



**THE
MUSEUM OF
RUSSIAN ART
2021 ANNUAL REPORT**

2021: YEAR IN REVIEW

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Unlike 2020, when The Museum of Russian Art (TMORA) was closed for five months due to the state's pandemic mandates, in 2021, TMORA operated on a normal schedule, beginning on January 11. Pandemic protocols remained in place to protect visitors and staff, and masks were required for most of the year.

Attendance began to increase as the year progressed and, in August, it was comparable to the pre-pandemic year of 2019. However, as soon as the Delta variant became dominant in the fall, attendance dropped, as did participation in our newly reinstituted events, such as Russian Art After Dark and exhibition openings. Our live concerts, however, which started again on July 24, followed by concerts in September and October, sold-out at the reduced seating capacity of 75. The reduced crowd size at the concerts allowed for reserved seating, arranged with social distancing in mind.

With live programs limited throughout most of the year, virtual programs continued with exhibition tours, artist talks, and book discussions. The online Russian language program, initiated at the start of the pandemic in 2020, gained momentum, with students from around the country being taught at several different levels by our three instructors. With the hiring of the Museum's first Education Coordinator in December, through a grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services, programs for children, families, and adults will be forthcoming in 2022.

It was an extremely full year with fourteen exhibitions including the paintings of Geli Korzhev, the design innovations of Alexey Brodovitch, Russian ethnic dolls, lacquer miniatures, a selection of Belarusian painters, and the contemporary work of Ekaterina Khromin and Andréa Stanislav. Through funding from the Minnesota State Arts Board, St. Paul-based American Indian artist Marlena Myles created an exhibition focusing on her reflections of the interactions between the indigenous peoples of Alaska and the Russians who took control of that region during the Russian America period in the 18th and 19th centuries. It was her first one-person show and the first exhibition of the work of an American Indian artist at TMORA.

In the lower level gallery, the year began with the holiday exhibition *Masquerade for New Year* and ended with the *The Yolka: Russia's New Year Tree*, both of which were primarily comprised of items from the Museum's major collection of Soviet-era holiday items from our Balaschak Collection. 2021 marked the year that the lower-level space officially became the Museum's Permanent Collection Gallery, dedicated to highlighting TMORA's growing collection.

Despite the restrictions of the pandemic and its impact on the Museum's attendance and programs, a significant financial milestone was achieved in 2021. With payments in January and April, TMORA retired its mortgage, which stood at \$1.28 million. Our sincere thanks go out to the donors who made this achievement possible, as it assures the Museum's future at its present location.

My thanks, as always, go out to the staff, Trustees, volunteers, and members who make everything we accomplish at TMORA possible.

Mark J. Meister
Executive Director & President

2021 KEY METRICS

On-site attendance - 19,558

Virtual event attendance - 1,961 (19 programs)

Outreach event attendance - 969 (23 programs)

Year-end Memberships - 1,600



2021 EXHIBITIONS

Leaders and the Masses: Mega Paintings from Soviet Ukraine

June 29, 2020 - February 7, 2021

Masquerade for New Year

November 9, 2020 - January 31, 2021

Dynamics of Russian Colonialism in Alaska: Marlena Myles

January 16 - March 14, 2021

Ekaterina Khromin: The Art of Synergism

February 20 - June 13, 2021

Paintings by Geli Korzhev: Soviet Idealist + Iconoclast

February 27 - June 13, 2021

Artel Dolls, Soviet Russia, 1920s

March 27 - August 8, 2021

Medieval Russian Sailboats

May 22 - June 6, 2021

Alexi Brodovitch: Designer of the Avant-Garde

June 23 - October 24, 2021

Belarusian Paintings: from Traditionalism to Contemporary Expression

June 26 - September 12, 2021

The Ancient Artel: Lacquer Miniatures from Palekh

June 23 - October 24, 2021

Samovars and Nesting Dolls: MSP Airpot

June 29, 2021 - June 21, 2022

E.O. Hoppé and the Ballets Russes

September 18 - November 14, 2021

Andréa Stanislav: Cosmist Reconstructions - Memories of Earth

October 30, 2021 - February 22, 2022

The Yolka: Russia's New Year Tree

November 13, 2021 - January 16, 2022



2021 EVENTS

*Denotes Virtual Program

January 14 - The Future of International Information:
American and Russian Approaches*

