



Youth Musical Theater Company

2022 – 2023 Annual Report

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From the Artistic Director

A YEAR OF RE-EMERGENCE

To fully appreciate the title “A Year of Re-Emergence,” a little reminiscing might be in order. Since 2020, throughout the worst of the pandemic, we were scrappy and determined. Surviving primarily by a willingness to continually adapt and re-position, we stayed strong. We kept much of our programming on our outdoor stage, replete with traffic from the adjacent highway and trains on the track over our fence, announcing themselves during performances with varying degrees of screech volumes. And when we did go back to indoor theater, our students were challenged with outbreaks of illness among cast and crew, facing disappointment again and again as we either postponed performances, or worse, canceled some all together.

But last fall, we began our 18th season with our head held, and our hope intact! We planned a full three-show season, all back indoors. In November, we opened *Matilda* to very full and very appreciative audiences. It was a show that we had never produced at YMTC, a sheer delight for the entire cast and crew, and the run was a great success.

In the winter, we produced *Sunday in the Park with George*, a beloved Sondheim treasure of a show, which we had produced once before, in 2014, and were thrilled to revisit and to bring its lessons to another generation of talented and passionate students.

In the spring, we produced another incredibly successful Gala – this year at the beautiful Maybeck Studio in Berkeley – and live-streamed the event to make it accessible for our many supporters and alumni who live out of town. And with the help of our wonderful community, we raised \$40,000 for our orchestras and our Pit Orchestra Apprenticeship Program.

Finally, we finished our season with another new show to YMTC, the beautiful gothic classic *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. We picked this show because of its large cast, its challenging score, and its profound themes of othering and love conquering fear; our audiences were profoundly moved and enthusiastically jumped to their feet night after night at the curtain call. It was a perfect close to a grand season, and we were all so relieved and so proud to be back at it – the work that we do best – bringing young artists together into community with each other and the larger Bay Area community of theater lovers.

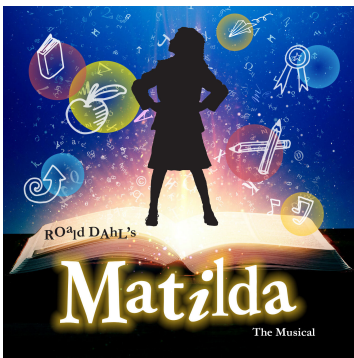
I am so grateful to all of you, our community, our closest supporters, who have stuck by our side, in the worst of times and in the best of times. Because of you, we have been capable of emerging, stronger than ever.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you.

Jennifer Boesing

A look inside our season

Our 18th season was our first fully indoor season since before the pandemic began in 2020. The season featured 3 exciting, diverse shows – each one a huge creative success – that reflected YMTC’s commitment to exposing our students to varying styles of musicals. We produced our shows at two of our favorite venues: the beautiful, historic Malonga Casquelourd Center for the Arts in downtown Oakland, and the fully-renovated Performing Arts Theater at El Cerrito High School. As always, each production boasted a cast of the Bay Area’s most talented students of the theater, supported by creative teams of local professionals and full, live orchestras playing the original orchestrations.

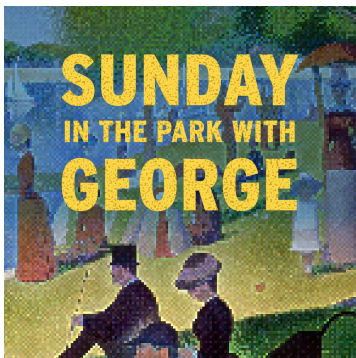


DIRECTED BY JENNIFER BOESING AND CELESTE KAMIYA
MUSIC DIRECTION BY DIANA LEE AND ERIC WALTON
CHOREOGRAPHY BY NICOLE HELFER

November 4 – 13, 2022
Malonga Casquelourd Center for the Arts

Roald Dahl’s beloved story of an extraordinary little girl is brought to dazzling, high-energy, and hilarious life in *Matilda the Musical*. Overlooked and unloved by her parents and bullied at school by the cruel Headmistress Trunchbull, 6-year-old genius Matilda finds solace in stories – in the pages of the books she devours and the tales that come tumbling out of her mind. With the help of a vivid imagination, her kind teacher Miss Honey, and an army of rebellious schoolchildren, Matilda decides to change her own story and rewrite her destiny. A winner of over 50 international awards, including five Tonys, *Matilda the Musical* pays perfect tribute to the absurd humor and profound heart of Roald Dahl’s original story.

