

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
Chicago, Illinois

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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CONTENTS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT	1
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION	4
STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES.....	5
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS.....	7
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	8
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION	
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES – COLUMN FORMAT	33
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS.....	34

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Board of Directors
Lyric Opera of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Lyric Opera of Chicago (the Opera), which comprise the statements of financial position as of June 30, 2025 and 2024, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Opera as of June 30, 2025 and 2024, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). For the year ended June 30, 2025, we also conducted our audit in accordance with the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Opera and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Opera's ability to continue as a going concern for one year from the date the financial statements are available to be issued.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Opera's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Opera's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Supplementary Information

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The accompanying statement of activities - column format is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from, and relates directly to, the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

(Continued)

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 27, 2025 on our consideration of the Opera's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Opera's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Opera's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Crowe LLP". The script is cursive and fluid, with the letters "C", "r", "o", "w", "e", "L", "L", and "P" clearly visible.

Crowe LLP

Chicago, Illinois
October 27, 2025

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
June 30, 2025 and 2024

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 6,089,194	\$ 13,981,712
Investments	202,373,434	193,522,042
Ticket and other receivables	1,158,294	358,187
Pledge and bequest receivables, net	34,027,388	15,905,016
Government grant receivables	150,000	221,646
Deferred production costs and other assets	4,902,218	3,891,834
Property and equipment, net	<u>36,712,832</u>	<u>38,370,248</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 285,413,360</u>	<u>\$ 266,250,685</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Accounts payable and other liabilities	\$ 3,368,566	\$ 3,092,189
Deferred ticket and other revenue	11,133,785	7,713,379
Severance plans	3,215,848	3,229,110
Other liabilities	300,416	74,056
Debt payable, net	65,603,000	65,539,086
Interest rate swap	<u>1,941,560</u>	<u>1,658,331</u>
Total liabilities	85,563,175	81,306,151
Net assets		
Without donor restrictions	70,964,946	77,396,071
With donor restrictions		
Time or purpose	85,991,464	65,077,034
Perpetual	<u>42,893,775</u>	<u>42,471,429</u>
Total with donor restrictions	128,885,239	107,548,463
Total net assets	<u>199,850,185</u>	<u>184,944,534</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 285,413,360</u>	<u>\$ 266,250,685</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES
Years Ended June 30, 2025 and 2024

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Changes in Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions		
Operating		
Revenue and support		
Revenue		
Ticket sales	\$ 14,177,527	\$ 12,949,434
Spending draw	18,735,540	20,637,899
Investment return	800,547	750,981
Other	5,449,885	4,888,769
Total revenue	<u>39,163,499</u>	<u>39,227,083</u>
Support		
Contributions and fundraising revenue, net	15,948,558	18,059,732
Net assets released from restriction	17,603,639	14,321,612
Total support	<u>33,552,197</u>	<u>32,381,344</u>
Total operating revenue and support	72,715,696	71,608,427
Expenses		
Artistic, production, and promotional	57,382,247	58,025,317
Administration	10,259,609	8,755,983
Development	5,073,840	4,827,127
Total expenses	<u>72,715,696</u>	<u>71,608,427</u>
Change in net assets from operations	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

(Continued)

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES
Years Ended June 30, 2025 and 2024

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Changes in Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions Non-Operating		
Revenue and Support		
Investment return, net of spending draw	\$ (5,023,204)	\$ (6,880,382)
Unrealized (loss) gain on interest rate swap	(283,229)	658,396
Other revenue	79,939	89,465
Net assets released from restriction	<u>3,162,106</u>	<u>5,597,356</u>
Total revenue and support	(2,064,388)	(535,165)
Other expenses		
Depreciation	4,154,217	4,386,090
Other	<u>212,520</u>	<u>600,465</u>
Total expenses	<u>4,366,737</u>	<u>4,986,555</u>
Change in non-operating net assets without donor restrictions	<u>(6,431,125)</u>	<u>(5,521,720)</u>
Change in net assets without donor restrictions	(6,431,125)	(5,521,720)
Changes in net assets with donor restrictions		
Contributions	31,915,332	16,647,675
Government grants	626,676	632,146
Investment return	10,037,836	9,500,164
Increase in allowance for doubtful pledges receivable	(477,323)	(2,293,874)
Net assets released from restriction	<u>(20,765,745)</u>	<u>(19,918,968)</u>
Change in net assets with donor restrictions	<u>21,336,776</u>	<u>4,567,143</u>
Change in net assets	14,905,651	(954,577)
Net assets at beginning of year	<u>184,944,534</u>	<u>185,899,111</u>
Net assets at end of year	<u><u>\$ 199,850,185</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 184,944,534</u></u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
Years Ended June 30, 2025 and 2024

