

TOP: (L-R) Snapshots commissioned artists Alexis Scheer, Liza Birkenmeier, Camille A. Brown, and Qui Nguyen
 BOTTOM: Artists in Conversation: Eboni Booth and Jocelyn Bioh

The 2020-21 season was a completely unprecedented time for Manhattan Theatre Club. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our theatres remained closed for the duration of the 2020-21 season, far longer than originally anticipated. During this difficult and uncertain time, MTC found new ways to keep audiences and artists connected through virtual theatre programs. Artists rose to the challenge, exploring innovative ways to create engaging new theatrical works for remote viewing. Below are some highlights of MTC's exclusively virtual 2020-21 season.

SNAPSHOTS

MTC commissioned and produced four original Snapshots, each approximately ten minutes in length and created exclusively for the digital format. A total of 965 viewers tuned in to these unique events:

RITUAL: A spell for healing and transformation

by Alexis Scheer, directed by Alexis Scheer and Gabrielle Carrubba, streamed from February 1–6, 2021

Please Welcome Our Guest: A personality test/performance piece

by Liza Birkenmeier, directed by Trish Harnetiaux, from April 8–11, 2021

Camille A. Brown: A glimpse behind the curtain

conceived and created by Camille A. Brown, from May 20–26, 2021

The Un-Princess Not-Bride

created by Vampire Cowboys, written by Qui Nguyen and directed by Robert Ross Parker, available from October 31, 2021

CURTAIN CALL

A total of 12,802 viewers watched virtual readings of three past MTC productions, which included:

The Past is the Past by Richard Wesley, directed by Oz Scott with Jovan Adepo and Ron Cephas Jones, February 18–March 4, 2021

Three Days of Rain by Richard Greenberg, directed by Evan Yionoulis with Patricia Clarkson, John Slattery, and Bradley Whitford, March 11–25, 2021

Neat written and performed by Charlayne Woodard, April 15–29, 2021

Virtual premiere of *The Niceties*

MTC co-produced the virtual premiere of Eleanor Burgess' *The Niceties* in association with The Huntington. Kimberly Senior returned to direct along with the original stars Lisa Banes and Jordan Boatman. The play was updated for the virtual stage since its original production in MTC's 2018-19 season at The Studio at Stage II – Harold and Mimi Steinberg New Play Series. *The Niceties* streamed free of charge from May 27–June 27, 2021, and a total of 3,274 viewers tuned in to the production.

Artists in Conversation

Artists in Conversation invited some of today's most in-demand theatre artists to discuss their artistic experiences and perspectives with each other over video chat. The five installments garnered a total of 585 views. Participants included Eboni Booth & Jocelyn Bioh, Harvey Fierstein & Kimberly Senior, Mansa Ra & Ken-Matt Martin, Jenny Mudge & Kelly Aucoin, and CLASSIX.

The Show Goes On

This series reunited artists from past MTC productions to provide commentary alongside production footage, as well as reveal new stories from their time working together. The series garnered 32,358 views, and over seven installments we revisited *Murder Ballad*, *Vietgone*, *Prodigal Son*, *Sugar in Our Wounds*, *Casa Valentina*, *The Cake*, and *INK*.

Artistic Development

MTC's Artistic Development Program provides creative and professional support for artists to develop new plays and musicals. This support continued remotely throughout the 2020-21 season with 17 new play commissions, 15 virtual readings and workshops, and other developmental resources and support provided along the way. As part of MTC's commitment to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in all facets of our work, it is an ongoing priority to ensure our commissioning pipeline represents the diverse range of voices and identities we want to see on our stages. In 2020-21, 59% of commissions were awarded to women, transgender or non-binary artists, and 59% were awarded to BIPOC artists.

New Commissions Awarded

J. Nicole Brooks • Heather Christian • Diane Exavier • Franky D. Gonzalez
 Joshua Harmon • Aleshea Harris • Khyion Hursey • James Ijames
 Martyna Majok (co-commission with the Almeida Theatre)
 Qui Nguyen (co-commission with the Geffen Playhouse)
 Charlie Oh • Simon Stephens • Kristin Slaney • Sanaz Toossi
 Else Went • Whitney White • Alexis Zegerman



TOP: From L-R: Charlie Oh, Julia Izumi, Brittany K. Allen, Stacey Rose, Penelope Skinner
 BOTTOM: Stargate Theatre 2020 Sharon Sullivan Company's The Divide videoplay

2020 Ted Snowdon Reading Series Virtual Fall Series

Five free readings of plays in development were available to stream on MTC's YouTube channel for four days each. The series reached 4,543 viewers.

