



INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR WOMEN IN MUSIC

A large, dark purple silhouette of a woman's head in profile, facing right. The interior of the head is filled with a dense, chaotic arrangement of various musical notes, including eighth notes, quarter notes, and treble clefs. The background of the entire cover is a vibrant, multi-colored circular gradient in shades of purple, pink, and yellow, with musical notes scattered throughout.

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

MISSION:

The International Alliance for Women in Music fosters and encourages the activities of women in music.

VISION:

The IAWM is the world's leading organization devoted to the equity, promotion, and advocacy of women in music across time, cultures and genres.

CORE VALUES:

Community of Support
Inclusion and Visibility
Global Diversity and Advocacy
Communication

STRATEGIC GOAL:

Through IAWM's programming and advocacy efforts, increase the visibility, opportunities, connections, and relevance of IAWM and its members.



Christina Rusnak

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members and Friends of IAWM,

Welcome to IAWM's second Annual Report. Looking back at 2025, IAWM has expanded visibility and connections for women in music across two continents!

The website has been revised to provide you with better visibility to our programs on the home page and easy access to the member directory under the Members' Page. The "Ways to Support" page has been redesigned to provide additional information to those who wish to be more involved.

We still have a long road ahead to bring visibility and parity to women in music, who continue to be underrepresented, in spite of their diverse and important contributions. In 2026, we will be creating a new strategic plan for 2027-2029. We want your input: what opportunities should we pursue, and how can we create greater connection and engagement for women in music? We challenge ourselves to LEAD moving toward IAWM's vision of gender equality in music.

Women's perspectives, women's stories, women's music MATTERS.

The annual report offers a window into the passionate work of our Board, Journal Board, Staff, Volunteers, Partners, and Donors which continue grow, along with our impact. All this is made possible by your support, by your membership, and your time. We are so very grateful.

Sincerely,

Christina Rusnak

CHRISTINA RUSNAK

President



PAULINE ALDERMAN AWARD

Named for pioneering musicologist and composer Pauline Alderman (1893–1983), the Pauline Alderman Award honors the best publications about women in music over a 2-year cycle, including an award for a monograph and one for a scholarly article or book chapter. Two awards were announced in Summer 2025. The website (see programs) has detailed award information.

Book Prize Winner

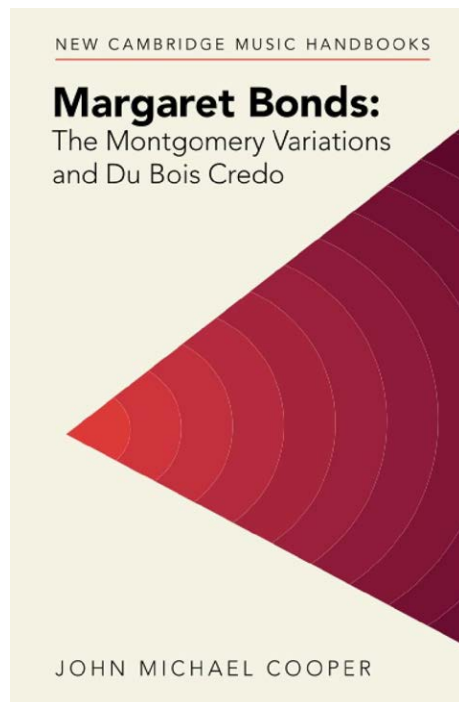
JOHN MICHAEL COOPER
Margaret Bonds:
The Montgomery Variations
and Du Bois Credo

Cambridge University Press, 2023.

The book chronicles the life and legacy of acclaimed composer, pianist, and social justice activist Margaret Bonds. A talented composer in multiple genres, Bonds composed over 200 pieces.



John Michael Cooper



Margaret Bonds: The Montgomery Variations and Du Bois Credo

Article/Book Chapter Prize

NANCY NEWMAN
"#Alma Too: The Art of
Being Believed"

Journal of the American Musicological Society 75, no. 1 (Spring 2022): 39–79.