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Cash flows from operating activities		
Change in net assets	\$ 14,905,651	\$ (954,577)
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash used in operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	4,218,131	4,467,820
Net realized and unrealized gains on investments	(23,374,449)	(22,796,442)
Net interest rate swap settlements	223,391	64,889
Unrealized loss (gain) on interest rate swap	283,229	(658,396)
Contributions with donor restrictions for endowment	(414,646)	(2,660,558)
Contributions with donor restrictions for capital investment	(263,051)	(2,204,322)
(Increase) decrease in pledge and bequest receivables	(18,122,372)	10,471,352
Decrease (increase) in government grant receivable	71,646	(221,646)
(Increase) decrease in ticket and other receivables	(800,107)	122,823
Decrease in deferred production costs and other assets	(1,010,384)	(116,370)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable and other liabilities	502,737	(1,716,911)
Increase (decrease) in deferred ticket and other revenue	3,420,406	(131,090)
(Decrease) increase in severance plans	(13,262)	125,737
Net cash from operating activities	<u>(20,373,080)</u>	<u>(16,207,691)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Sale of investments	72,333,450	79,854,081
Purchase of investments	(57,810,393)	(60,511,006)
Net interest rate swap settlements	(223,391)	(64,889)
Fixed asset additions:		
Facilities	(205,139)	(1,501,426)
Equipment and other assets	(2,291,662)	(1,232,080)
Net cash from investing activities	<u>11,802,865</u>	<u>16,544,680</u>
Cash flows from financing activities		
Contributions with donor restrictions for endowment	414,646	2,660,558
Contributions with donor restrictions for capital investment	263,051	2,204,322
Net cash from financing activities	<u>677,697</u>	<u>4,864,880</u>
Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	(7,892,518)	5,201,869
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<u>13,981,712</u>	<u>8,779,843</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u><u>\$ 6,089,194</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 13,981,712</u></u>
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information		
Interest paid	\$ 2,299,430	\$ 2,415,905

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

NOTE A – SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Nature of Activities: Lyric Opera of Chicago (the Opera) is a not-for-profit corporation incorporated in the State of Illinois. The Opera's primary purpose is to sponsor, produce, and encourage opera and musical performances. The Opera's operations include international grand opera, educational and community engagement activities through Lyric Unlimited, other musical performances and the training for young artists through the Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center (the Ryan Opera Center).

Basis of Accounting: The accounting records of the Opera are maintained on the accrual basis.

Basis of Presentation: Resources of the Opera are classified for reporting purposes into the following two net asset categories according to the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions:

- Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions - net assets which are not subject to donor-imposed restrictions including the carrying value of physical properties (land, facilities and equipment). Items which increase or decrease this net asset category include revenue - principally ticket sales and investment income unless donor-restricted, and all expenses of the Opera. This category also includes gifts without donor restriction and gifts with donor restriction whose donor-imposed or time restrictions were met during the fiscal year.
- Operating and Non-Operating Activities: Within net assets without donor restrictions are:
 - Operating net assets without donor restrictions – include all operating revenue and expenses without donor restrictions that are an integral part of its programs and supporting activities, interest expense and other debt service costs, net assets released from donor restrictions to support operating activities, and distributions in accordance with the Opera's spending policies and capital campaigns.
 - Non-Operating net assets without donor restrictions – include investment returns in excess of/less than the Opera's spending policy without donor restrictions, depreciation of property and equipment, the actuarial change in severance plans' valuation, and the change in value of the swap. Charitable gift annuities without donor restrictions are also included in non-operating revenue and support as contributions.
- Net Assets With Donor Restrictions – net assets subject to donor-imposed restrictions. Some donor-imposed restrictions are temporary in nature, such as those that will be met by the passage of time or other events specified by the donor. Other donor-imposed restrictions are perpetual in nature, where the donor stipulates that resources be maintained in perpetuity.

Cash and Cash Equivalents: Cash and cash equivalents consist of highly liquid, interest-bearing investments with original maturities of three months or less.

Short-Term Investments: Short-term investments consist of short-term fixed income mutual funds.

Pledge and Bequest Receivables: Contributions, including cash or other assets, as well as unconditional promises to give, are recognized in the period received.

(Continued)

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

NOTE A – SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Contributions are classified as without donor restrictions or with donor restrictions support based on donor-imposed restrictions. When a donor restriction expires (i.e., when a stipulated time restriction ends or a purpose restriction is met), the Opera reclassifies the net assets with donor restrictions to net assets without donor restrictions and reports these assets as released from restriction. If a restriction is fulfilled in the same fiscal year in which the contribution is received, the Opera classifies the support as without donor restrictions, except for production sponsorship where the contribution is classified as with donor restrictions until the opening of the production.

