Vanguard Chair
With lead support from
Taine Moufarrige, Seamus R
Quick, and Chris Robertson
& Katherine Shaw*



Nicole Masters
Second Violin
Nora Goodridge Chair



Janet Webb
Principal Flute
*Helen Lynch AM & Helen
Bauer Chair*



Kees Boersma
Principal Double Bass
SSO Council Chair



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Principal Cello
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Chair*



Elizabeth Neville
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Kirsten Williams
Associate Concertmaster
I Kallinikos Chair



Umberto Clerici
Principal Cello
Garry & Shiva Rich Chair



Robert Johnson
Principal Horn
*James & Leonie Furber
Chair*



Lerida Delbridge
Assistant Concertmaster
Simon Johnson Chair



Shefali Pryor
Associate Principal Oboe
Mrs Barbara Murphy Chair



TUNED-UP!

TunED-Up! was made possible with the generous support of Fred Street AM & Dorothy Street.

Additional Support – Bronze level and above

- Anne Arcus & Terrey Arcus AM
- Ian & Jennifer Burton
- Ian Dickson & Reg Holloway
- Mrs Barbara Murphy
- Drs Keith & Eileen Ong
- Tony Strachan

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- Howard & Maureen Connors
- The Greatorex Foundation
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- Barbara Maidment
- Mr & Mrs Nigel Price
- Drs Eileen & Keith Ong
- Mr Robert & Mrs Rosemary Walsh

COMMISSIONING CIRCLE

The SSO is committed to supporting Australian and international contemporary composers. Commissioning and performing new works reinforces the SSO's place as a leading creative force among world-class orchestras and we are deeply grateful to our Commissioning Circle for their generous support.

- ANZAC Centenary Arts and Culture Fund
- Geoff Ainsworth AM
- Raji Ambikairajah
- Christine Bishop
- Dr John Edmonds
- Andrew Kaldor AM & Renata Kaldor AO
- Jane Mathews AO
- Mrs Barbara Murphy
- Nexus IT
- Vicki Olsson
- Caroline & Tim Rogers
- Geoff Stearn
- Dr Richard T White
- Anonymous

INSTRUMENT LOAN – VICKI OLSSON

Vicki Olsson is a long-term supporter of the SSO. She attends many concerts and has also supported the commission of a number of new works. After she expressed an interest in purchasing an instrument for use by the orchestra, Vicki's generosity has enabled Concertmaster Andrew Haveron to personally select and perform on a 1757 Guaragnini violin.

DIAMOND PATRONS: \$50,000+

Anne & Terrey Arcus ^{AM}
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Estate of the late Rex Foster Smart
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GOLD PATRONS: \$20,000–\$29,999

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Ray Wilson ^{OAM} in memory of
James Agapitos ^{OAM}
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SILVER PATRONS: \$10,000–\$19,999

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BRONZE: \$5,000–\$9,999

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In memory of Geoff White
Anonymous [2]

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 Dana Dupere
 John Favaloro
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 Mr Richard Flanagan
 Ms Lynne Frolich
 Michele Gannon-Miller
 Ms Lyn Gearing
 Mr Robert Green

Dr Sally Greenaway
 Mr Geoffrey Greenwell
 Mr Richard Griffin AM
 In memory of Beth Harpley
 V Hartstein
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 Prof. Ken Ho & Mrs Tess Ho
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 Miss Roslyn Wheeler
 Dr Edward J Wills
 Dr Wayne Wong
 Dr Roberta Woolcott
 Paul Wyckaert
 Anonymous [32]

VANGUARD MEMBERS

Vanguard is a membership program aimed at a younger audience – people who are interested in supporting the arts, who are keen to see what talent their city has to offer, and who are looking for a way to experience dynamic classical music outside the concert hall while helping to create a vibrant future for the SSO.

COLLECTIVE

Justin Di Lollo *Chair*
 Belinda Bentley
 Alexandra McGuigan
 Oscar McMahon
 Taine Moufarrige *Founding Patron*
 Shefali Pryor
 Seamus R Quick *Founding Patron*
 Chris Robertson & Katherine Shaw
 Founding Patrons

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 Elizabeth Adamson
 Clare Ainsworth-Herschell
 Charles Arcus
 Phoebe Arcus
 James Armstrong
 Luan Atkinson
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 Scott Barlow
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 James Baudzus
 Andrew Baxter
 Adam Beaupeurt
 Anthony Beresford
 James Besson
 Andrew Botros
 Peter Braithwaite
 Andrea Brown
 Nikki Brown
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 Jon Wilkie
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SALUTE

The Sydney Symphony Orchestra applauds the leadership role our partners play and their commitment to excellence, innovation and creativity.

