

DONORS

We would like to thank the following donors who make our community programming possible with their financial support. We also receive anonymous cash donations at the door for many of our events and we thank all those donors as well. All donations to the La Grua Center were made between the dates of July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014.

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The following companies have matched the charitable donations their employees have made to the La Grua Center.

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LA GRUA CENTER

PO BOX 342, 32 WATER STREET
STONINGTON, CT 06378

www.lagruacenter.org

La Grua Center is a 501(c) non-profit organization

LA GRUA CENTER

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

La Grua Center's mission is to serve and strengthen community in an historic space where a diverse array of activities creates opportunities for people to come together and connect.

LETTER

FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In this report we are pleased to share with you some highlights of a busy and productive year at La Grua Center. For the year ending June 30, 2014, attendance was strong across a broad range of programs, and we remain encouraged by the positive feedback we have received from our guests.

As we begin our sixth year, we are committed to serving our well established audiences with fresh programming in areas that include music, dance, exercise, lectures, art exhibits, documentaries and much more. We also look forward to welcoming new guests to the Center by reaching out to the community using new channels of communication, made possible in large part by our new website. Increasing the breadth of our offerings over the past year has attracted a number of new faces to the Center, and we are excited about continuing this effort. We also look forward to building upon

important relationships with our community partners, including the Stonington Library, Stonington Historical Society and James Merrill Committee, whose programs offered within the walls of the Center are vital to the community.

For board members and staff, our mission serves as a constant reminder that moral ownership of the Center rests with you and many other area residents. This is your space, and we encourage you to share with us your thoughts about the Center as it continues to evolve. We have accomplished so much together and would like to thank our many guests, donors and volunteers who make the Center a vibrant community resource.

Sincerely,
Peter Castle, *President Board of Directors*
Jane S. Meiser, *Executive Director*



PROGRAM UPDATES

MUSIC MATTERS SERIES

The Music Matters series has become one of La Grua Center's leading programs, with concerts held monthly on Saturday afternoons at five o'clock. This season the series brought in to the Center a variety of artists that explored a broad range of work that included chamber music, classical piano solos, acoustic jazz and folk tunes.

Ukrainian pianist Artem Belogurov, who debuted our 1922 Mason & Hamlin grand last year, returned with superb violinist Aleksey Semenenko to share four exceptional sonatas by Beethoven, Paul Gay, Debussy & Prokofiev. Traveling from New York City under the burden of a foot of snow, the New York Classical Quartet brought three of Haydn's masterful, sunny quartets to Stonington. The concert also introduced the La Grua Center's new performance platform, which dramatically enhances the clarity and resonance of our live music making — and allows our audience better interaction with performers. Another highlight of our season was the unusual and welcome opportunity to hear the four best-known instruments of the double-reed family: the oboe, oboe d'amore, English horn, and bassoon, played by the Laurel Double-Reed Quartet. To round out our season we welcomed guitarist Simon Powis for a solo performance with works by Isaac Albéniz, Fernando Sor, Leo Brouwer, and William Walton, crowned by Bach's moving d-minor Chaconne.

ARTS & CULTURE SERIES

The Arts and Culture series presents the largest variety of events with programs ranging from lectures on world affairs and current events to children's programming, documentaries series



and evenings with authors.

Since the Center opened its doors, it has served as a community space for art exhibitions. This year we hosted a record eight exhibitions, including the annual Stonington Artist Show and a juried display by Stoneridge residents. In April we again held the Autism Awareness Exhibition that celebrates artists of all ages who are affected by autism. And for the first time we collaborated with two galleries — Adam Tamsky in Stonington and Giampietro in New Haven — to showcase work from their collections.

La Grua Center's family series entertained kids of all ages with a variety of programs, including Cyril the Sorcerer, who evoked the legacy of Lord of the Rings and other fantasy masterpieces. In addition we were thrilled to welcome back the Mystic Middle School jazz band and select chorus. Both filled the Center with beautiful music from very talented young performers.

We also welcomed many local presenters to the Center to share their stories. Master Chief Michelle Mikulski spoke about her 25 year career as a United States Navy sailor, while Andreas Mink, a U.S. correspondent for Swiss and German news outlets, educated the audience on the history, justice, and the realities of German reparations to victims of Nazi persecution.

The La Grua Center continues to work with many local community organizations to offer high quality programming. In collaboration with the Southeastern Connecticut World Affairs Council we welcomed Ambassador Mohammed

Alhakim, Iraq's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, to discuss the state of Iraq. And in an event co-sponsored with Bank Square Books we heard from memoirist Amanda Lindhout, who survived 460 days in captivity in Somalia.

VOLUNTEERS

All of our programming is made possible by the dedication of our volunteer programming committees and our presenters. We extend our gratitude for their donated time and personal commitment to La Grua Center.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Amb. Mohamed Alhakim
Lise Anderson
Colman Andrews
Jean Baur
Sophie Cabot Black
Duncan Brown
Michael Conforti
Carlos Eire
Jeffrey Engel
Paul Janssens
Jude Larzelere
Eric Lehman
Amanda Lindhout
Sandy McClatchy
Marlisa McLaughlin
Michelle Mikulski
Andreas Mink
Shakespeare in the Park
Robert Thorson
Sarah Trowbridge
Rebecca Tumicki
Chase Twichell
Tom Verdi
Kid's Art Workshop
Volunteers (Carmel Bourneuf, Dan Potter, Karin Bastidas, Sadie DeVore, Barbara Ginsberg, Vin

Loiacono, Jan Miller, Juan O'Callahan, Muireann O'Callahan, Tom Frohnepfel, JJ Stinton, Judy Keegan)

PROGRAM AND GROUND'S COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

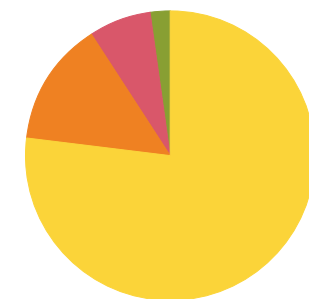
Peg Abramson
Carole Barnard
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Emily Flint
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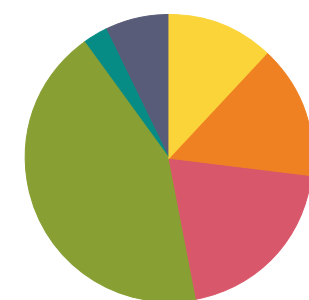
**All volunteers have served between the dates of July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014.*



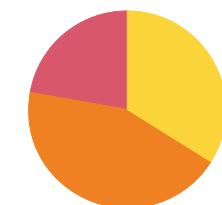
FINANCIALS



Income		
Direct Contributions	\$ 125,180	77%
Program Related Sales and Fees	22,780	14%
Annual Fundraiser	11,860	7%
Goods Sold and Investments	1,740	2%
TOTAL	\$ 161,560	100%



Expenses		
Direct Program Costs	\$ 18,600	12%
Depreciation	24,000	15%
Facility and Equipment	31,290	20%
Payroll	68,200	43%
Marketing	5,700	3%
Insurance and Office Related	8,200	7%
TOTAL	\$ 155,990	100%



Capital Projects		
New Windows	\$ 3,520	34%
Performance Lighting	4,600	44%
Floors	2,300	22%
TOTAL	\$ 10,420	100%

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