As of June 30, 2025 and 2024, contributors to the Opera have made unconditional promises to give, which are due as follows:

<u>June 30, 2025</u>	<u>Without Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>With Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>Total</u>
Less than one year	\$ 694,275	\$ 1,000,566	\$ 1,694,841
One to five years	300,000	22,699,693	22,999,693
More than five years	-	12,500,000	12,500,000
With no due date	-	4,695,977	4,695,977
Gross	994,275	40,896,236	41,890,511
Less: discount	(22,296)	(7,007,727)	(7,030,023)
Less: allowance	(15,800)	(817,300)	(833,100)
Net	<u>\$ 956,179</u>	<u>\$ 33,071,209</u>	<u>\$ 34,027,388</u>
<u>June 30, 2024</u>	<u>Without Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>With Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>Total</u>
Less than one year	\$ 1,446,137	\$ 514,390	\$ 1,960,527
One to five years	75,000	10,804,613	10,879,613
More than five years	-	-	-
With no due date	75,000	5,778,605	5,853,605
Gross	1,596,137	17,097,608	18,693,745
Less: discount	(25,572)	(2,390,157)	(2,415,729)
Less: allowance	(31,000)	(342,000)	(373,000)
Net	<u>\$ 1,539,565</u>	<u>\$ 14,365,451</u>	<u>\$ 15,905,016</u>

Unconditional pledges expected to be received over more than one year from the statements of financial position date are recorded by the Opera at their net realizable value using a discount rate equivalent to treasury yields. At June 30, 2025, the Opera had conditional pledges receivable of \$500,000 which will be recognized when the underlying conditions of producing specific performances are met.

(Continued)

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

NOTE A – SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Deferred Production Costs: Expenditures for scenery, costumes, and stage properties are recorded as deferred production costs if specifically related to productions of future opera seasons and expensed if used in productions of the current opera season.

Long-Term Investments: Long-term investments, consisting primarily of publicly traded equity and fixed income mutual funds, alternative investments and real assets, are stated at fair value. For investment purposes, funds without donor restriction are commingled with endowment funds to constitute the managed portfolio.

Property and Equipment: Purchases or donations of property and equipment greater than \$5,000 that have a useful life of more than one year are capitalized at their original cost or estimated fair value at the date of donation. Provisions for depreciation are computed on the straight-line method based on estimated useful lives ranging from three to forty years.

Property and equipment at June 30, 2025 and 2024 consists of:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Land	\$ 696,577	\$ 696,577
Equipment	23,239,272	21,178,249
Facilities	104,407,781	104,627,631
Work in-process	796,166	547,975
Less: accumulated depreciation	<u>(92,426,964)</u>	<u>(88,680,184)</u>
Net	<u>\$ 36,712,832</u>	<u>\$ 38,370,248</u>

Donated assets, or assets acquired with gifts with donor restrictions to the purchase of long-lived assets, are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions when they are placed into service.

On an ongoing basis, the Opera reviews long-lived assets for impairment whenever events or circumstances indicate that the carrying amounts may be overstated. As of June 30, 2025 and 2024, management believes that no impairments existed.

Deferred Ticket Revenue: Deferred ticket revenue relates to ticket sales for the following season.

Interest Rate Swap: The Opera entered into an interest rate swap agreement as part of its interest rate risk management strategy, not for speculation. Although the Opera believes the derivative would qualify as a hedge, accounting standards for not-for-profits allow reporting the instrument as a freestanding derivative.

Donated Services and Materials: The Opera records various types of in-kind support, including contributed services, equipment, and other goods. Contributions of tangible assets and services are recognized at fair value when received. The amounts reflected in the accompanying financial statements as in-kind support are offset by like amounts included in expenses or assets. Donated services were \$2,065,295 and \$419,757 for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, respectively. Donated materials were \$32,260 and \$162,699 for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, respectively.

(Continued)

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

NOTE A – SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

During the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, substantial amounts of time were donated by volunteers to the Opera in its fundraising and outreach efforts. In accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America such amounts were not recorded as contributions in the financial statements.

Realized and Unrealized Investment Gains (Losses): Changes in the fair value of investments are reported as realized and unrealized investment gains or losses without donor restrictions unless a donor restricts income for a specific purpose. If the earnings are on assets with donor restrictions and not yet appropriated for expenditure, changes in the fair value of investments are reported as with donor restrictions.

Other Operating Revenue: Other operating revenue includes revenue from various sources such as facilities rentals, concessions, production rentals, and education and community engagement activities.

Government Grants: Government grant revenue is generally subject to conditions that must be met before the Opera is entitled to the funding. Accordingly, the Opera recognizes revenue from government grants at the time the funds are expended in accordance with the related grant requirements.

Operating Contributions and Fundraising Revenue, Net: Contributions and fundraising revenue, net, includes annual campaign contributions and various fundraising special events contributions without donor restrictions, admissions, sales, and related expenses. The following table summarizes this information for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Contributions and fundraising revenue	\$17,156,579	\$ 19,496,946
Special event expenses	<u>(1,208,021)</u>	<u>(1,437,214)</u>
Net	<u>\$ 15,948,558</u>	<u>\$ 18,059,732</u>

Advertising Costs: Advertising costs are either expensed as incurred or charged to prepaid expenses when directly related to ticket sales for the following fiscal year. Advertising costs charged to expense were \$2,129,542 and \$1,842,969 for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, respectively. Prepaid advertising expenses, to be expensed in the following fiscal year, were \$191,005 and \$223,470 as of June 30, 2025 and 2024, respectively.

Reclassifications: Certain amounts in the prior year financial statements were reclassified to conform with current year presentation. These reclasses did not impact total net assets or change in net assets.

