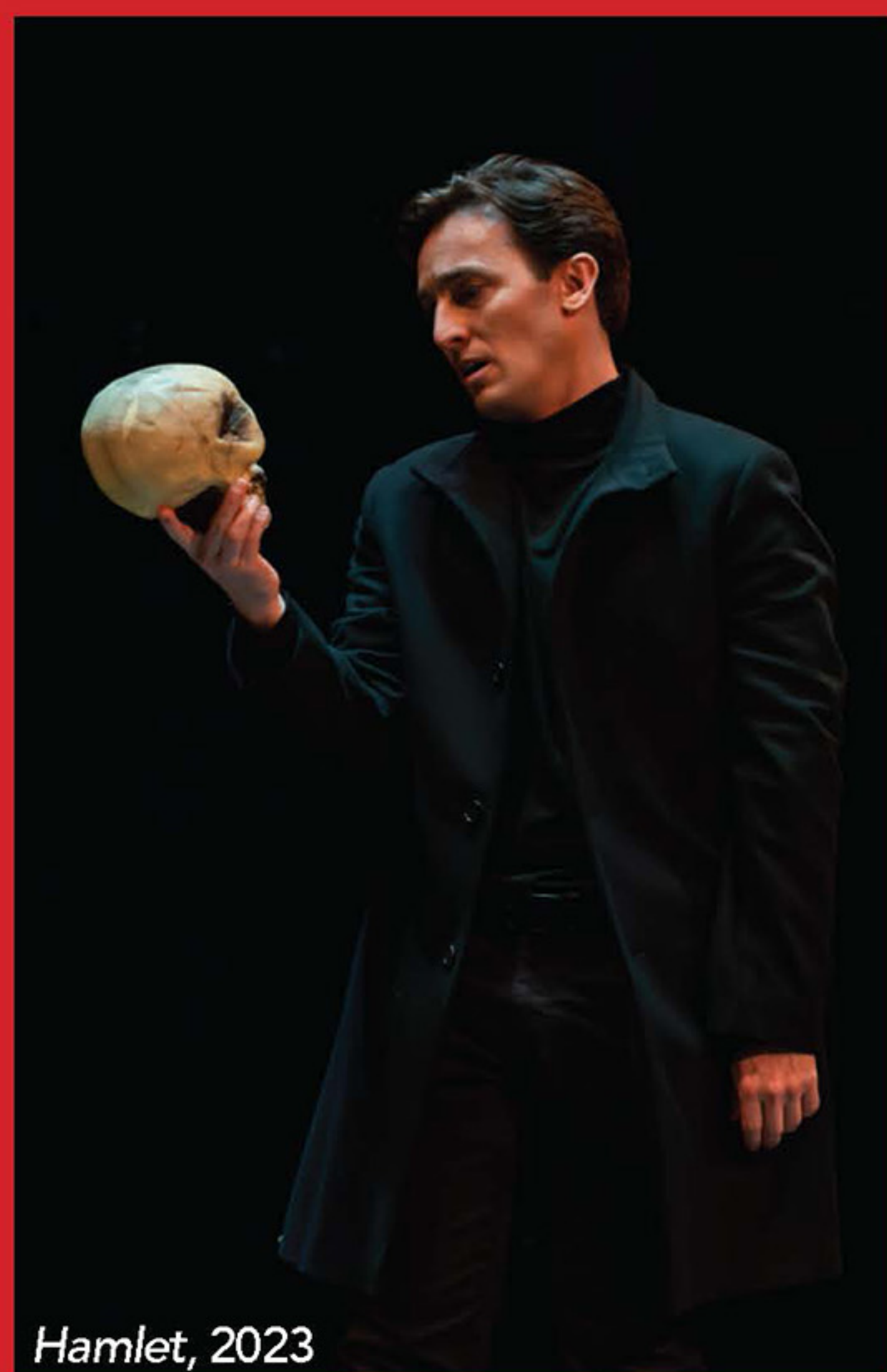


CHESAPEAKE SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

IMPACT STATEMENT FY 2023



Hamlet, 2023



Macbeth, 2023

A Year of Innovation & Celebration!

A Note from CSC's Producing Executive Director



Lesley Malin

As I look back over Chesapeake Shakespeare's 2022-23 Twentieth Anniversary season, I am so grateful for the splendid opportunities you helped make possible. We

thought that this document in your hands would be a wonderful way to share our inspiring accomplishments from that anniversary year.