PRINCIPAL PARTNER



Principal Partner

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



The Sydney Symphony Orchestra is assisted by the Commonwealth Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body



The Sydney Symphony Orchestra is assisted by the NSW Government through Arts NSW

PREMIER PARTNER



PLATINUM PARTNER



EDUCATION PARTNER

DownerTenix

MAJOR PARTNERS



GOLD PARTNERS

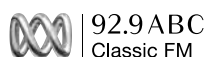
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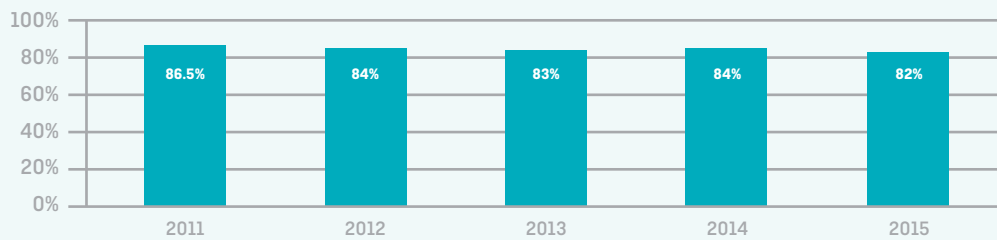


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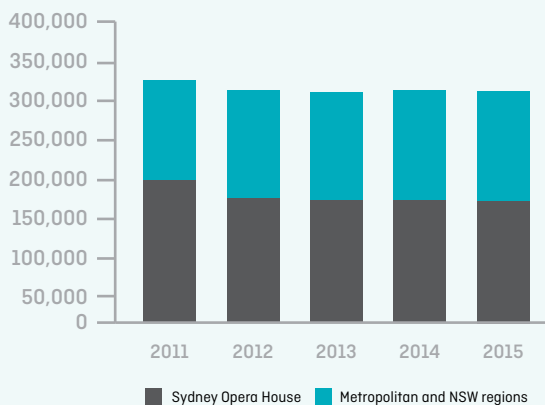


FIVE YEAR PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

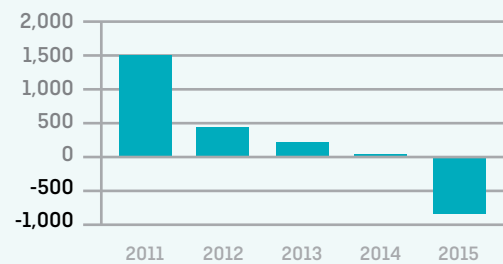
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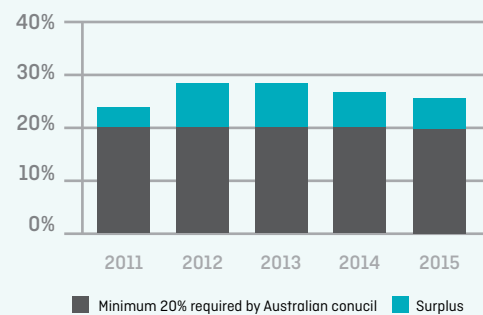
ATTENDANCES



OPERATING PROFIT



RESERVES TO OPERATING EXPENSES



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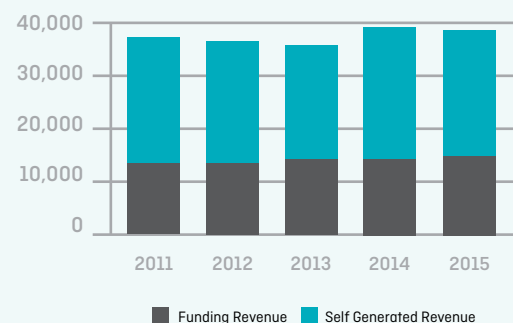




IMAGE / Victoria Bihun 2015 Violin Fellow, Scott Kinmont, Associate Principal Trombone and Steve Rosse, Principal Tuba.