Use of Estimates: The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

(Continued)

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

NOTE B – INCOME TAXES

The Opera is exempt from federal income taxes under the provisions of Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Opera has concluded there were no material uncertain tax positions nor does the Opera expect the total amount of unrecognized tax benefits to significantly change in the next 12 months. The Opera does not have nor does it anticipate any interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax positions in interest and income tax expense as of June 30, 2025 and 2024. There are no ongoing federal, state or local audits.

NOTE C – INVESTMENTS AND FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the Opera's principal or most advantageous market in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date.

Accounting standards establish a fair value hierarchy which requires an entity to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value. The standard describes three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value:

Level 1: Quoted prices (unadjusted) for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the entity has the ability to access as of the measurement date.

Level 2: Significant other observable inputs other than Level 1 prices such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities; quoted prices in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data.

Level 3: Significant unobservable inputs that reflect a reporting entity's own assumptions about the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability.

In many cases, a valuation technique used to measure fair value includes inputs from multiple levels of the fair value hierarchy. The lowest level of significant input determines the placement of the entire fair value measurement in the hierarchy. The Opera is permitted to use a practical expedient which allows for the measurement of the fair value based on the investee's net asset value per share or its equivalent. Investments using net asset value (NAV) per share (or its equivalent) as a fair value expedient have not been classified in the fair value hierarchy. These investments are presented as NAV in the following tables to permit reconciliation of the fair value hierarchy table to the total investments at fair value presented in the statements of financial position.

The fair value of debt and equity investments that are readily marketable are determined by obtaining quoted prices on nationally recognized securities exchanges (Level 1 inputs) or by quoted market prices of similar securities with similar due dates (Level 2 inputs). The fair value of investments in limited liability partnerships are valued at NAV based on valuations provided by the external investment manager as of the date of their most recent audited financial statements, adjusted for cash receipts, cash disbursements, and other anticipated income or loss through the end of the fiscal year.

Investment Strategies and Valuation Inputs: Fixed Income Securities consist of mutual funds which are primarily invested in debt securities. The fair value of mutual funds, which are readily marketable, is determined by obtaining quoted prices on nationally recognized securities exchanges.

(Continued)

NOTE C – INVESTMENTS AND FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (Continued)

Equity Securities consist of mutual funds, common trust funds, and a limited partnership, all of which are primarily invested in equity securities. The fair value of mutual funds, which are readily marketable, is determined by obtaining quoted prices on nationally recognized securities exchanges. The Opera has full transparency to the holdings of the common trust funds, and the fair value of these investments and the limited partnership investment has been determined by the managers based on the market prices of the underlying holdings. The limited partnership is invested primarily in emerging market equity securities.

Hedged Equities (Long/Short) consists of funds which seek above-average returns in all market environments. The funds invest in both long and short securities to mitigate market risk. Certain investment funds concentrate their investment programs in specific industries, sectors or market capitalization. In addition, the funds may utilize leverage, options, futures, commodities or other derivatives and may invest in non-U.S. securities and illiquid securities.

Absolute Return consists of funds which seek to generate attractive, risk-adjusted returns across all market environments. In pursuing this investment objective, the funds generally employ multiple strategies, including without limitation, (i) credit and volatility-driven strategies such as the trading of convertible, asset-backed, mortgage-backed, high-yield and distressed instruments, credit, fixed-income and capital structure arbitrage, and private placements, (ii) equity strategies, including fundamental and quantitative long-short, long only and short only equity trades, and relative value-driven equity strategies and (iii) investments in commodity derivatives and physical commodities.

Real Assets and Private Equities consist of funds which invest in real estate, business services, the consumer sector, natural resources, and credit.

- (1) Investments in real estate seek to capitalize on relative value and opportunities across various property types, geographic regions and strategies through value-added real estate investments primarily in the United States.
- (2) Private equities consist of lower-middle-market buyout and distressed/special situation managers focused on industrials, business services, and the consumer sector.
- (3) Natural resources consist of global investments in commodities such as metals and mining, gold and other precious metals and oil and gas exploration and production. Holdings may be comprised of equities, exchange-traded funds (ETF), debt, illiquid investments, derivatives, commodity futures and commodity future options.
- (4) Credit funds pursue investments in distressed residential mortgage market and opportunistic investments in corporate credit, real estate and asset-based lending. The funds may engage in hedging activities, including interest rate hedging, currency hedging, short sales, foreign exchange transactions, and other derivative contracts or instruments.

Assets Held in Trust: The Opera is the beneficiary of two endowment funds managed by the Chicago Community Trust. The fair value of beneficial interests is determined based upon the Opera's proportional interest in the fair value of the underlying trust assets. The underlying trust assets are either readily marketable and have fair values which are determined by obtaining quoted market prices in active markets, or are determined by the trust using information provided by the related investment manager (Level 3 inputs) [income approach].

(Continued)

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

NOTE C – INVESTMENTS AND FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (Continued)

Interest Rate Swap: The fair value of the swap is computed using the present value of cash flows based on the notional amount, term, and fixed and variable interest rates contained in the contract. The model prices the instrument at an exit value were the agreement terminated at the date of valuation. Significant fair value inputs can be verified and do not involve management judgments (Level 2 inputs) [income approach].