25 cast members
6 TAAP students
0 POAP students

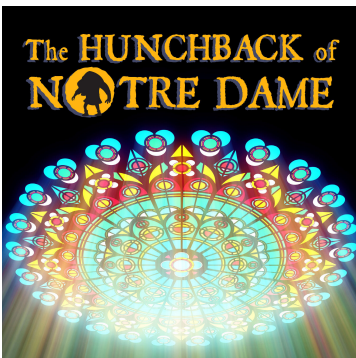


DIRECTED BY JENNIFER BOESING
MUSIC DIRECTION BY DAVID MÖSCHLER

March 24 – April 2, 2023
Malonga Casquelourd Center for the Arts

In late 19th century Paris, pioneering impressionist Georges Seurat works to finish his masterpiece “An Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte.” Living vicariously through his artwork, he isolates himself from society and neglects his lover, Dot, the only person with whom he truly connects. A century later, American sculptor George struggles with his own artistic frustration and inability to connect with the world as the legacy of his namesake looms over him. With a masterful, tenderly-written score by Stephen Sondheim and filled with heart-stopping visual and musical moments, *Sunday in the Park with George* is an authentic character study – one of only 10 musicals to win the Pulitzer Prize for Drama – a portrayal not just of artists, but of the people whose lives they touch and immortalize in their work.

17 cast members
9 TAAP students
2 POAP students



DIRECTED BY JENNIFER BOESING
MUSIC DIRECTION BY DAVID MÖSCHLER AND PHILLIP HARRIS
CHOREOGRAPHY BY PAM CRANE

July 14 – 23, 2023
El Cerrito High School’s Performing Arts Theater

Soaring and gothic, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* sweeps us away to medieval Paris, where the pious Archdeacon Frollo has his ward, Quasimodo, locked away in the bell tower of Notre Dame. Frollo and Quasimodo, who yearns to know the world outside the stone walls of the cathedral, both fall for a beautiful and independent Roma woman, Esmeralda. As Frollo’s desire for Esmeralda and his hatred of “gypsies” grows, Quasimodo is forced to choose between the his sanctuary or facing a world that will not accept him in order to protect the one he loves. *Hunchback* – a retelling of Victor Hugo’s novel set to Menken and Schwartz’s epic score – is a story of isolation, racism, belonging, and the true nature of faith.

33 cast members
6 TAAP students
2 POAP students

Get to know our training programs

TAAP and POAP

Theater Arts Apprenticeship Program



In our TAAP program’s 10th year, we continued to serve students studying the behind-the-scenes aspects of stagecraft in all three of our productions. Under the helm of our newly-hired Director of Programs, our Theater Arts Apprentices continued to gain professional-level technical theater training. We consistently had at least 6 apprentices in each production (21 TAAP students total across 3 productions), and many students continue to return show after show, sometimes studying in the same track, and sometimes exploring new areas of stagecraft.

The TAAP program offers apprenticeships that match students with professional teaching artists who provide on-site and one-to-one coaching in the disciplines of Directing, Music Directing, Stage Management, Choreography, Scenic Design/Run Crew, Props Design, Costume Design/Wardrobe Management, Hair & Make-Up Design, Sound Design/Engineering, and Lighting Design/Engineering.



Pit Orchestra Apprenticeship Program

This season was a huge success for POAP. We saw a handful of returning POAP students, demonstrating a building loyalty to the program and a desire to return and be a part of the orchestra, which was very exciting. POAP students this year included a mix of students with pit-orchestra experience, as well as student musicians who had never played in a musical before, and wanted to expand their horizons.

POAP also gave opportunities this year for student leadership. While *Matilda* had a very small band and did not feature any student musicians, both *Sunday in the Park with George* and *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* boasted 2 Assistant Music Directors who also played in the orchestras – a very exciting crossover between TAAP and POAP. These 4 AMDs played during rehearsals, helped actors learn music and harmonies, and alternated playing challenging keyboard parts during the performances.

As a training company, YMTC invites qualified student instrumentalists to join the pit orchestras for our productions through our Pit Orchestra Apprenticeship Program. POAP is tuition-free, and a valuable learning experience for young musicians. Motivated students receive exceptional musical training through this model and gain valuable experience playing alongside local professionals from the San Francisco Bay Area.

Workshops and Intensives

YMTC offers training experiences year-round that allow students to deepen their performing and technical skills so they are better prepared for YMTC auditions and shows, as well as opportunities outside of YMTC. Programs are generally open to students 7th grade through 12th grade and do not require an audition. 6th graders may apply through special application. Our workshops and intensives are not audition-based, and students are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. This year, we offered a winter audition workshop, a spring performance intensive, and 3 summer intensives. In all of our programs, YMTC continued to offer the highest level of training, giving students opportunities and experiences working on challenging, sophisticated material with professional teaching artists who see their artistic potential not despite their youth, but because of it.

