

San Francisco  
Symphony

SEASON  
REVIEW

2018/19





**107**  
of the world's  
finest musicians

**450,000**  
audience members  
reached through concerts

**108 million**  
global listeners each year

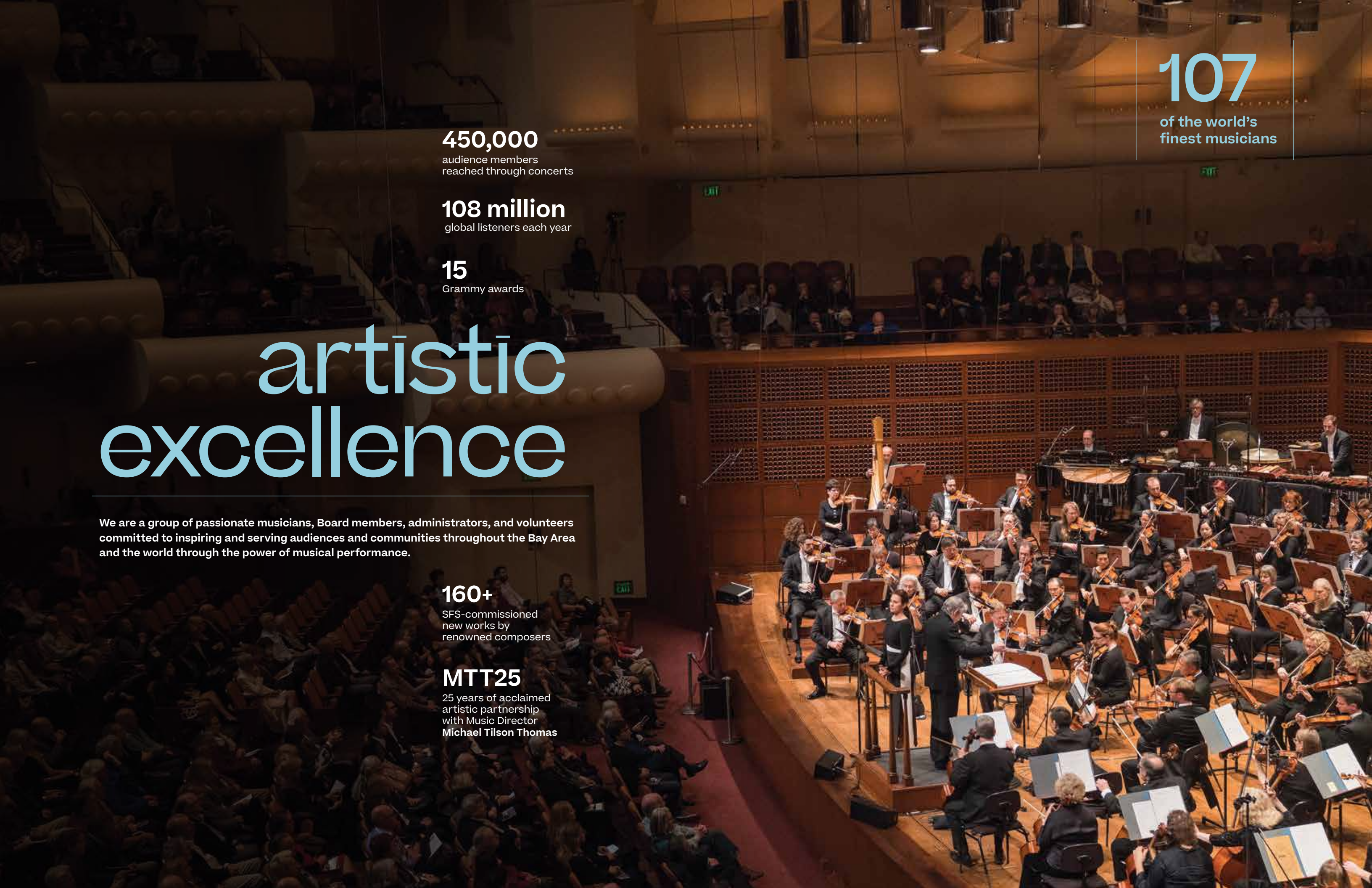
**15**  
Grammy awards

# artistic excellence

We are a group of passionate musicians, Board members, administrators, and volunteers committed to inspiring and serving audiences and communities throughout the Bay Area and the world through the power of musical performance.