Alternative Investments consist of the hedged equities, absolute return and real assets investment categories. The Opera generally uses NAV, but incorporates information such as historical and current performance of underlying assets, liquidity terms of the investment agreements, completed or pending transactions in the underlying or a comparable investment, and overall market conditions in determining valuations. The managers utilize standard valuation procedures and policies to assess the fair value of the underlying investment holdings to derive NAV. For holdings in marketable securities listed on national securities exchanges, the values represent the publicly traded values, and holdings in private securities are generally valued using the mark-to-market method, which attempts to apply a fair value standard by referring to meaningful third-party transactions, comparable public market valuations, or appraisals. In some instances, the Opera possesses the ability to redeem its investment at the NAV at or near the measurement date. In some instances, however, restrictions on redemptions, such as notice requirements, lock-ups and gates, may be in place such that investment redemption at NAV is not possible at the measurement date.

The following table discloses additional information about investments recorded at fair value at June 30, 2025 and 2024:

<u>June 30, 2025</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Unfunded Commitments</u>	<u>Redemption Terms</u>	<u>Estimated Remaining Life</u>
Fixed income securities	\$ 32,112,760	\$ -	Daily	n/a
Equity securities	106,882,482	-	Daily to monthly	n/a
Hedged equities	10,326,886	-	Quarterly to one year	n/a
Absolute return	17,215,884	-	Monthly to semi-annually	n/a
Real assets and private equities:				
Credit and real estate	5,854,106	3,559,012	Not permitted	0 - 9 years
Private equities	24,184,703	24,219,590	Not permitted	5 - 11 years
Investment assets held in trust	<u>5,796,613</u>	<u>-</u>	Not permitted	n/a
Total investments	<u>\$ 202,373,434</u>	<u>\$ 27,778,602</u>		

(Continued)

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

NOTE C – INVESTMENTS AND FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (Continued)

<u>June 30, 2024</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Unfunded Commitments</u>	<u>Redemption Terms</u>	<u>Estimated Remaining Life</u>
Fixed income securities	\$ 32,294,721	\$ -	Daily	n/a
Equity securities	108,123,199	-	Daily to monthly	n/a
Hedged equities	11,467,618	-	Monthly to one year	n/a
Absolute return	16,105,029	-	Monthly to one year	n/a
Real assets and private equities:				
Credit and real estate	5,293,371	4,443,962	Not permitted	0 - 10 years
Private equities	14,842,819	25,061,380	Not permitted	6 - 11 years
Investment assets held in trust	<u>5,395,285</u>	<u>-</u>	Not permitted	n/a
Total investments	<u>\$ 193,522,042</u>	<u>\$ 29,505,342</u>		

At June 30, 2025 and 2024, \$35,933,799 and \$25,635,729, respectively, of the Opera's alternative investments are in illiquid, special investments. Unfunded commitments represent capital calls which can be made at the discretion of the general partner within contractual limits. These commitments do not represent obligations required to be accrued on the statements of financial position.

Assets and liabilities measured on a recurring basis at fair value at June 30, 2025 and 2024, are summarized below:

<u>June 30, 2025</u>	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	<u>NAV</u>	<u>Total</u>
Current assets:					
Fixed income securities	\$ 10,621,943	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,621,943
Long-term assets:					
Fixed income securities	21,490,817	-	-	-	21,490,817
Equity securities:					
Large cap	53,239	-	-	47,310,626	47,363,865
Mid cap	-	-	-	6,595	6,595
Small cap	6,614	-	-	9,345,768	9,352,382
International	12,308,593	-	-	37,851,047	50,159,640
Hedged equities	-	-	-	10,326,886	10,326,886
Absolute return	-	-	-	17,215,884	17,215,884
Real assets/private equities	-	-	-	30,038,809	30,038,809
Investment assets held in trust	-	-	5,796,613	-	5,796,613
Total long-term assets	<u>33,859,263</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,796,613</u>	<u>152,095,615</u>	<u>191,751,491</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 44,481,206</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 5,796,613</u>	<u>\$152,095,615</u>	<u>\$ 202,373,434</u>

(Continued)

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

NOTE C – INVESTMENTS AND FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (Continued)

