

METHUEN MEMORIAL MUSIC HALL, INC. P. O. Box 463, Methuen, Massachusetts 01844-0463 www.mmmh.org

November 2024

Dear Friends of the Music Hall,

As this year draws to a close, we are pleased to report that it has been a busy one here at the Hall. Thanks to ongoing support from friends like you, these are some of the things we accomplished:

- Opened our 2024 season with two spectacular organ and orchestra concerts featuring the New Hampshire Philharmonic
- Presented a Summer Series of 15 organ concerts performed by 21 eminent and emerging organists
- Resumed free live streaming of our summer concerts on our YouTube channel
- Hosted a BSO Community Chamber Concert
- Introduced all Methuen 4th graders to the *Great Organ* and the Hall through our *Music Hall Days* program
- Marked the 50th anniversary of the Music Hall Scholarship Program (and awarded a \$1,000 scholarship)
- Had a near-record attendance at the Fall Scholarship Concert played by Paul Jacobs
- Presented three performances of Gilbert & Sullivan's Iolanthe by the Methuen Young People's Theatre
- Expanded our Methuen Young People's Theatre program with 40 young people presenting a musical version of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* on Dec 20 & 21
- Presented a Children's Storytime in conjunction with Nevins Memorial Library, narrated in English and Spanish with organ accompaniment
- Expanded our eclectic Fall Variety Series to 10 concerts, with attendance tripling from last year.
- Hosted an Open House/Open Console Day which attracted 80+ people
- Repainted the east transept window and installed new protective Lexan covering
- Extended the left (west) side of the stage to match the right side
- Instituted a program to train and utilize volunteers to help staff our concerts and events
- Continued the redesign of our website and expanded the use of E-Newsletters

All these accomplishments were made possible by your financial support of our mission, "To preserve and share the history, grandeur, and experience of The Great Organ and the Hall through musical performances and community outreach."

Our projects for 2025 will include:

- Upgrading the Great Organ's 30-year-old electronic controls and 78-year-old wiring and replacing the
 organ console's thick 'umbilical cord' with a fiber optic cable. We still need to raise a considerable
 amount to pay for this essential upgrade
- Continuing the repointing of the Hall's exterior brick and limestone and repainting the windows
- Evaluating the Hall's electrical needs, for the eventual installation of upgraded lighting and AC

Most of the grants we receive are matching grants. Your donation will help us to "double our funds" to pay for these important projects. We hope that you will generously support us and contribute using the enclosed donation form and envelope, or by securely donating online at www.mmmh.org. Together we will continue to bring great music to Methuen and the World. Thank you for your continued support!

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Matthew M. Bellocchio President, MMMH

Watthew