We were proud at how much our audiences rebounded post-pandemic, when many of our sister theatres nationwide were struggling with a 50% loss in patrons. Our education programs were especially strong in their return. Our pilot summer of Shakespeare Beyond was met with joy and enthusiasm and we learned many important lessons for future summers. And we pulled off an anniversary gala that was full of fabulously costumed guests, swordfights, dancing, and merriment.

Our season featured an enchanting production of *Twelfth Night*, in

honor of our inaugural production two decades ago; a dynamic new adaptation of our Baltimore-set *A Christmas Carol*; the long-awaited return, enhanced with a revised script, of *The Complete Works...*; our critically acclaimed *Hamlet* — the most profitable indoor production in our history; and our *Macbeth* in the Ruins, featuring our Black Classical Acting Ensemble,

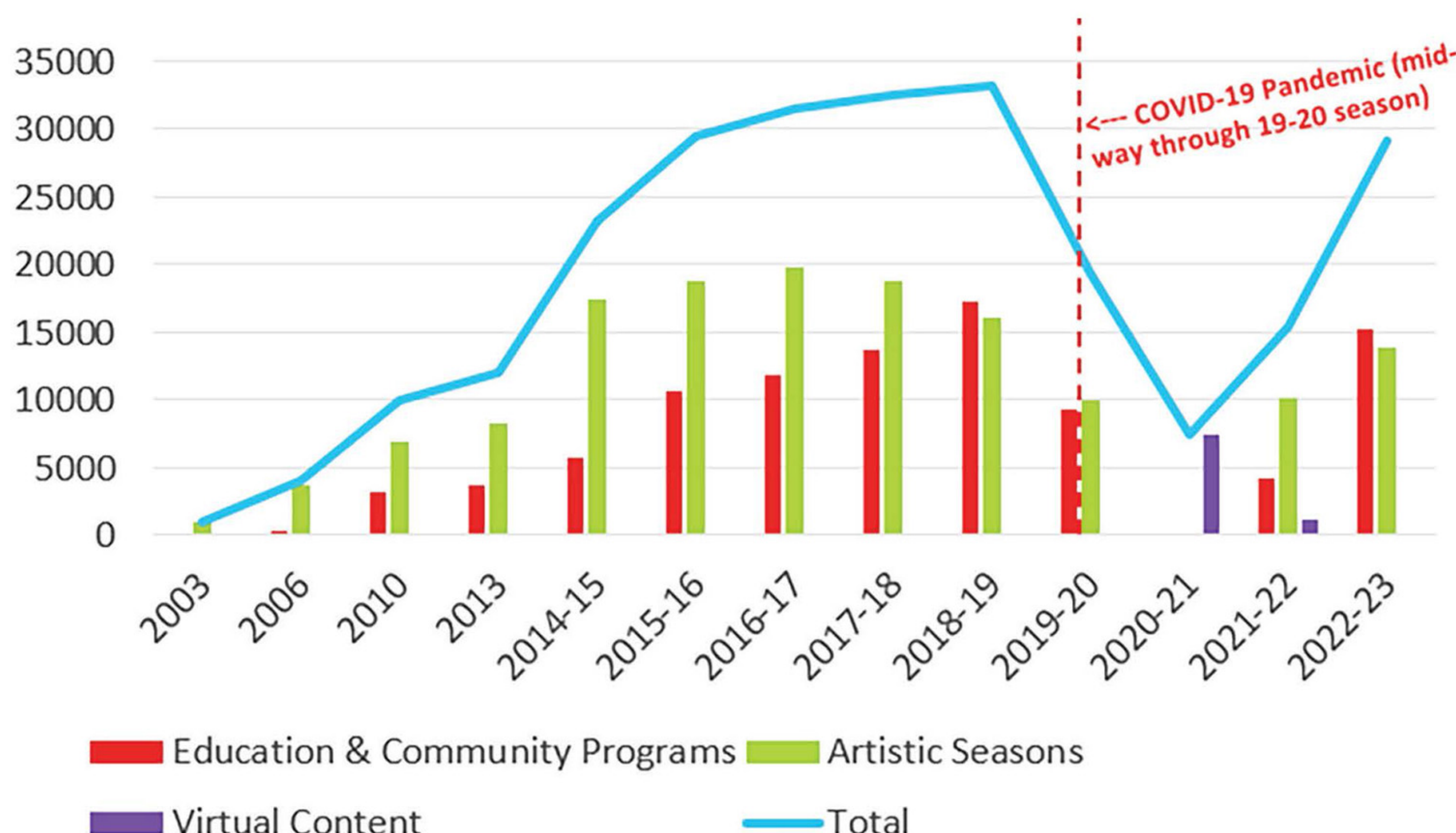
which made CSC history.