	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	<u>NAV</u>	<u>Total</u>
Current liabilities:					
Interest rate swap	\$ -	\$ 440,568	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 440,568
Long-term liabilities:					
Interest rate swap	-	1,500,992	-	-	1,500,992
Total liabilities	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,941,560</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,941,560</u>
<u>June 30, 2024</u>	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	<u>NAV</u>	<u>Total</u>
Current assets:					
Fixed income securities	\$ 10,060,263	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,060,263
Long-term assets:					
Fixed income securities	22,234,458	-	-	-	22,234,458
Equity securities:					
Large cap	58,675	-	-	52,760,313	52,818,988
Mid cap	-	-	-	7,372	7,372
Small cap	7,442	-	-	9,918,740	9,926,182
International	14,369,053	-	-	31,001,604	45,370,657
Hedged equities	-	-	-	11,467,618	11,467,618
Absolute return	-	-	-	16,105,029	16,105,029
Real assets/private equities	-	-	-	20,136,190	20,136,190
Investment assets held in trust	-	-	5,395,285	-	5,395,285
Total long-term assets	<u>36,669,628</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,395,285</u>	<u>141,396,866</u>	<u>183,461,779</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 46,729,891</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 5,395,285</u>	<u>\$141,396,866</u>	<u>\$ 193,522,042</u>
	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	<u>NAV</u>	<u>Total</u>
Current liabilities:					
Interest rate swap	\$ -	\$ 148,035	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 148,035
Long-term liabilities:					
Interest rate swap	-	1,510,296	-	-	1,510,296
Total liabilities	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,658,331</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,658,331</u>

The table below reconciles beginning and ending balances for Level 3 assets for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024:

<u>Year ended</u> <u>June 30, 2025</u>	<u>Investment Assets</u> <u>Held In Trust</u>
July 1, 2024	\$ 5,395,285
Distributions	(159,007)
Unrealized gains	<u>560,335</u>
June 30, 2025	<u>\$ 5,796,613</u>

(Continued)

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

NOTE C – INVESTMENTS AND FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (Continued)

Year ended June 30, 2024	Investment Assets Held In Trust
July 1, 2023	\$ 5,018,560
Distributions	(179,644)
Unrealized gains	<u>556,369</u>
June 30, 2024	<u>\$ 5,395,285</u>

The realized and unrealized gains (losses) on Level 3 investments held at June 30, 2025 and 2024 were \$560,335 and \$556,369, respectively.

Investment returns for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, are summarized as follows:

<u>2025</u>	<u>Without Donor Restrictions</u> <u>Operating</u>	<u>Non-Operating</u>	<u>With Donor</u> <u>Restrictions</u>	<u>Total</u>
Interest and dividends	\$ 780,511	\$ 1,729,503	\$ 1,266,626	\$ 3,776,640
Net realized and unrealized gains	20,036	13,512,238	9,842,175	23,374,449
Investment expenses	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,529,405)</u>	<u>(1,070,965)</u>	<u>(2,600,370)</u>
Total return on investments	800,547	13,712,336	10,037,836	24,550,719
Board authorized spending draw	<u>-</u>	<u>(18,735,540)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(18,735,540)</u>
Total loss (return) on investments, net of spending draw	<u>\$ 800,547</u>	<u>\$ (5,023,204)</u>	<u>\$ 10,037,836</u>	<u>\$ 5,815,179</u>
<u>2024</u>	<u>Without Donor Restrictions</u> <u>Operating</u>	<u>Non-Operating</u>	<u>With Donor</u> <u>Restrictions</u>	<u>Total</u>
Interest and dividends	\$ 625,579	\$ 1,485,204	\$ 953,213	\$ 3,063,996
Net realized and unrealized gains	125,402	13,381,624	9,289,416	22,796,442
Investment expenses	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,109,311)</u>	<u>(742,465)</u>	<u>(1,851,776)</u>
Total return on investments	750,981	13,757,517	9,500,164	24,008,662
Board authorized spending draw	<u>-</u>	<u>(20,637,899)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(20,637,899)</u>
Total loss (return) on investments, net of spending draw	<u>\$ 750,981</u>	<u>\$ (6,880,382)</u>	<u>\$ 9,500,164</u>	<u>\$ 3,370,763</u>

(Continued)

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

NOTE D – ENDOWMENT

The Opera's endowment is comprised of perpetual donor-restricted funds.

The Opera has interpreted the State of Illinois' Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA) as requiring the preservation of the fair value of the original gift as of the date of the donor-restricted endowment funds, unless there are explicit donor stipulations to the contrary. As a result of this interpretation, the Opera retains in perpetuity (a) the original value of initial and subsequent gift amounts (including promises to give net of discount and allowance for doubtful accounts) donated to the Endowment and (b) any accumulations to the endowment made in accordance with the direction of the applicable donor gift instrument at the time the accumulation is added. Donor-restricted amounts not retained in perpetuity are subject to appropriation for expenditure by us in a manner consistent with the standard of prudence prescribed by UPMIFA. Accumulations to the donor-restricted endowment net of Board authorized spending draws are classified as net assets with donor restrictions.

In accordance with UPMIFA, the Opera considers the following factors, among others, in making a determination to appropriate or accumulate donor-restricted endowment funds:

- The duration and preservation of the fund;
- The purposes of the Opera and the donor-restricted endowment fund;
- General economic conditions;
- The possible effect of inflation and deflation;
- The expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments;
- Other resources of the Opera; and
- The investment policies of the Opera.

The fair value of assets associated with individual donor-restricted endowment funds may fall below the level the donor requires the Opera to retain as a fund of perpetual duration. In the event an endowment fund falls 20% below the level the donor has required the Opera to retain, an analysis of the fund will be undertaken to determine future spending distributions. In the event an endowment fund falls 25% below the level the donor has required the Opera to retain, future spending distributions will be suspended until the fund again exceeds the 25% level. There were no deficiencies at June 30, 2025 or 2024.