Winter Audition Workshop

January 2023



In January of this year, we offered a day-long audition workshop, which is one of our most popular recurring training opportunities. In this workshop, YMTC directors teach students about audition technique in a “mock-audition” style environment, in which students are observed by their peers and get constructive, supportive feedback from the directors. Students learn about picking the perfect audition song and “cut,” preparing the material, audition etiquette and how to “enter the room,” and, of course, their acting and vocal technique.

11 students
3 teaching artists

In the spring, we offered a 10-week long intensive based around *The Addams Family*. Students were cast in roles, learned songs, scenes, and choreography, and performed selections from the show for an invited audience of friends and family. Students learn about being part of an ensemble, creating interesting characters, musical theater dance technique, and how to use their voices and bodies to tell a story.

9 students
3 teaching artists

Spring Performance Intensive: The Addams Family

March -April 2023



Don’t Stop Me Development Workshop

May 2023



In May, we offered an incredibly exciting opportunity to our students: the chance to help re-work an original musical. In 2015, YMTC commissioned celebrated playwright and Tony Award-winning composer Dave Malloy to craft a musical specifically for our students. After a successful world premiere run in 2015, the show has gone on to be performed several times since. This spring, Dave and Krista returned to YMTC to use the talents and insights of current YMTC students to help rewrite and workshop the show – and the subsequent edits will be showcased when YMTC remounts the show next season.

15 students
3 teaching artists + writers Dave Malloy and Krista Knight

We continued to offer our summer Musical Theater Intensives this year, bringing back a stalwart favorite of our students': Songs and Scenes, in which students rehearse and perform excerpts from diverse musicals chosen specifically for them by YMTC teaching artists.

We also offered Musical Theater Dance class where students learned a new dance combo from a musical every day, working on dance technique and how to tell a story with their bodies. Lastly, we offered a new class, Auditioning for Musical Theater, which delved deep into how to craft the perfect musical theater audition.

21 students

11 teaching artists

Summer Musical Theater Intensives

July-August 2023



Meet our community

Our staff



JENNIFER BOESING
Producing Artistic Director



DAVID MÖSCHLER
Resident Music Director



MOLLY BELL
Production Manager, Director of Programs



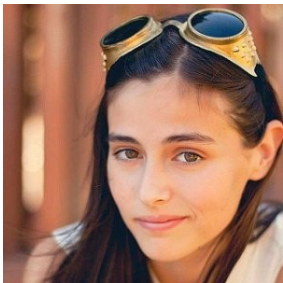
CELESTE KAMIYA
Director of Marketing, Casting, & Outreach



PAM CRANE
Registrar



BILL BREWER
Facilities Manager



RACHAEL HEIMAN
Resident Costume Designer



WHITNEY MOSS
Volunteer Coordinator

JESSICA WILAN and ROSA LUEVANO
Box Office Managers

Our directors, teaching artists, and designers



DIANA LEE
Matilda Co-Music Director, Teaching Artist



NICOLE HELFER
Matilda Choreographer



PHILLIP HARRIS
The Hunchback of Notre Dame Co-Music Director, Teaching Artist



JOE AYERS
Teaching Artist



DEAN LINNARD
Teaching Artist



CHACHI DELGADO
Teaching Artist



TATIANNA CÓRDOBA
Teaching Artist

KATHY ROGERS
Scenic Designer

DAWN NAKASHIMA
Properties Designer, Scenic Artist

SAYLOR
Matilda, The Hunchback of Notre Dame
Lighting Designer

THOMAS SOTO
Sound Designer & Mixer

LUCRETIA FROKE
Matilda Hair & Makeup Designer, *Sunday in the Park with George, The Hunchback of Notre Dame* Hair & Makeup Manager and Scenic Painter

RUBY TALAVERA
Sunday in the Park with George Hair & Makeup Designer

BRIAN CHANDLER
Matilda Master Builder

DANIEL NEELY
Sunday in the Park with George, The Hunchback of Notre Dame Master Builder