We know our future is bright, because we have you on our side. Thank you for being one of our band of brothers.

See you at the theatre!

Lesley Malin,
Producing Executive Director

CSC Audience Growth



Going Above & Beyond!

A Note from CSC's Founding Artistic Director



Ian Gallanar

Phew, we made it! Our 20th anniversary season was an important milestone and we wanted to commemorate it appropriately. We celebrate things around here by creating and sharing art, enthusiastically teaching students, and creating new programming to engage our community.

Seriously. That's how we have fun.

And fun is what we had during our 2022-23 season.

Lesley shared the story of our successful mainstage season, but that tells only a portion of the story. I hope by now you've heard about our innovative student matinee series. During 2022-23, we welcomed 11,443 students to our theater to see weekday performances of *Macbeth* and *Romeo and Juliet*. It was a great return to cultural field trips for students from around the region. Our popular summer camps, Studio classes, and school residencies also returned with energy.

Our affinity groups were also busy. Our Veterans' Ensemble and Black Classical Acting Ensemble were active with performances and made important contributions to CSC's season.



2022 Capulet Costume Ball (20th Anniversary Gala)

Shakespeare Beyond, our new community engagement project, finished its pilot season in summer 2023 with success. We traveled to four unique locations in Baltimore City, where over 1,000 patrons saw a free production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. We performed in Patterson Park, Pigtown, and Northwest Baltimore and, although we were thwarted by horrific thunderstorms in Cherry Hill, we were proud of the beginning of this important initiative. We partnered with community groups like the Enoch Pratt Free Library, LifeBridge Health, Mount Clare Museum House, Friends of Patterson Park, Southway Builders, and Baltimore City Recreation and Parks to build the foundation upon which Shakespeare Beyond will grow and flourish in the coming years.

IAN

Ian Gallanar,
Founding Artistic Director

Donor Profile

John Warshawsky

John Warshawsky and his wife Susan are relatively new to Baltimore, having moved here in 2018, but not long after moving here, they found Chesapeake Shakespeare Company and became subscribers.

They are products of Missouri, where they met as accounting students and where John attended law school and initially practiced law. They moved to Washington, D.C. in 1987, and both had professional careers in the D.C. area until they decided to retire in Baltimore.

"I'm not your typical Shakespeare audience member," John admits. Like many people, he and his wife had some exposure to Shakespeare, but the first time they attended a Shakespeare performance in D.C., they both realized they did not

understand the language and were quickly lost. They both appreciate the arts – John plays the viola, and both have long attended classical music concerts – but they felt like outsiders at the Shakespeare play in D.C.

After three-plus decades in D.C., John and Susan decided to move to Baltimore. They had visited the city many times, for Baltimore Symphony Orchestra (BSO) concerts and Orioles games, and they knew Baltimore was now a better fit for them than D.C. Following their move to Baltimore, they found out about Chesapeake Shakespeare Company and decided to give a Bard play another chance, with the 2022 production of *Henry V*. This time, prepared in advance with his Folger Shakespeare edition, John attended CSC and loved it. He



John Warshawsky

brought Susan next, and they have been coming back ever since.

"I love the theatre and the gorgeous building," John says, "and how accessible the actors are... The experience in the theatre is intimate. The productions are so well-performed and well-directed."

John and Susan are now Friend-level donors at CSC. In fact, John likes the performances so much he began volunteering as an usher, and proudly posted the photo (above) of himself in his red usher's scarf on social media.

"Chesapeake Shakespeare was an enormous surprise," John says, noting the warmth and welcoming atmosphere they have experienced. "We really look forward to the productions here, and we're always happy to chat it up with others."