The Investment Committee of the Board of Directors establishes policies and procedures concerning the management of endowment funds. These policies establish asset classes that are deemed suitable for investment of endowment funds which currently include investments in domestic and international equities, fixed income, alternative strategies, and real assets.

Endowment funds, commingled with other funds without donor restrictions, are managed on a total return basis taking into consideration the need to maintain the purchasing power of the managed portfolio as well as the need to support the Opera's mission.

Risk and return expectations for the managed portfolio are modeled using historical rates of return and volatility measures for various asset allocation scenarios. Investments are made in various asset classes based on policy requirements for a highly diversified portfolio in accordance with asset allocation guidelines. Actual allocations to an asset class are compared to target allocations and rebalanced as appropriate. The performance of the managed portfolio is reported on a monthly basis with a target return of 8%.

(Continued)

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

NOTE D – ENDOWMENT (Continued)

The Opera's Board of Directors has approved a spending policy which allows for the transfer of 5% of the average of the market values of the trailing twelve quarter balance of the managed portfolio at December 31 of the previous fiscal year, including endowment balances, to be used to support operations and fund debt service. The spending rate approximates the return objective of the fund allowing for the preservation of purchasing power and growth of the managed portfolio through investment returns in excess of the objective and new gifts.

Endowment net asset composition by type of fund as of June 30, 2025 and 2024:

<u>June 30, 2025</u>	<u>With Donor Restrictions</u>
Pledges receivable, net	\$ 98,870
Interfund receivable	13,000
Donor restricted endowment funds	
Original donor restricted gift amount and amounts required to be maintained in perpetuity by donor	42,781,905
Accumulated investment gains	<u>40,667,902</u>
Total donor restricted endowment funds	<u>83,449,807</u>
 Total net assets	 <u><u>\$ 83,561,677</u></u>
 <u>June 30, 2024</u>	 <u>With Donor Restrictions</u>
Pledges receivable, net	\$ 91,169
Interfund receivable	13,000
Donor restricted endowment funds	
Original donor restricted gift amount and amounts required to be maintained in perpetuity by donor	42,367,260
Accumulated investment gains	<u>33,741,990</u>
Total donor restricted endowment funds	<u>76,109,250</u>
 Total net assets	 <u><u>\$ 76,213,419</u></u>

(Continued)

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

NOTE D – ENDOWMENT (Continued)

Changes in endowment net assets for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024:

<u>Year Ended June 30, 2025</u>	<u>With Donor Restrictions</u>
Net assets at beginning of year	\$ 76,213,419
Investment return	
Investment income	195,660
Net appreciation (realized and unrealized)	9,842,176
Total investment return	10,037,836
Contributions	422,478
Appropriation of endowment assets for expenditures	(3,111,924)
Increase in allowance for doubtful pledges receivable	(132)
Net assets at end of year	<u>\$ 83,561,677</u>
 <u>Year Ended June 30, 2024</u>	 <u>With Donor Restrictions</u>
Net assets at beginning of year	\$ 67,707,897
Investment return	
Investment income	210,748
Net appreciation (realized and unrealized)	9,289,416
Total investment return	9,500,164
Contributions	2,909,296
Appropriation of endowment assets for expenditures	(2,920,061)
Increase in allowance for doubtful pledges receivable	(983,877)
Net assets at end of year	<u>\$ 76,213,419</u>

NOTE E – EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT BENEFITS

401(k) Plan: The Opera provides a 401(k) plan which allows eligible full-time administrative non-union employees to make elective deferrals. The Opera makes a matching contribution based on a percentage of each employee's deferral. For the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, the Opera contributed \$442,966 and \$426,429, respectively.

(Continued)

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

NOTE E – EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT BENEFITS (Continued)

Multiemployer Retirement Plans: The Opera contributes to a number of defined benefit multi-employer pension plans under the terms of collective-bargaining agreements which cover its union-represented employees. The risks of participating in these multi-employer plans are different from single-employer plans in the following respects:

- a) Assets contributed to the multi-employer plan by one employer may be used to provide benefits to employees of other participating employers.
- b) If a participating employer stops contributing to the plan, the unfunded obligations of the plan may be borne by the remaining participating employers.
- c) If the Opera chooses to stop participating in any of its multi-employer plans, the Opera may be required to pay those plans an amount based on the Opera's proportionate share of unfunded vested plan benefits, referred to as a withdrawal liability.