This article examines Alma Werfel-Mahler's account of her marriage to Gustav Mahler, and analyzes how the shifting gender politics from Alma's lifetime to now have influenced scholarship about her.



Nancy Newman



Alma Mahler c. 1908, from the Austrian National Library.
Photo by Atelier D'Ora-Benda - Flashbak, PD-US,
<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?curid=65076748>

WOMEN WHO INNOVATE AWARD

This award celebrates women who are taking risks, seeking collaborative opportunities, and pushing boundaries in their musical realm. In winter 2025, IAWM announced that South African performing artist **Sibongile Anna Buda** was presented with the 2024 Award of \$1000 to support her project The Global Jazzwomen Festival.

She currently teaches music at the **Committed Artist for Cultural Advancement**, which focuses on enhancement of music skills for children from disadvantaged communities. The website (see programs) has detailed award information.



Sibongile-Buda with her Bass

44TH ANNUAL SEARCH FOR NEW MUSIC WINNERS



Ruth Anderson Commission Prize

WINNER:

Indigo Knecht, USA
The Chanting of Choral Reefs



Katy Abbott Prize for Orchestral Music

WINNER:

Inga Chinilina
Between the Waves



Libby Larsen Prize

WINNER:

Rain (Yurui) Hou, China
Monsoon



Leah Reid Electroacoustic and Music Technology Prize

WINNER:

Shahrzad Talebi, Iran
A Detour, Invalid Light by Mistake



Pauline Oliveros New Genre Prize

WINNER:

Elizabeth Jigalin, Australia
Ear Buds



Patsy Lu Prize

WINNER:

Zhishu Chang, China/USA
Daughters of the Desert



**Portland Jazz Composers
Ensemble Prize**

WINNER:
Teresa (Naphatraphee) Um, Thailand
Phonophobia



Alex Shapiro Prize

WINNER:
Jia Yi Lee, Singapore
betwixt and between



Alex Shapiro Prize

MERIT OF DISTINCTION:
Mieke J. Doezema
Behind Closed Doors



Choral Ensemble / Vocal Prize

WINNER:
Anne Cawrse, Australia
All Flesh is Fire



Choral Ensemble / Vocal Prize

HONORABLE MENTION:
Katerina Gimon
Unsung: If the Earth Could Sing



Choral Ensemble / Vocal Prize

HONORABLE MENTION:
Riley Feretti
Deep Sea Cables



Miriam Gideon Prize

WINNER:
Rami Levin
This Much and More

THE PROGRAMMING AWARD

The Programming Award honors and endorses those performers who have made deliberate and conscious efforts to achieve greater gender equity in their programming by including women/non-binary composers and/or performers. The website (see programs) has detailed award information.

2025 Award Winner

Susan Miranda is a performer, entrepreneur and the Adjunct Professor of Oboe at Dordt University. She is committed to expanding the oboe repertoire and engaging audiences. She has performed over forty premieres nationally and internationally over the past decade. Her ensembles, Larkspur Reed Trio, Dúo León, and Reed5 support commissioning, outreach and education.



Susan Miranda

2025 Runner-Up Award Winner

French pianist **Jeanne Hourez** is recognized for her versatility and is an advocate for underrepresented voices in music. Actively performing across Europe, North America and Asia, she has presented her research on women composers at many national and international festivals and conferences. She is currently the Assistant Professor of Music at Southwestern University.



Jeanne Hourez

THE EDUCATION GRANT

This Grant, sponsored by the Athena Brass Band, is to help teachers in elementary and secondary schools bring a greater focus on women in music to their students through professional development, materials, commissions, guest artists, or other media.

Holly Cordero is an educator of 11 years, professional musician of 15 years, and the executive director of Cordero Music Inc. for 2 years. She has assisted more than 20 bands get started in their freelance career; curated 10 youth-only festivals and several all ages shows in Central Florida; and taught 10 students through the nonprofit's free lesson program. She helped five students and one band obtain musical instruments for free to continue their musical learning. She continues to match students with instruments, performance opportunities, and private coaching with attention to those in low-income areas and at-risk youth.