For a longer version of this article, visit:
<http://www.ChesShakes.com/Impact>



Romeo & Juliet, 2023 (Student Matinee)



Twelfth Night, 2022

By the Numbers

Our 2022-23 Season

13,663

Number of people welcomed by CSC's mainstage season across 5 theatre productions

THIRTY-TWO

Number of members in our Black Classical Acting Ensemble (BCAE) — which continues to grow. The BCAE mounted both a mainstage production (summer 2023) and a student matinee production (fall 2022) of *Macbeth*.

282%

This year we served 11,443 students in our student matinee program – a 282% increase from the previous season. 3,785 students attended a matinee performance for free, and more than 3,000 came from Title I schools.

1,000 Hours

Number of hours CSC teaching artists spent in the classroom, providing in-school residencies to 1,567 students.

1,030

Number of people who enjoyed productions in 4 Baltimore City parks and public spaces during summer 2023, when we piloted our new community arts initiative, Shakespeare Beyond, that provides free Shakespeare productions.

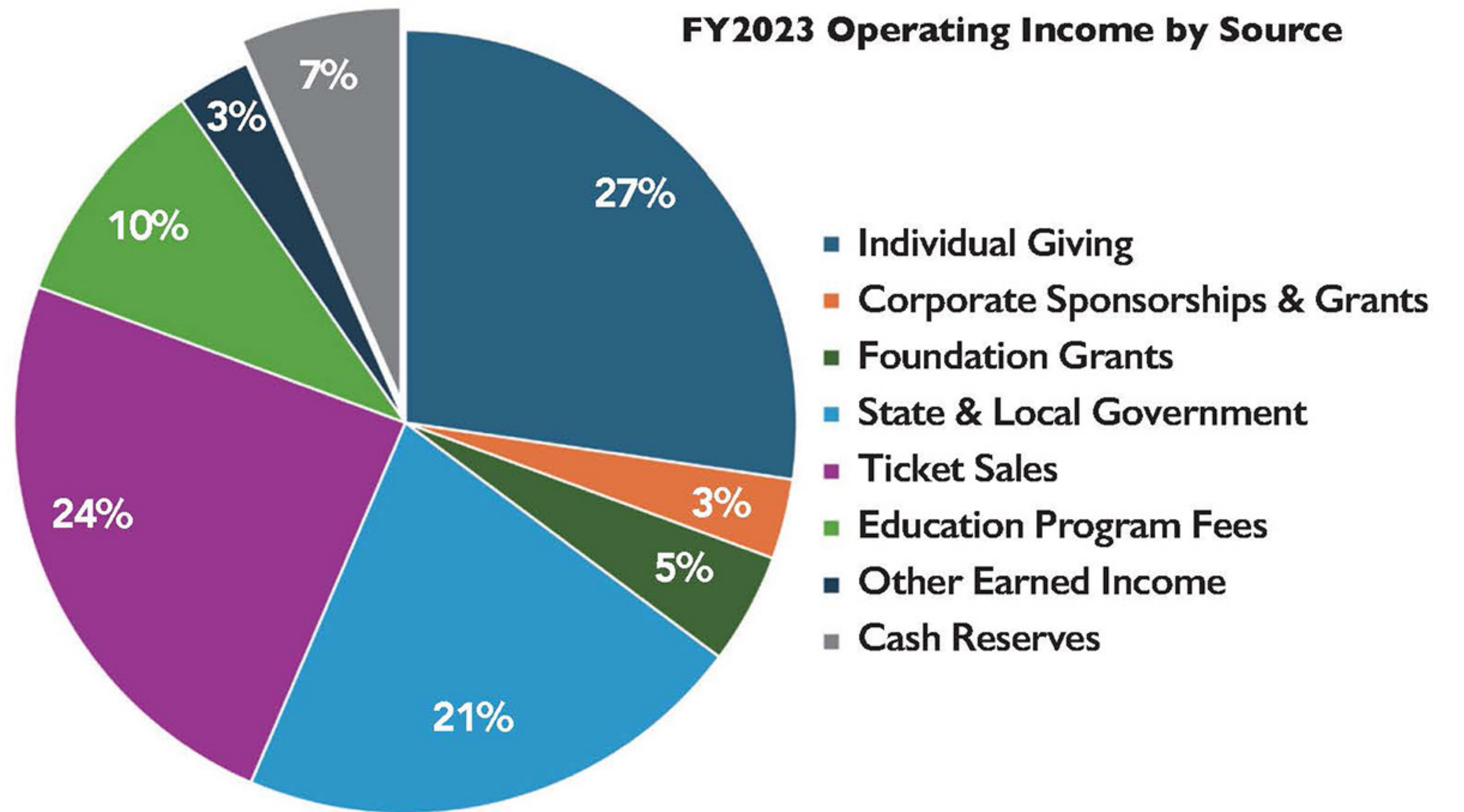
Nearly 30K

Number of people CSC engaged across our theatre productions, educational programs, collaborative community events, and community outreach initiatives.