BRITTANY MELLERSON
Sunday in the Park with George Lighting Designer

RICHARD FONG
Sunday in the Park with George Lighting & Projections Designer

BERTRAND BLANK
Sound Designer & Mixer

KAMA KAMILA
Matilda Scenic Painter

GLEN EPPERSON
Technical Consultant

STEPHANIE FOISY & KELLY WILMETH
ASL Interpreters

REBECCA CASTELLI
Matilda Dialect Coach

BESSIE ZOLNO
The Hunchback of Notre Dame Violence & Intimacy Coordinator

Our supporters

**Aidan Price Memorial Fund*
***Founders Scholarship Fund*

<p>ANGEL (\$25,000+)</p> <p>CA Performing Arts Grant Alka Hingorani & Sriram Srinivasan</p> <p>SUPERSTAR (\$15,000-\$24,999)</p> <p>The Chrysalis Fund The Miranda Lux Foundation The Nova Fund**</p> <p>HERO (\$10,000-\$14,999)</p> <p>The Sam Mazza Foundation</p> <p>BENEFACTOR (\$5,000-\$9,999)</p> <p>Karen Berger Berkeley Civic Arts Grant Kathy Rogers & Robert Kliger Lori & Chris Potter Caitlin Patterson, Rich & Emmet Price*</p> <p>EXECUTIVE PRODUCER (\$2,500-\$4,999)</p> <p>Courtney Lennard & Craig Broscow Rachel & Michael Long Linda Manoogian & Nancy Ostrow Gini Brown & Dave Weiland</p>	<p>PRODUCER (\$1,000-\$2,499)</p> <p>Anonymous - San Francisco Foundation Megan Atchley Rachel Boesing The Budding Artist Foundation Katherine & William Campbell Whitney Moss & Ryan Currier Megan Dunbar Ann & Jack Eastman Lisa & Chip Eitzel Lisa Goulder & Pete Elman Jerome Falk Michelle & Sean Fitts Elizabeth Hartka Fred Karren Jennifer Kawar The Luna Foundation Molly Marion & Jim MacIlvaine Rosa Luevano & Charles Marston June Kamerling & Dana Meyer Salesforce Employee Matching - for Craig Broscow Laura Soble in memory of Gloria Lawler and Dorothy Walker Ian Swinson Alexa Wilkie</p> <p>SUPPORTING ROLE (up to \$250)</p> <p>Dawn Cook Sharon Decker Chachi Delgado Megan Dibble Vicki Doolittle Francis Frederick, Jr. Christine Arnesen & Robert Fuller Brandon Gill Melinda Gish* Ruth & Gregg Gorrin Kim Austin & Jason Graham Marianne & Eugene Haller Mary Virginia Hurwitz Susan Gettman & Donald Kelley Lee & Carl Kempf Margaret Kendall Lori Klumb</p>	<p>DIRECTOR (\$500-\$999)</p> <p>Anonymous - Benevity Anne Culver & Pamela Bell Lynn Koolish & Glen Epperson Betty Schneider & Dirk Epperson Susan Fracisco Pat & Dane Gillette Phillip Harris Pear & Brad Mitchell Lindsay & Hussein Saffouri Alvin Tan Merle & Michael Tarnow Rolf Williams Jennifer Winch Rue & John Ziegler</p> <p>LEADING ROLE (\$250-\$599)</p> <p>Stephanie Wade & Jeff Breidenbach Kathy Lee & Jeff Friedman Leah Mazel-Gee & Paul Gee Bonnie Whitler & Otho Hinchey Sarah Bevis & Jeff Lipton The Matson Company in honor of Mary Tanios Shawn Taylor Sarah McWhirter & Russell Vance Dorothy Walker Hetal & Roshan Weeramantry Jessica Wilan Barbara Yoder Sharon & Olujimi Yoloye</p> <p>Melissa Kong Amy Kronenberg Julie Drassinower & Edward Kwong Lisa Lindelef Lolita Liz Lummis O'Neil Michael Mansfield Gerri Matsufuji Julianne & Dan McGarry Darca Morgan Karen & Thomas Morioka Kristen Bailey & Kevin O'Connor Masako Oishi Carol Patton Ouahiba & Brian Pecson* Susan Braham & John Penberthy Karin Bliman & Lon Poole Marta Tobey & Roger Ramey</p>
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Jerlyn Beltman & David Reifsnyder
Carrie Blake & George Rose
Phyllis-Jane Rose
Linda & David Schweidel
Laurie & Alan Senauke
Vincent Simboli
Lois Smith
Paul Smith
Theresa Nelson & Bernard Smits

Laurie Stevens
Susan Swerdlow in memory of Skye Atman
Susan & Martin Tierney
Susan Crown & Gregory Toto
Terri Tsugita
Jesse Turner
Lesley Turner & John Wagoner
Paige Wallace
Madison Watts

Denise Hingle & James Webster
Kathryn Wesson
William Westland
Rachel Hurwitz & Martha Westland
Kale Williams
Greg Wineger
Diane & Josh Wirtschafter
Jenny Yu
Mark Zelman