Holly Cordero

COMMUNITY, PARTNERS & COLLABORATORS

IAWM MUSIC CONFERENCE 2025

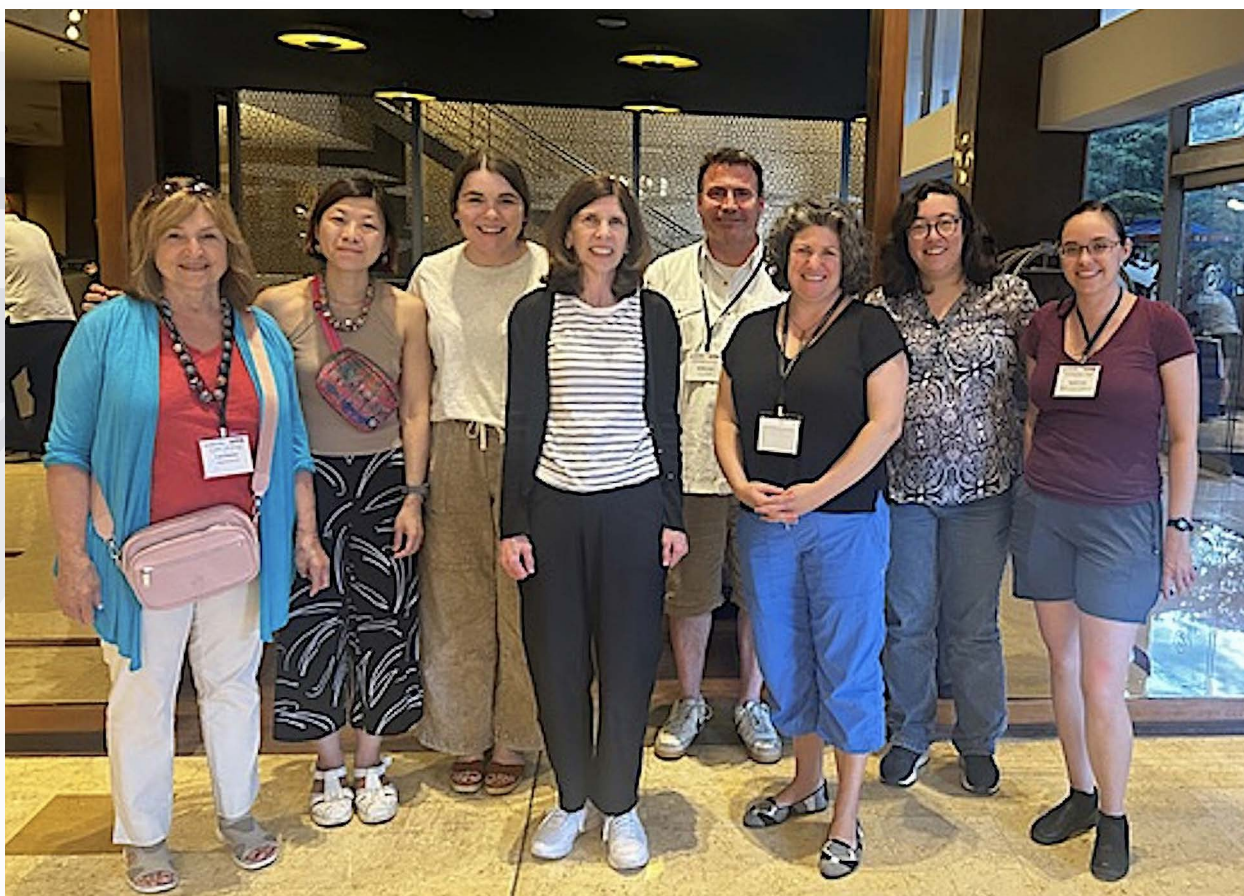


IAWM partnered with CMS to renew our commitment to bring our meetings to women in music globally.