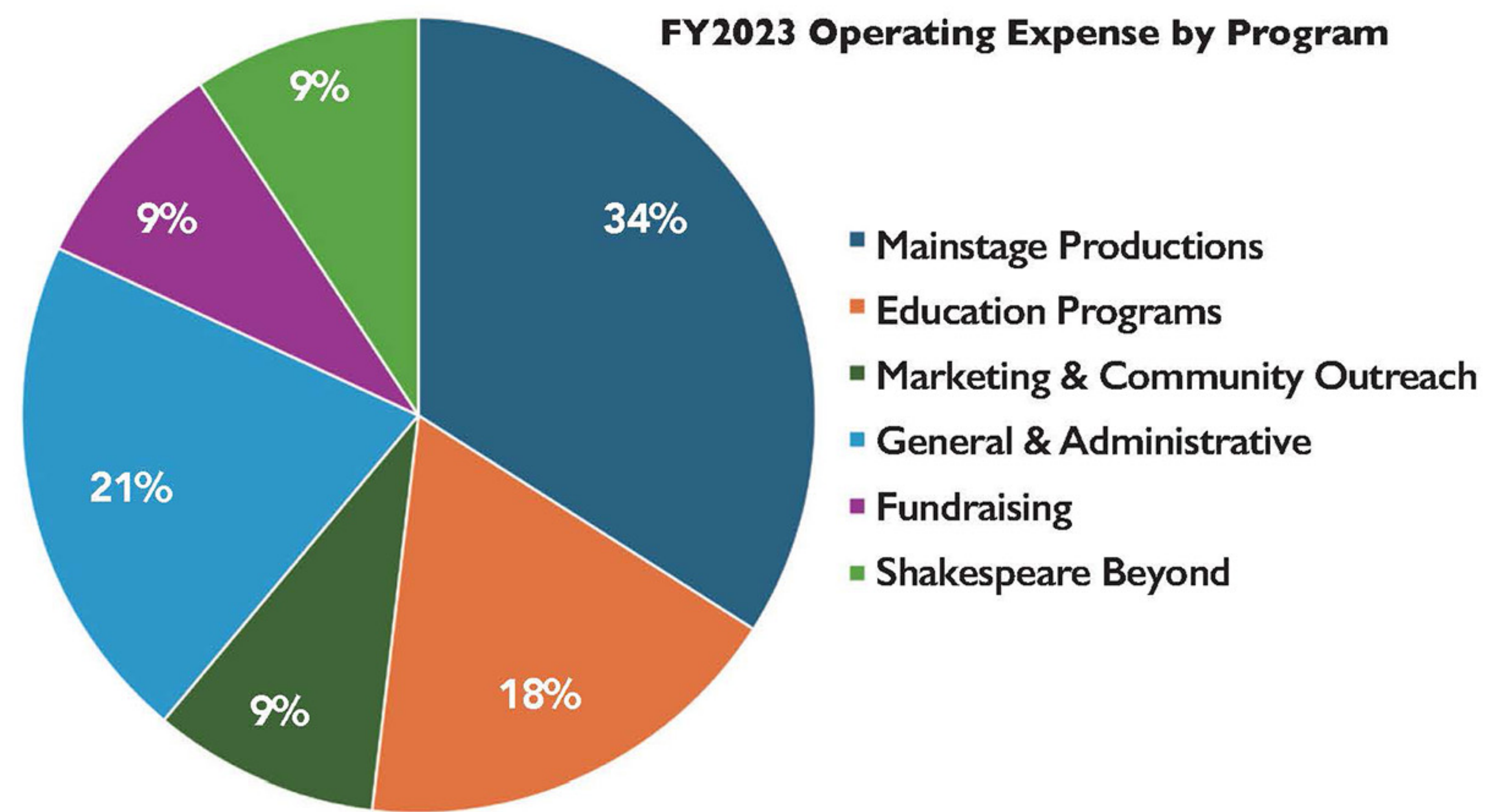
TWO

Veterans' Ensemble mounted public productions (*To Be A Soldier* and *The Murder of Gonzago*) in Baltimore City and Howard County.