**160+**  
SFS-commissioned  
new works by  
renowned composers

**MTT25**  
25 years of acclaimed  
artistic partnership  
with Music Director  
**Michael Tilson Thomas**





# season highlights



> **Opening Night Gala** features legendary violinist and educator **Itzhak Perlman** [September 5, 2018]

> **Two-week Stravinsky Festival** with pre-concert music and dance performances by Art Haus [September 2018]



> MTT and the SF Symphony star in **Carnegie Hall's** season-opening concerts [October 2018]

> **MTT** embarks on his final national tour with the SF Symphony, which includes performances in seven cities [March 2019]



> SF Symphony concludes season with semi-staged performances of **Ravel's *L'Enfant et les sortilèges*** (The Child and the Magic Spells) [June 2019]

> Commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights** with performances of MTT's *From the Diary of Anne Frank* [November 2018]



> **SF Symphony Youth Orchestra** tours Europe with concerts in six cities [June–July 2019]

> SF Symphony partners with the Asia Society and Coal+Ice as part of the **Global Action Climate Summit** [September 2018]

> SF Symphony musicians perform a **solidarity concert for Notre-Dame de Paris** at Grace Cathedral [April 29, 2019]



> **Esa-Pekka Salonen** announced as the next Music Director of the San Francisco Symphony in [December 2018]

> Fifth season of **SoundBox** boasts six sold-out shows



> **SF Symphony performs at Frost Amphitheater** as part of a new annual series, SF Symphony at Frost, Presented by Stanford Live. More than 12,000 people attended across three performances.

2019



## SF Symphony 2018–19 premieres

World premiere of Steven Mackey's new work, *Portals, Scenes and Celebrations*, composed in honor of MTT and commissioned by the SF Symphony

World premiere of Kevin Puts's suite from his Pulitzer Prize-winning opera *Silent Night*

SFS co-commissions *Music for Ensemble and Orchestra* by Steve Reich



Steven Mackey



Kevin Puts



Steve Reich

## SFS Media releases in their 17th year



Recording of Schumann Symphonies Nos. 1–4 nominated for a 2019 Grammy award

MTT and the SF Symphony  
at Carnegie Hall

“THE ENTIRE PERFORMANCE  
WAS RIVETING, AND ELICITED  
AN EXUBERANT OVATION  
FROM THE AUDIENCE.”

—The New York Times



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# 100%

of SF public elementary school students, grades 1–5, receive free music education through the Adventures in Music (AIM) program

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## education & community

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**1,040**

**in-school AIM performances** provided across all SF public elementary schools

**95**

**classrooms in 36 schools** are visited by education docents, preparing 2,109 students to take part in the Concerts for Kids program

**4,500**

**SF public middle and high school musicians** benefit from Music and Mentors, which provides coaching, instrument purchase and repair, and complimentary performance tickets