The 2025 International IAWM and College Music Society Conference, held from June 15–24 in Bogotá and Medellín, Colombia, brought together scholars, educators, and performers from around the globe. A resounding success, the conference was a memorable event for all attendees. *(The full article can be found in Volume 31 no. 3 of the Journal)*

CMS President Brian Chin and IAWM President Christina Rusnak opened the conference and spoke about a shared focus on advocacy, collaboration, and making a difference in our respective musical realms. The conference gave CMS members an opportunity to learn about IAWM.

The most illuminating aspect of the conference was gaining an understanding of how the fusion of Western and indigenous musical traditions expands our understanding of compositional approaches and produces a distinctive musical result. Jeff Loeffert, CMS Executive Director, stated this conference had the largest attendance with thirty-two IAWM members and eighty-two CMS members presenting – two-thirds of whom were women!



Several IAWM members at the hotel in Medellín



A conference networking event.



Conference attendees.

SHE FESTIVAL OF WOMEN IN MUSIC



University of Arkansas

MARCH 14-16, 2025

Featuring the performances and presentations of several IAWM Members



Aliyah Danielle – Performer, Composer, Producer – featured artist, IAWM Board Member

IAWM 2025 ANNUAL CONCERT

Museum Schnütgen, St. Cecilia's Romanesque Church, Cologne, Germany

SEPTEMBER 25, 2025



The acoustics of the 12th century church of St. Cecilia's enhanced the nine Chamber Orchestra works performed at the 2025 Concert by the Virago Symphonic Orchestra. The staff, Moritz Woelk, Manuela Beer, and Kim Mildebrath embraced the concert and our community. The concert attracted a full house of music and arts lovers from as far away as Munich, Germany!

Watch the full concert on IAWM's YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/watch?v=GAWQ7Oy-Idc

Emilie Mayer – *Overture 2 in D*

Indigo Knecht* – *Self-Destruction at its Finest*

Ayça Akin* – *Tempesta*

Ala Gialla* – *Dearly Beloved*

Caroline Shaw – *Entr'acte*

Alice Mary Smith – *Andante for Clarinet and Orchestra in D major*

Tao Yu* – *Desert Reign*

Adi Shapiro* – *Dragonflies*

Stefania de Kenessey* – *Unorthodox Redux*

*Annual Concert Winners

IAWM LEGACY OF WOMEN IN MUSIC CONCERTS

The legacy of Women's concerts is as diverse as we are. We are renewing our commitment to present our concerts by women in music globally!

2025 IAWM Chamber Orchestra Concert

**Cologne, Germany
September 25, 2025**

St. Cecilia's Church in Cologne, Germany, featuring Virago Chamber Orchestra

2024 IAWM Electro-Acoustic Concert

**Duluth, Minnesota USA
October 19, 2024**

Hosted by the University of Minnesota, Duluth

2023 IAWM Chamber Concert

**Antwerp, Belgium
November 4, 2023**

Hosted by the Royal Conservatoire of Antwerp, featuring Lillith Ensemble

2023 IAWM Chamber Concert with LunART

**Madison, Wisconsin USA
September 30, 2023**

Hosted by the LunART featuring the LunART Chamber Music Collective

2023 Portland Jazz Composers Ensemble Concert

**Portland, Oregon USA
January 28, 2023**

Hosted and performed by PJCE, featuring IAWM Search for New Music Jazz Winners

2020/2021 IAWM Chamber Concert

**Washington, DC USA
November 16, 2021**

Hosted by Howard University, Washington DC

2018 IAWM Chamber Concert

**Dublin, Ireland
October 27, 2018**

Hosted by Trinity College, performed in Trinity Chapel

2017 IAWM Chamber Concert

**Lawrence, Kansas, USA
October 28, 2017**

Hosted by the University of Kansas

2016 IAWM Choral Concert

**Lafayette, Louisiana USA
October 22, 2016**

Hosted by the University of Louisiana

2014 IAWM Electro-Acoustic Concert

**New York City, New York USA
October 16, 2014**

Hosted by City University of New York

2012 IAWM Electro-Acoustic Concert

**Baltimore County, Maryland USA
October 28, 2012**

Hosted by LiveWire 3, Third Annual Festival of New Music, University of Maryland (UMBC)