FY2023 Operating Income by Source



FY2023 Operating Expense by Program



Over 700 people came to see Shakespeare Beyond's pilot performances in Patterson Park

Individual Donors

(\$250-\$499)

Anonymous (4)
Pamela H. Bilger
Lastenia Boyle
David Brown
Donna Burke and Dava Sentz *
Yara Cheikh and Firmin
DeBrabander
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Vitullo Family

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Topper and Ellen Webb
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(\$100-\$249)

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IN-KIND SUPPORT

Bach in Baltimore
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Shriver Hall Concert Series

* Recurring Donors
† Deceased



The Complete Works, 2023



A Christmas Carol, 2022

Thank You, Friends of CSC!

We gratefully acknowledge the Friends of CSC. Their gifts support the artistry you experience at Chesapeake Shakespeare Company, both on stage and behind-the-scenes, plus our outreach and education programs in the community. This list recognizes gifts of \$100 and greater, received from September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2023. (For gifts under \$100, see our complete list online at <http://www.ChesShakes.com/Impact>)

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Randall Cover

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\$100,000+

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\$25,000–\$99,999

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The William G. Baker, Jr. Memorial Fund,
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The Robertson Powell Foundation

Our Latest Achievements

2023-24

- **Our Board of Trustees completed a review and revision** of our Mission and Vision statements, in addition to developing a Strategic Plan for the future.
- **Our 2023-24 season was highlighted** by CSC's first Greek tragedy, *The Oresteia*, and *Romeo & Juliet* set in 1970s Baltimore... both garnering rave reviews and sales, and bringing many first-time visitors to our theatre.
- **Howard County is welcoming CSC** back to the PFI Historic Park this summer, and they recently announced the return of their public shuttle to transport for our 20th summer season. *The Merry Wives of Windsor* will be this year's PFI production.
- **Shakespeare Beyond received a grant** from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)... the first NEA grant for CSC! Now entering its second year, Shakespeare Beyond is expanding to eight locations this summer. The State of Maryland continues its generous support, and the France-Merrick Foundation, William G. Baker, Jr. Memorial Fund, and Joseph & Harvey Meyerhoff Family Charitable Funds are among the latest donors to provide major support.
- **We've announced an exciting 2024-25 season** of classic theatre, which will include August Wilson's *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*, Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* and Friedrich Schiller's *Mary Stuart*, in addition to Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar* and *The Comedy of Errors* (to be presented as *It's The Comedy of Errors, Hon!*)
- **CSC initiated and is spearheading** the Baltimore August Wilson Celebration, a special three-year project to present the noted Black playwright's entire 10-play American Century Cycle in Baltimore's theatres. Staging all of these plays in chronological order has never been done—until now!

Thank you for supporting live theatre

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The Oresteia, 2024



Romeo & Juliet, 2024

CHESAPEAKE SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

MISSION: We create community through energetic, joyful, and accessible classic theatre.

VISION: Our transformative theatre experiences inspire connection and reveal the power of art to enrich and uplift lives.

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Chesapeake Shakespeare Company is the leading classic theatre company in Maryland, offering vibrant performances that delight our patrons by breathing new life into Shakespeare and other classic plays. One of the six largest theatre companies in the state, CSC serves diverse audiences with funny, moving, rousing mainstage seasons, a vigorous education program that serves over 16,000 students annually, and our innovative traveling "Shakespeare Beyond" that brings free Shakespeare performances directly into neighborhoods across Maryland.

We warmly welcome audiences to our three venues and our touring Shakespeare Wagon. Indoor performances are presented at our stunning, award-winning 266-seat theatre in Downtown Baltimore, with a thrust stage uniquely designed for CSC performances. Next door to the theatre and linked are the administrative offices and The Studio at the Chesapeake Shakespeare Company, which serves as a classroom, rehearsal space, and alternative performance area. CSC's summertime outdoor home is in nearby Ellicott City and features performances and education programming at the PFI Historic Park, a gorgeous spot for picnicking and watching Shakespeare under the stars.

www.ChesapeakeShakespeare.com

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