Long

By Charlie Oh
 Directed by Dustin Wills

(An Audio Guide for) Unsung Snails and Heroes

By Julia Izumi
 Directed by Natsu Onoda Power

Ball Change

By Brittany K. Allen
 Directed by Margot Bordelon
 Commissioned by MTC through
 the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

As Is: Conversations with Big Black Women in Confined Spaces

By Stacey Rose
 Directed by Tiffany Nichole Greene

Friendly Monsters

By Penelope Skinner
 Directed by Nicole Charles
 An MTC/Bobbie Olsen Play Commission



MTC Education

Through engaging, hands-on programs, MTC Education leverages the power of theatre and playwriting to awaken minds, ignite imaginations, open hearts, and change lives. MTC Education's offerings include school partnerships, after-school and lifelong learning opportunities, and professional development. With in-person programs suspended throughout the 2020-21 season due to the pandemic, we adapted longtime programs for the virtual realm, and continued new remote learning programs that were created in spring 2020. MTC Education has always focused specifically on reaching young people in NYC communities historically underserved by the arts, and continues to seek out new opportunities to support a diverse range of young people, particularly those overcoming challenges of racism, poverty, and involvement with the justice system.

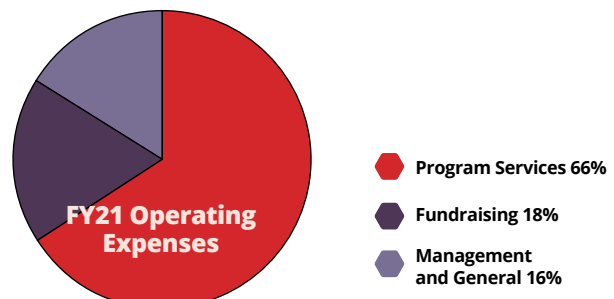
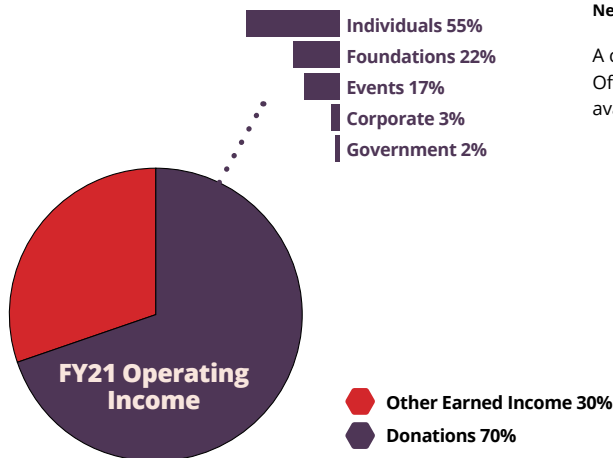
Population Served

Over **2,400** People through Remote Learning Programs
1,970 Participants in Pre-Existing Programs Provided Remotely
442 Participants in New Remote Learning Initiatives

138 Students Attending Alternative Education Programs
26 Young People Involved with the Justice System
1,345 Students Attending Traditional High Schools

The 2020-21 season was also unprecedented for MTC financially, as pandemic theatre closures dramatically reduced both expenses and income, reducing our operating budget from about \$27 million pre-pandemic to under \$10 million in 2020-21.

Earned revenue from ticket sales and subscriptions—normally more than half of our annual operating income—was nonexistent, and there were steep declines in contributions from individuals since we were not able to provide ticket benefits to our Patron program donors. Production expenses were much lower than typical seasons due to the nature of virtual programming, and additional cost-saving measures, including salary cuts for senior staff and rotating furloughs throughout the organization, were taken to further reduce expenses. Ultimately, we ended the fiscal year with an operating surplus of \$850,333 thanks to the generosity of our ongoing donors and due to a \$2.5 million insurance settlement from our cancelled productions in spring 2020, which was received and recorded as income in our 2020-21 fiscal year. These funds will be used to begin to replenish MTC's depleted reserves, which we anticipate we will need to draw from to cover deficits over the next few years as we rebuild income.



STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	2021			2020
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	Total
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 10,105,417	\$ 2,648,830	\$ 12,754,247	\$ 8,922,748
Investments	6,572,337	1,800,843	8,373,180	6,264,376
Accounts receivable	33,427	--	33,427	88,256
Unconditional promises to give	8,910,165	5,994,710	14,904,875	13,337,742
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	686,150	--	686,150	296,112
Estimated amounts due from split-interest agreements	--	172,637	172,637	172,637
Property and equipment	58,260,691	--	58,260,691	20,709,518
Other assets	186,179	--	186,179	183,006
Total Assets	\$ 84,754,366	\$ 10,617,020	\$ 95,371,386	\$ 49,974,395
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS				
Liabilities				
Line of Credit	\$ --	--	\$ --	\$ 3,500,000
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	43,851,887	--	43,851,887	3,725,262
Deferred revenue	2,306,516	--	2,306,516	624,310
Deferred rent credit	--	--	--	133,076
Total Liabilities	46,158,403	--	46,158,403	7,982,648
Net Assets				
Without donor restrictions				
Board Designated	18,813,407	--	18,813,407	11,532,015
Plant Fund	19,782,556	--	19,782,556	20,709,518
With donor restrictions	--	10,617,020	10,617,020	9,750,214
Total Net Assets	38,595,963	10,617,020	49,212,983	41,991,747
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 84,754,366	\$ 10,617,020	\$ 95,371,386	\$ 49,974,395

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

	2020			2019
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	Total
OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Income				
Total Earned Revenue	\$ 3,104,196	\$ --	\$ 3,104,196	\$ 10,399,442
Total Contributions	6,803,451	502,426	7,305,877	7,843,958
Net assets released from restriction	--	--	--	--
Total Revenue and Contributions	9,907,647	502,426	10,410,073	18,243,400
Expenses				
Program Services	6,304,912	--	6,304,912	17,438,019
Management & General	1,508,032	--	1,508,032	1,880,098
Fundraising	1,746,796	--	1,746,796	2,662,421
Total Expenses	9,559,740	--	9,559,740	21,980,538
Changes in net assets before non-operating activities	\$347,907	\$502,426	\$850,333	\$3,737,138
NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Total Non-Operating Activities	6,006,523	364,380	6,370,903	9,810,147
Change in net assets	6,354,430	866,806	7,221,236	6,073,009
Net assets, beginning of year	32,241,533	9,750,214	41,991,747	35,918,738
Net assets, end of year	\$ 38,595,963	\$ 10,617,020	\$ 49,212,983	\$ 41,991,747

A copy of MTC's annual financial report may be obtained, upon request, from MTC or from the Office of the Attorney General, Charities Bureau, at 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271. It is also available on our website.



About Manhattan Theatre Club

Over almost five decades, under the leadership of Artistic Director Lynne Meadow and Executive Producer Barry Grove, Manhattan Theatre Club has evolved into a preeminent, non-profit producer of the highest quality, award-winning theatrical productions.

The mission of MTC, since 1972, has been to produce innovative theatre by American and international playwrights, with a focus on presenting New York, American, and world premieres. We encourage excellence by identifying and working with the most talented professionals in every aspect of production. In a normal season, we present a repertoire of eight plays and musicals on our three stages: the Samuel J. Friedman Theatre on Broadway, and Stage I and The Studio at Stage II at New York City Center, MTC's Off-Broadway home.

Our emphasis on excellence extends to every aspect of the company: from the gifted permanent staff; to a supportive and committed Board of Directors; to a vibrant Education program; to an inspired behind-the-scenes developmental program for new plays and musicals.

Our Commitment to Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion

MTC is committed to being an anti-racist organization that respects and honors all voices while upholding the values of community, equity, access, and belonging. We understand that the United States is a country founded on white supremacy and anti-Blackness, and that these belief systems are tightly woven throughout American arts and culture. We recognize MTC's place within that history, and understand that uprooting biases requires ongoing work. To this end, we have been reviewing, and are continuing to review, our policies and practices in order to create an inclusive, anti-racist environment for our artists, staff members, and audiences. We wish to express solidarity with and gratitude towards those from historically oppressed communities whose voices have raised consciousness and encouraged action.

Since summer 2020, MTC has redoubled its efforts toward becoming a more equitable, diverse, and inclusive organization. With MTC Artistic Advisor Ruben Santiago-Hudson, we continue to work on policy and programming, and are fostering relationships and future collaborations with BIPOC artists and organizations. We are prioritizing representation of BIPOC artists in our season, including centering BIPOC and traditionally underrepresented stories. We also continue to increase diversity among the administrative staff and Board of Directors.

We look forward to continued growth in this area.

Contact

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