Our volunteers

Alec Westland-Hurwitz
Amy Bruhmuller
Amy Garlin
Ananda Richmond
Ann Culver
Antonio Piccolboni
Barbie Usison
Bob Kliger
Brandie & Ed Maier
The Brown Ratner family
Cara Greathouse
Chris & Michelle Carter
The Connallon family
The Dreicer family
Evie Mitchell
Hetal, Roshan, & Rowen Weeramantry
The Jain family

Jennifer Winch
Joyce Dorado
Karen Jacobs
Karen Zelman
Keri Turner
Kyle Reid
Lev Mazin
Lindsay Saffouri
Lisa Piazza
The Lombardo family
Maria Steinmann
Meredith Mehlberg
Miren Doolittle
Paula Brinkley
Pauly Pagenhart
Pear Michaels
Robyn Fass Wang

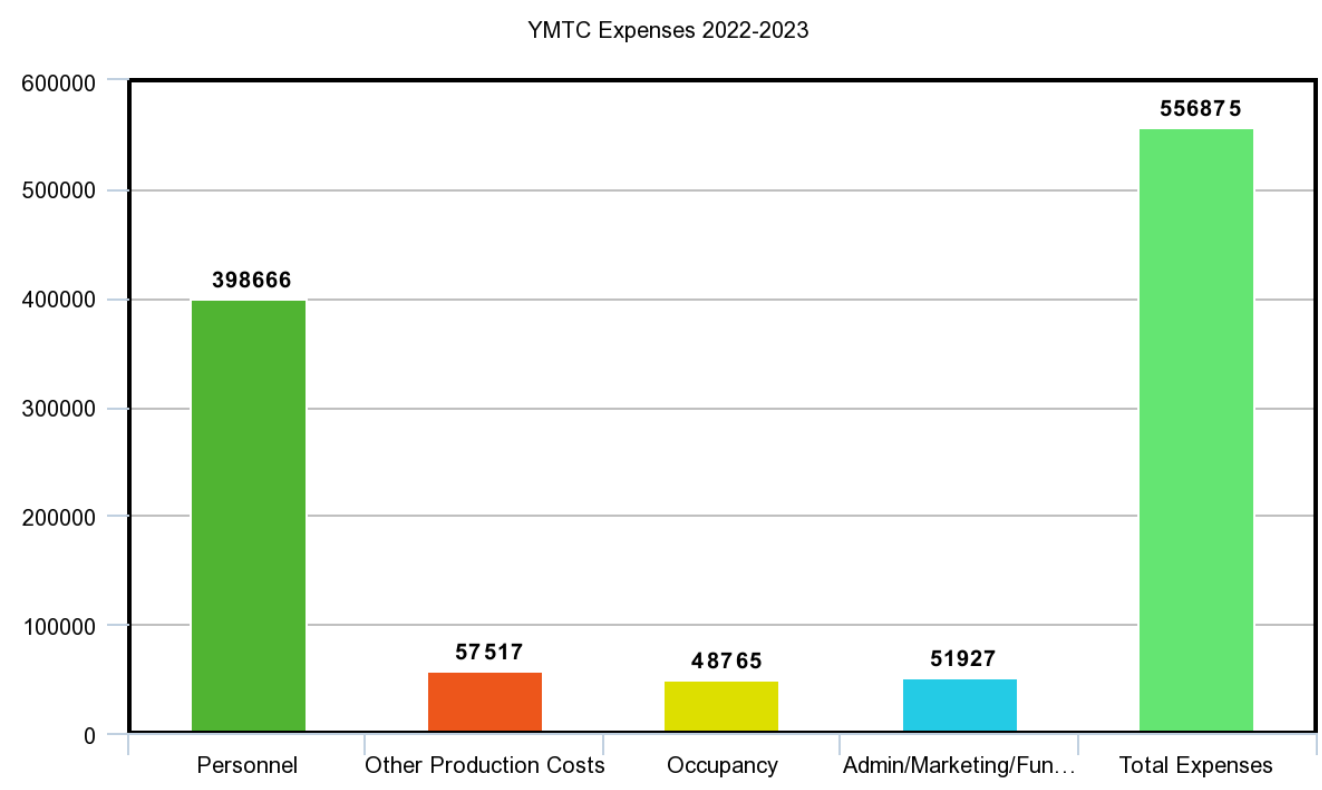
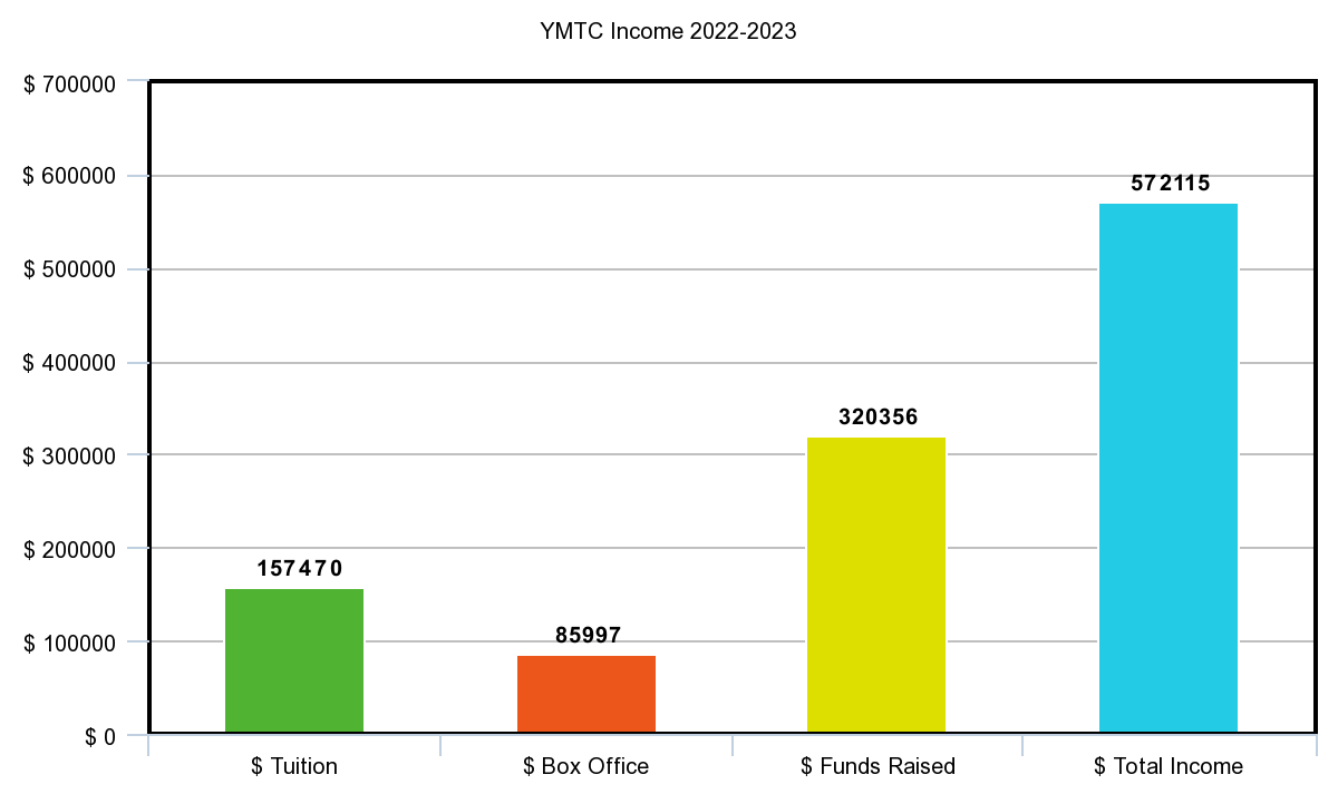
The Rochon family
The Roston family
Ryan Currier
The Salvador family
Sarah Bardeen
Sarah Bevis
Stephanie Lawrence
Susanna Gilbert
Tabitha Reid
Tamara Corduck
The Tanios family
Tracy Garza
Tracy Mekata
Valerie Le
The Vazquez family
Vittoria Esile-Issen
Whitney Moss

Community events

In May, our community came together for another beautiful, exciting fundraiser event, our “The Sound of Celebration” Gala, to celebrate our company and to raise funds for our orchestras and Pit Orchestra Apprenticeship Program. We were lucky enough this year to be able to host the event at the gorgeous Maybeck Studios in the Berkeley Hills – and as we have done for the last 3 years, we made the gala available as a livestream on Crowdcast for our entire community of supporters and alumni, far and wide – and raised \$40,000 for our pit orchestras and POAP.