2010 IAWM Acousmatic Concert

**Lyon, France
October 22, 2010**

Hosted by Musée des moulages de l'Université de Lyon II

2009 IAWM Electro-Acoustic Concert

**Denton, Texas USA
November 7, 2009**

Hosted by University of North Texas

2007 IAWM Chamber Concert

**Fullerton, California USA
March 1, 2007**

Hosted by California State University-Fullerton

2005 IAWM Chamber Concert

**Washington, DC USA
June 5, 2005**

Hosted by the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, DC

2004 IAWM Chamber Concert

**Pasadena, California USA
June 6, 2004**

Hosted by the Pasadena Presbyterian Church

2003 IAWM Chamber Concert

**Washington, DC USA
June 1, 2003**

Hosted by the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, DC

2002 IAWM Chamber Concert

**Washington, DC USA
June 2, 2002**

Hosted by the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, DC

2001 IAWM Chamber Concert

**Washington, DC USA
June 10, 2001**

Hosted by the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, DC

2000 IAWM Chamber Concert

**Washington, DC USA
June 11, 2000**

Hosted by the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, DC

1999 IAWM Chamber Concert

**Washington, DC USA
June 20, 1999**

Hosted by the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, DC

1999 IAWM Advocacy Concert

**Chicago, Illinois USA
February 21, 1999**

Hosted by the Roosevelt University, Chicago

1997 IAWM Chamber Concert

**Washington, DC USA
October 19, 1997**

Hosted by the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, DC

1996 IAWM Chamber Concert

**Washington, DC USA
June 9, 1996**

Hosted by the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, DC

1995 IAWM Chamber Concert

**Washington, DC USA
June 11, 1995**

Hosted by the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, DC

THE JOURNAL OF THE IAWM – 30 YEARS...

The *Journal of the IAWM* is the heart of the IAWM's advocacy work. Once again, IAWM is producing **four issues per year**. Promoting gender equity within the field of music, the Journal is central to the foundation of the organization, focusing exclusively on research, articles, interviews, and profiles about women in any field of music, past and present. With reviews, reports, and more, the Journal serves as a key resource for anyone seeking to learn more about women in music.



INTERNATIONAL MUSIC PARTNERSHIPS

On December 15, 2025, President Christina Rusnak gave a virtual presentation about IAWM, our mission, advocacy work, concerts, opportunities, conferences, and vision at the International Music Council's General Assembly in Paris. In 2024, IAWM was accepted into the IMC, the world's largest network of music organizations dedicated to the advancement of essential music rights.

a member of



International Music Council

5 Music Rights



THE RIGHT FOR ALL CHILDREN AND ADULTS

- 1 To express themselves musically in all freedom
- 2 To learn musical languages and skills
- 3 To have access to musical involvement through participation, listening, creation, and information

THE RIGHT FOR ALL MUSICAL ARTISTS

- 4 To develop their artistry and communicate through all media, with proper facilities at their disposal
- 5 To obtain just recognition and fair remuneration for their work

LOOKING FORWARD

2026 / 2027 IAWM Annual Concert

The University of Buffalo Music Department will be hosting the 2026 IAWM Choral and Vocal Concert in October 2026. See the concert page of the website for more information.

IAWM is looking for partner for an international concert in 2027.

NEW Award Opportunity for Conductors

We have received an endowment to support a competitive award for conductors who have made deliberate, conscious efforts to achieve greater gender equity in their conducting programs by featuring women/non-binary composers and/or performers.