January 30 - Celebrating Chekhov*

February 17 - *The Black Russian: A Virtual Book Discussion*
with Author Vladimir Alexandrov*

February 24 - Virtual Tour with Artist Marlena Myles*

March 2 - Virtual Grand Opening - Three New Exhibitions
Unveiled*

April 6 - Visualizing Music: Modest Mussorgsky, Pictures at
an Exhibition*

April 14 - Virtual Tour with the Artist: Ekaterina Khromin*

April 15 - Artistic and Cultural Exchanges Between
Minnesota and Akademgorodok, Russia*

April 21 - Virtual Tour with the Curator: *Paintings by Geli*
*Korzhev**

May 5 - Virtual Tour with the Curator: *Artel Dolls, Soviet*
*Russia, 1920s**

May 22 - Voices from Russia: Celebrating all things Volga-
German*

May 24 - Virtual Program with the Author: *Beyond by*
Stephen Walker - Motherland Greets a Hero: The Thrilling
*Feat of Yuri Gagarin**

June 3 - Virtual Tour with the Curator: *Medieval Russian*
Sailboats

June 16 - The Importance of Central Asia in World Affairs*

June 25 - Virtual Opening with the Curator - *Alexey*
Brodovitch: Designer of the Avant-Garde, Belarusian
*Paintings: from Traditionalism to Contemporary Expression**

June 25 - Opening Reception for Russian Arts & Culture
Society

July 24 - Denis Evstuhin in Concert

August 6 - Russian Art After Dark

September 11 - White Nights Annual Fundraising Dinner

September 17 - Opening Reception - *E.O. Hoppé and the*
Ballets Russes

September 18 - Smithsonian Museum Day

September 19 - Julian Gargiulo and Nathan Meltzer in
Concert

September 23 - Russian Art After Dark

October 2 - Encore Performance: Denis Evstuhin in
Concert

October 12 - US Russian Museums Art Loan Freeze: Where
Do We Go From Here?*

October 21 - Ballet Photography: Alexei Brodovitch and
E.O. Hoppé - Dr. Curt Lund*

October 30 - Opening Reception - *Andrea Stanislav:*
Cosmist Reconstructions - Memories of Earth

November 11 - Celebrating Dostoevsky*

November 13 - Afternoon Tea at TMORA

November 14 - Opening Reception - *The Yolka: Russia's*
New Year Tree

November 29 - The Current Russia-Ukraine Relationship*

December 8 - TMORA Members Shopping Night

December 10 - Virtual Tour with the Artist: Andréa
Stanislav*

2021 EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



Denis Evstuhin, TMORA's Curator of Classical Music, in Concert - 7.24.21



Russian Art After Dark - 8.06.21



Opening Reception with artist Andréa Stanislav - 10.30.21



White Nights Annual Fundraising Dinner - 9.11.21



Afternoon Tea at TMORA - 11.13.21



Julian Gargiulo & Nathan Meltzer in Concert - 9.19.21

2021 Net Profit – \$151,126



2021 DONORS

TMORA's Russian Arts and Culture Society (RACS) celebrates the mission of the Museum and honors those who contribute \$1,000+ annually to support its growth and success. We are deeply grateful to the following RACS members:

\$25,000+

Anonymous

Elizabeth Petrangelo and Mike Lundebj

\$10,000-\$24,999

Douglas and Julie Baker

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Kathleen Blatz and Greg Page

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Ludmila Borisnova Eklund M.D. and Dr. John Eklund