Investigate our numbers



ABOUT THE NUMBERS

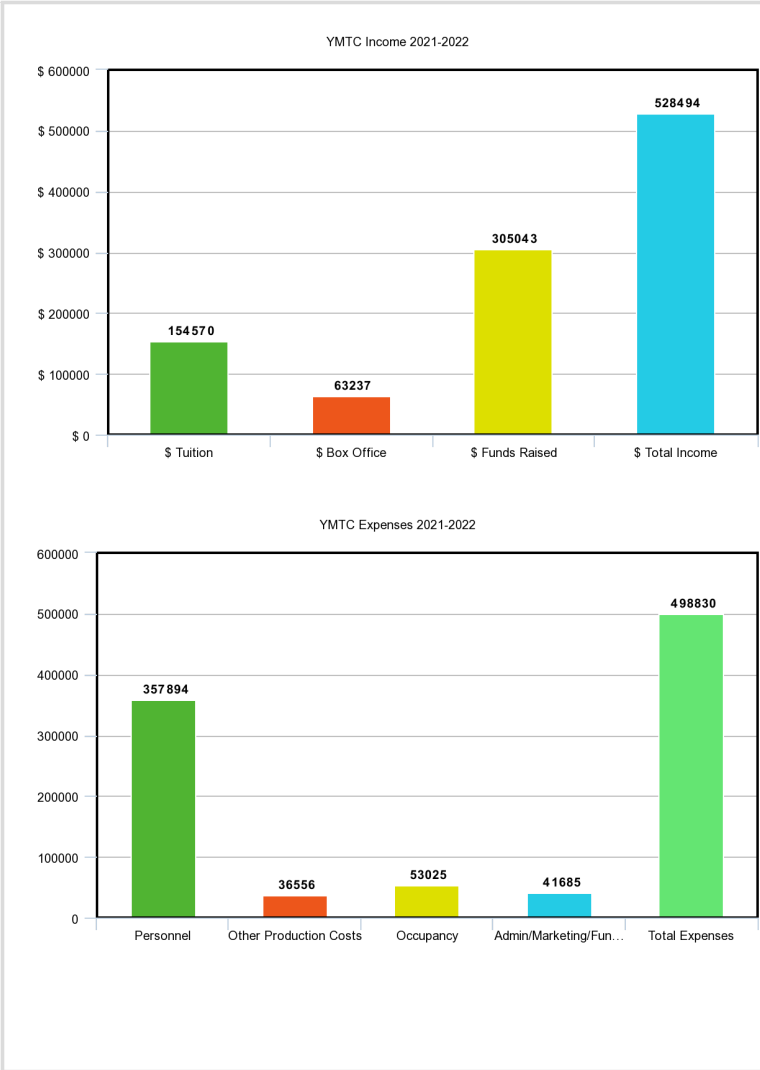
This season was a success in every way. We came back from the tough times of the pandemic stronger than ever, which shows up in the numbers primarily in an increased level of support from our community of donors, which continues to grow each year.

While the audience numbers did not come back with a surge, they certainly are headed in the right direction, and our budget continues to grow slowly and with a healthy balance.

The cost of materials for sets, lights and costumes have increased, and we committed to paying our teaching artists– visiting directors, designers, builders, engineers and musicians – closer to a living wage, but we stayed our course with our values: keeping ticket prices affordable, tuition costs competitive with other theater training programs, and continuing to grow our Tuition Assistance Program.

Even with these very optimistic goals, we succeeded in balancing the budget, ending the fiscal year with \$15K revenue over expenses. We did so with the continued support of private foundations, local government grant monies, and generous individual donors.

EXPENSE COMPARISON WITH 2021-2022



The biggest increase from the previous year to this year was our investment in people. We followed through on our commitment to raise the rates we were paying our visiting artists, but we also invested in a new full-time staff position – the Director of Marketing and Outreach, bringing our small but mighty full time, year-round staff up to four people! There were some significant increases in costs for production– primarily the cost of lumber and other similar materials, but the cost of renting performance and rehearsal space remained steady as did our expenses for marketing, fundraising and other administrative overhead costs.

Our commitment to our Tuition Assistance Fund remains as strong as ever; this year, we grew the fund almost 10% from the previous year’s numbers. In 2021-2022 we gave away 25% of our total tuition budget to students in need of assistance. This past year, we gave away 34% of our total tuition budget. And we are proud to say that we maintain our record of never having turned away a student for a lack of their ability to pay for the programming.