IAWM Music Conferences 2028 and 2031

For 2028, IAWM is looking for an organizational partner for our conference based in the United States or Canada.

IAWM and the College Music Society has confirmed that we will partner at our next International Conference in 2031!



FINANCIALS

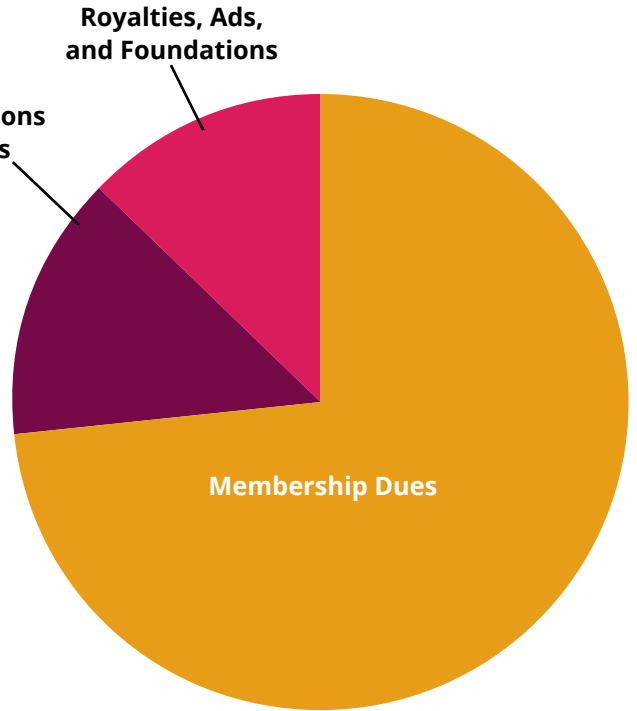
Operational Income/Expense Statement

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025

INCOME

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Membership Dues | \$32,042 |
| Individual Donations & Sponsorships | \$6,133 |
| Royalties, Ads, and Foundations | \$5,478 |
| Total Operational Income | \$43,653 |

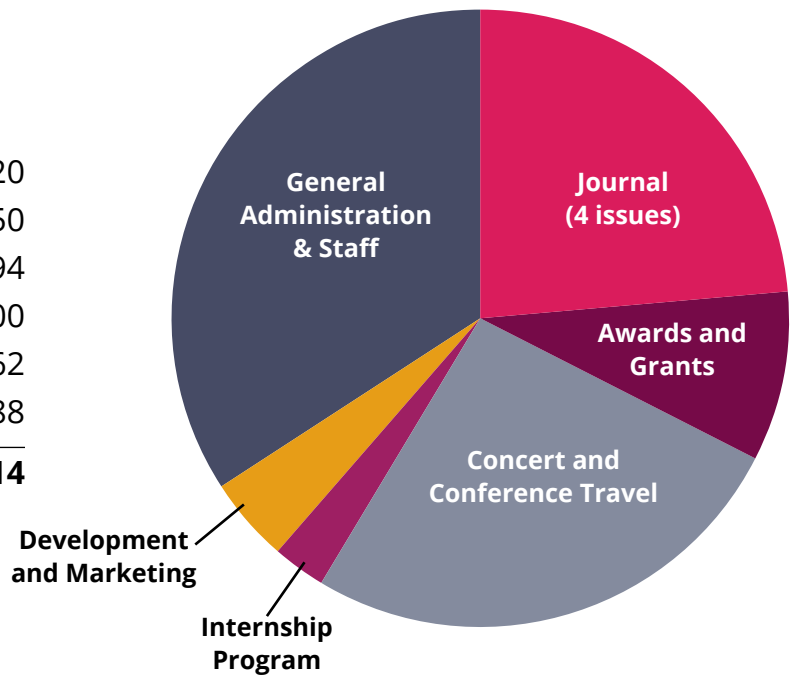
| | |
|--|------------------|
| 2025 Endowment / Investments | \$583,063 |
| <i>Note Earned Interest still invested</i> | <i>\$10,671</i> |