**100+**

**Youth Orchestra musicians** receive the finest orchestral training each year tuition-free

**1,800+**

**volunteers** giving their time—more than 25,000 hours—to the SF Symphony each year

**4,000+**

**children, teachers, and chaperones** attend the annual Deck the Hall Community Day concerts, free of charge



Adventures in Music program



SF Symphony Youth Orchestra



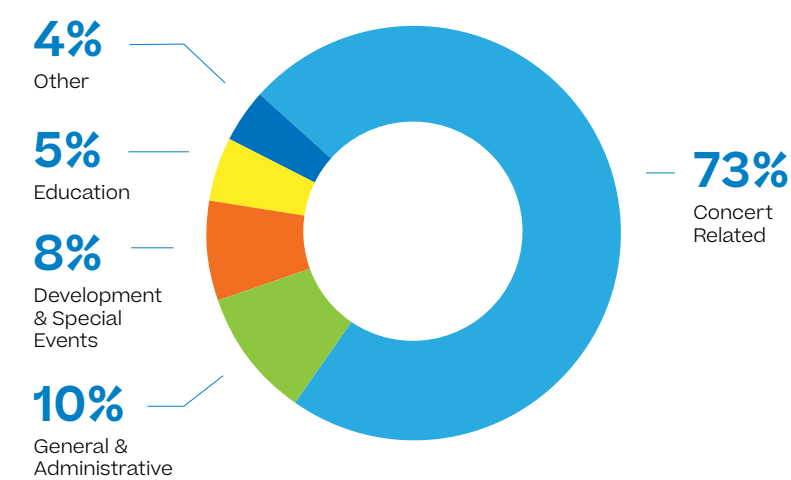
Deck the Hall concert

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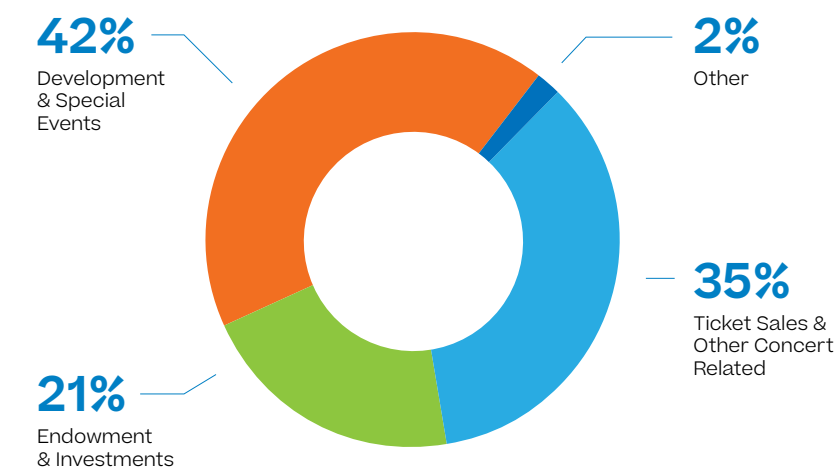
# financials

2018–19 Budget: \$80 million

## Operating Expenses\*



## Operating Revenue\*



\* projected

# MTT



### 1974

MTT's first appearance as guest conductor. He leads the SF Symphony in Mahler's Symphony No. 9

### 1995

MTT begins his tenure as Music Director of the SF Symphony

### 1996

MTT and the SF Symphony's first national tour [March] and international tour [November]

### 1997

MTT and the SF Symphony win their first Grammy together, for the 1996 album Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet*, on RCA Red Seal

### 1998

For the first time, the SF Symphony performs a composition by MTT: *Agnegram*, dedicated to Agnes Albert in honor of her 90th birthday

### 2000

MTT and the SF Symphony present their first American Mavericks Festival

### 2004

Television pilot of *Keeping Score* is broadcast nationally and features a complete performance of Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony by MTT and the SF Symphony

### 2010

MTT is awarded National Medal of Arts, presented by then-US President Barack Obama

### 2012

MTT and the SF Symphony celebrate their second American Mavericks Festival

### 2017

MTT is inducted into the California Hall of Fame

### 2019

MTT named a 2019 Kennedy Center Honoree, an award celebrating icons who "have left an indelible stamp on our collective cultural consciousness." [July 2019]



**Do you have an interesting fact to share  
with us about the San Francisco Symphony?  
Email us your thoughts!**



**SAN FRANCISCO  
SYMPHONY**

MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS • MUSIC DIRECTOR

For more information, please visit  
**SFSYMPHONY.ORG/GIVE**  
or contact us at **415-503-5444**  
or **support@sfsymphony.org**

*The cover drawing was created by a 4th grade student who attended a San Francisco Symphony performance and participated in the Symphony's Visual Arts Project, a program designed to encourage post-concert reflection by inviting students to submit artwork based on their experience at Davies Symphony Hall.*

*Metro International is the preferred printer of the San Francisco Symphony.*