Sean Kalafut

David Washburn and Meg Anderson

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\$5,000-\$9,999

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Per Hong

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\$2,500-\$4,999

Norlin Boyum

Ronald L. and Janet A. Christenson

Mary Crosby Dolan

Elke Geacintov

2021 DONORS

Russian Arts and Culture Society (RACS) continued

\$2,500-\$4,999

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Continued

2021 DONORS

Russian Arts and Culture Society (RACS) continued

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2021 DONORS

Foundation and Grant Support

\$25,000+

Minnesota State Arts Board

Robert J. Brokop Revocable Trust

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\$10,000-\$24,999

Institute of Museum and Library Services

Minnesota Historical Society

Minnesota Humanities Center

NextStage

\$5,000-\$9,999

Target Foundation

TPT, Twin Cities Public Television



Artworks from Dynamics of Russian Colonialism in Alaska: Marlena Myles

2021 DONORS

Contributions

\$500-\$999

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Jennifer Djupedal

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G. Rolf and Patricia Svendsen

Catherine Taylor

Information about how to support TMORA through your donor-advised fund, with gifts of stock, an IRA distribution, or legacy gift planning can be found at www.tmora.org/giving or by contacting the Museum directly at 612-821-9045. You may also make a gift, renew your membership, and buy tickets for upcoming events.

2021 STAFF

Mark J. Meister, Executive Director and President

Theresa Nelson, Membership and Development Associate, Weekend Manager

Linda Thiel, Financial & Administrative Officer

Maria Zavialova, Ph.D., Chief Curator, Head of Exhibitions and Collections

Michael Waltz, Collections Management & Installation Technician

Gini Tyson, Installation Specialist

Michelle Massey, Director of Public Programs

Bridget Gallagher, Education Coordinator

Carol Rudie, Outreach Education Coordinator

Elena Epshteyn, Russian Language Instructor

Inna Ponomorenko, Russian Language Instructor

Natalia Krylova, Russian Language Instructor

Dennis Evstuhin, Curator of Classical Music

Kelly Bloedorn, Front Desk Assistant

Mary Berg, Museum Shop Director of Retail

Irina Linder, Museum Shop Assistant

Sarah Rosenthal, Museum Shop Associate

Mark Biers, Facilities Manager

2021 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Reggie Boyle, Vice Chair

Kathy Bracken, Secretary

Mark Downey, Treasurer

Natalia Berglund

Norlin Boyum

Roma Calatayud-Stocks

Jan Del Calzo

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Sean Kalafut

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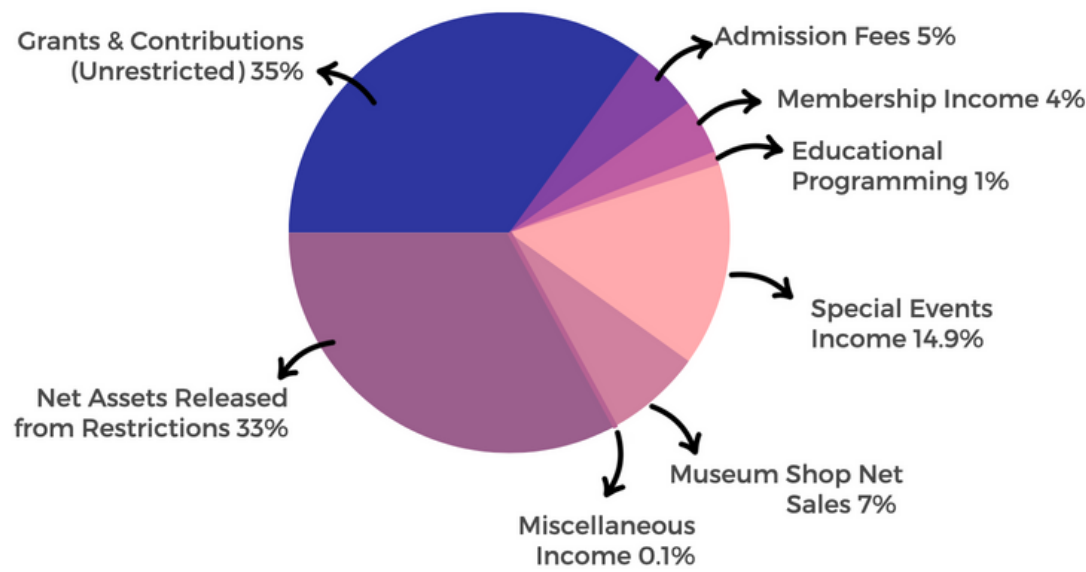
Meaghan Shomion