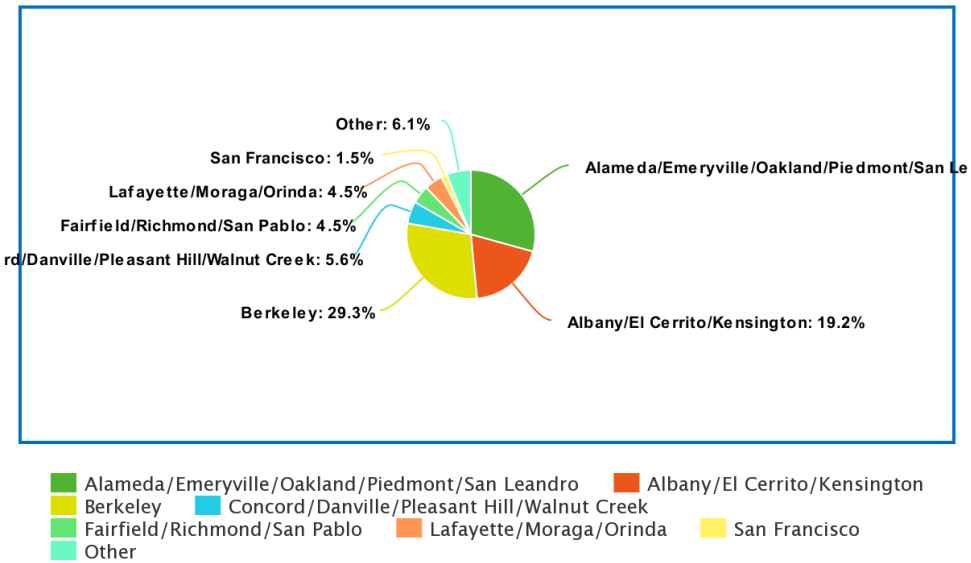
Notes:

- Personnel includes directors, instructors, musicians, tech fees, etc.
- Other production and administrative expenses include sets, props, costumes, license fees, programs, publicity, etc.
- Occupancy includes theater rental, tech and rehearsal space, build space, Aquatic Park operations & maintenance

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

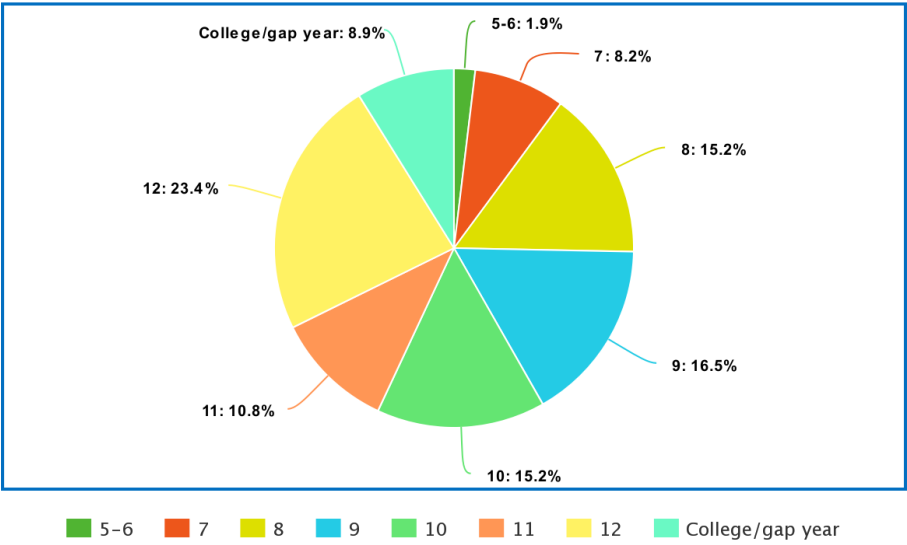
LOCATION

YMTC is proud to draw students from throughout the Bay Area. We continue to reach out to diverse geographic communities to ensure that YMTC remains a hub for students to interact with each other across community and cultural lines. This year was our most geographically diverse student population yet – more than 70% of our students came from outside of Berkeley.



\YEAR IN SCHOOL

YMTC prides itself on welcoming a large scope of students to our programs, supporting the life cycle of the artist from 7th grade through university level. We also have a growing number of alumni returning each year to work as visiting teaching artists, as well as on staff, and we occasionally accept 5th and 6th graders with previous experience in theater for our training opportunities.



RACE/ETHNICITY

YMTC continues its work to create and nurture an inclusive artistic environment that reflects the rich diversity of the Bay Area community. We continue to focus our outreach and our fundraising efforts toward the goal of creating a more diverse organization from the Board level to our student body and our audiences. These efforts include school visits, free ticket programs, and our goal of increasing the amount of funds given away each year. These efforts are buttressed by the Founders Scholarship (formally known as the Crane Scholarship), now entering its fifth year, and the Budding Artists Scholarship, that focuses on students who want to take our workshops and classes and offers full scholarships specifically for students who come from underserved or underrepresented communities. This year, the overall percentage of students of color continued to grow from previous years.