EXPENSES

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Journal (4 issues) | \$17,820 |
| Awards and Grants | \$6,650 |
| Concert and Conference Travel* | \$19,794 |
| Internship Program | \$2,000 |
| Development and Marketing | \$3,362 |
| General Administration & Staff | \$25,588 |
| Total Expense | \$75,214 |

*Performer's Travel Expenses for the Concert was funded by Flanders State of the Art



The deficit was largely absorbed through the Eve Meyer Memorial Fund Endowment, which was created to:

- Support IAWM's growth by increasing capacity
- Increase connections to the global music community (awards, grants, concerts, conferences, partnerships)
- Provide the ability to offer matching grants for Fundraising Campaigns
- Advocate for IAWM and its opportunities
- Foster returning IAWM's events to geographically diverse locations

DONORS, SPONSORS AND MEMBERS

IAWM can only serve our community of WOMEN in Music and grow because of your membership and your donations! We are inspired by your work, your music, and your contribution to the musical community.

EVERY donation enables IAWM to publish the journal, to offer concerts, awards, grants, conferences, and more!

Major Gifts \$4,000 and Above*

Beva Eastman
Eve Meyer Memorial Fund
Flanders State of the Art
J. Michele Edwards

Sponsors for IAWM Awards, and Grants

Katy Abbott
Anonymous
Athena Brass Band
Andrea Clearfield
Claire Chase
Dominant Club
Portland Jazz Composers Ensemble
Beva Eastman
Libby Larsen
Leah Reid
Patsy Rogers in honor of Lucille Goodman
Alex Shapiro
Judith Lang Zaimont

In-Kind Donations

Bauer Graphics
Cheetah Graphics
College Music Society

*Over the last two years

Lifetime Members \$1,000

Eliane Aberdam
Carolyn Albiston
Andrea Breen
Wanda Brister
Barbara Case
Eline Cote
Julie Cross
Violeta Dinescu
Dorothea R. Endicott
Cynthia Folio
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Matthew Hoch
Chia-Yu Hsu
S J Jananiy
Calvert Johnson
Deborah Kavasch and Mr. John Marvin
Elaine Keillor
Victoria Malawey
Frances Nobert
Kanako Okamoto
Jeannie Pool
Leanna Primiani
Marta Ptaszynska
Patsy Rogers
Elena Ruehr
Denise Seachrist
Sharon G Shafer
Casper Soluna
Elizabeth Vercoe
Kris Wildman

We want to thank the *many* members who subscribe to supporting memberships with a giving amount over and above the regular membership dues.

With your generous gifts, our programs, awards and grants continue to cultivate diversity and inclusivity throughout the world of music in countless facets. Your donations and participation moves us toward IAWM's vision to become the world's leading organization devoted to the equity, promotion and advocacy of women in music across time, cultures, and genres.

See the WAYS TO SUPPORT Page

to learn how you can contribute: <https://iawm.org/support/>

2025 BOARD, JOURNAL EDITORS, STAFF & VOLUNTEERS

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OUR PLAN AND VISION

GOALS

In 2026, we plan to:

Develop opportunities for increased connection,
offer lower dues for women in
economically disadvantaged countries,

AND

Complete the 2027-2029 Strategic Plan.

By 2027, we aim to:

Offer an award opportunity for conductors,

AND

Expand categories for the Search for New Music.

By 2030, we strive to:

Increase the endowment to provide
IAWM with an income stream
to hire an Executive Director.

We need your input to realize our future.

Reach out to us at: communications@iawm.org

OUR MISSION

The International Alliance for Women in Music (IAWM) fosters and encourages the activities of women in music.

THE VISION

The IAWM is the world's leading organization devoted to the equity, promotion, and advocacy of women in music across time, cultures, and genres.

Let's Connect



www.iawm.org



www.instagram.com/iawmcommunity



www.facebook.com/IAWMusic



www.youtube.com/@iawmmedia