David Washburn

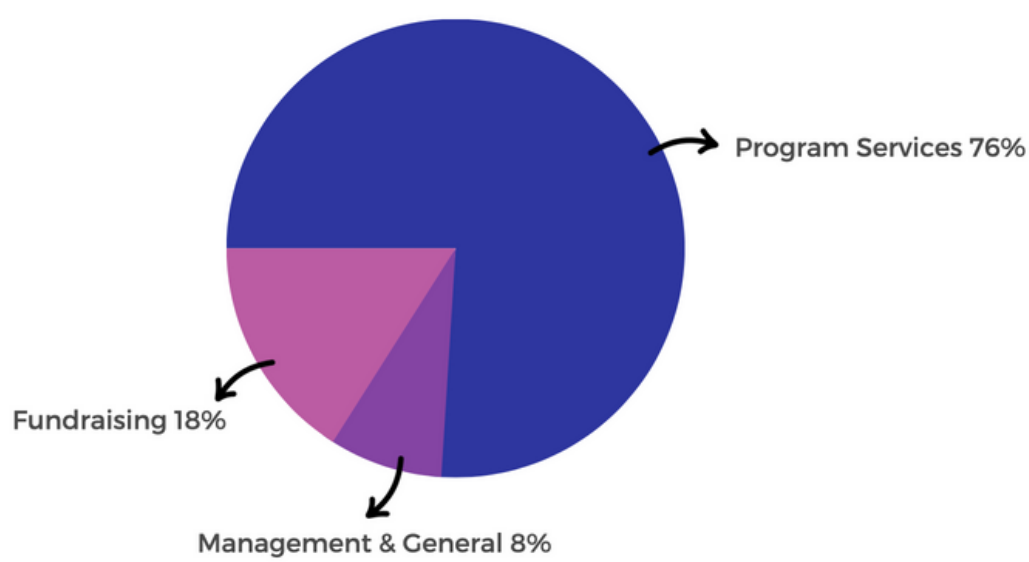
C. Ben Wright, Ph.D.

2021 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

2021 REVENUE



2021 EXPENSE



The Museum of Russian Art's financial statements, excerpted for this presentation, are audited by Carpenter, Evert & Associates, Certified Public Accountants. These audited financial statements may be viewed upon request at The Museum of Russian Art's Administration Office, 5500 Stevens Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55419.

2021 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

2021 Revenue (Unrestricted)

Grants and Contributions (unrestricted): 35%	\$779,476
Admission Fees: 5%	\$123,022
Membership Income: 4%	\$96,751
Educational Programming: 1%	\$28,372
Special Events Income (net): 14.9%	\$334,691
Museum Shop Net Sales: 7%	\$151,126
Miscellaneous Income: 0.1%	\$4,053
Net Assets Released from Restrictions: 33%	\$735,199
 Total Support and Revenue	 \$2,252,690

2021 Expense

Program Services: 76%	\$817,795
Management and General: 8%	\$90,346
Fundraising: 16%	<u>\$176,393</u>
 Total Expense Before Depreciation	 \$1,084,534
 Depreciation	 <u>\$209,729</u>
 Total Expense	 \$1,294,263
 Change in Net Assets	 \$958,427
 Net Assets - Beginning of Year	 <u>\$3,535,623</u>
Net Assets - End of Year	<u>\$4,494,050</u>

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2021 FUNDERS

Robert J. Brokop Revocable Trust



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INSTITUTE of
Museum and Library
SERVICES



foundation



The exhibitions and programs at The Museum of Russian Art are made possible by the voters of Minnesota through Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support and Creative Support for Organization grants, thanks to the a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund, as well as a Minnesota State Arts Board CARES Act grant.



Minnesota
Humanities
Center



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
HUMANITIES

Funding has been provided to The Museum of Russian Art by the Minnesota Humanities Center through support from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) as part of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021. NEH is committed to Sustaining the Humanities through the American Rescue Plan (SHARP).* *Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this exhibition do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

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