The Opera participates in eight multi-employer defined benefit plans, two of which are material to the Opera's financial position. The Opera's participation in the plans which cover Orchestra and Stagehand employees is outlined in the following table. "EIN/Pension Plan Number" provides the Employee Identification Number (EIN) and the three-digit plan number. The most recent Pension Protection Act (PPA) zone status available is for the plan's year-end. The zone status is based on information that the Opera received from the plan and is certified by the plan's actuary. Among other factors, plans in the red zone are generally less than 65 percent funded, plans in the yellow zone are less than 80 percent funded, and plans in the green zone are at least 80 percent funded. "FIP/RP Status" indicates plans for which a financial improvement plan (FIP) or a rehabilitation plan (RP) is either pending or has been implemented. The Opera was advised that the American Federation of Musicians and Employers' Pension Fund entered critical and declining status for the plan year beginning April 1, 2019. On March 10, 2021, US Congress passed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, which included a provision to pay for all Plan benefits over the next 30 years, without reducing benefits. According to the audited financial statements of the American Federations of Musicians and Employers' Pension Fund ('the Fund'), on March 17, 2021, the Trustees of the Fund decided to withdraw the Fund's application to reduce benefits under the Multiemployer Pension Reform Act and the U.S. Department of the Treasury was notified of the decision. In August 2024, AFM received \$1.4 billion plus interest of \$87.7 million in Special Financial Assistance through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

(Continued)

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

NOTE E – EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT BENEFITS (Continued)

	<u>Orchestra</u>	<u>Stagehands</u>
<u>Pension Fund</u>	American Federation of Musicians and Employers' Pension Fund	Stagehands Local Two Retirement Plan
EIN/pension plan number	51-6120204/001	36-6099766/001
Expiration date of collective bargaining agreement	6/30/2028	6/30/2028
Opera contributions –		
Fiscal 2025	\$829,199	\$725,132
Fiscal 2024	\$814,716	\$682,493
Plan year-end of most recent Form 5500 filing	12/31/2023	12/31/2023
PPA zone status –		
Most recent year	Red	Green
Two years prior	Red	Green
FIP/RP status	Implemented	Not applicable
Surcharge imposed	Yes	No
Opera contributed more than 5% of total contributions	No	Yes

The Opera contributed a total of \$174,212 and \$164,610 to six other defined benefit multi-employer plans in fiscal 2025 and 2024, respectively. The Opera also contributed \$1,565,589 and \$1,662,633 to various defined contribution multi-employer plans in fiscal 2025 and 2024, respectively.

Severance Benefits: In addition to contributions to multiemployer retirement plans, the Opera provides severance benefits for the orchestra, chorus, production staff, and dancers. Severance benefits are based on a combination of wages, age, and length of service.

(Continued)

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

NOTE E – EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT BENEFITS (Continued)

The change in benefit obligations and the funded status of the plans for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, are as follows:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Change in benefit obligation		
Benefit obligation, beginning of year	\$ 3,229,110	\$ 3,103,373
Service cost	105,329	109,864
Interest cost	155,316	139,318
Actuarial loss	4,065	13,955
Benefits paid	<u>(277,972)</u>	<u>(137,400)</u>
Benefit obligation, end of period	<u>\$ 3,215,848</u>	<u>\$ 3,229,110</u>
Funded Status		
Projected benefit obligation	<u>\$ (3,215,848)</u>	<u>\$ (3,229,110)</u>
Funded status	<u>\$ (3,215,848)</u>	<u>\$ (3,229,110)</u>

The components of net periodic benefit costs for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, are as follows:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Service cost	\$ 105,329	\$ 109,864
Interest cost	155,316	139,318
Amortization of:		
Prior service cost	7,713	7,713
Net loss	<u>42,257</u>	<u>50,022</u>
Net periodic benefit cost	<u>\$ 310,615</u>	<u>\$ 306,917</u>

Severance costs not previously recognized as a component of the periodic severance cost, but included as a cumulative separate charge to net assets for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, are as follows:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Prior service cost	\$ 30,517	\$ 38,230
Net actuarial loss	<u>1,048,991</u>	<u>1,087,183</u>
Net amount recognized	<u>\$ 1,079,508</u>	<u>\$ 1,125,413</u>

Severance costs included as a separate charge to net assets for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, consisted primarily of actuarial losses/(gains) of \$4,065 and \$13,960, respectively.

(Continued)

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

NOTE E – EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT BENEFITS (Continued)

Net periodic benefit cost expected to be recognized in the next fiscal year is as follows:

	<u>2026</u>
Service cost	\$ 100,995
Interest cost	160,947
Amortization of:	
Prior service cost	7,713
Net loss	<u>44,998</u>
Net periodic benefit cost	<u><u>\$ 314,653</u></u>

The key actuarial assumptions used were:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
To determine benefit obligation:		
Discount rate	5.58%	5.35%
Expected rate of pay increases	1.5%-3.0%	1.5%-4.0%
To determine net periodic benefit:		
Discount rate	5.58%	5.35%
Expected rate of pay increase	1.5%-3.0%	1.5%-4.0%

Estimated benefit payments for future fiscal years are as follows:

2026	\$ 672,137
2027	226,096
2028	297,052
2029	202,352
2030	312,386
2031-2035	1,634,152

(Continued)

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

NOTE F – NET ASSETS WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS AND NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM DONOR RESTRICTIONS

Net assets with donor restrictions are restricted for the following purposes at June 30, 2025 and 2024:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Subject to the passage of time:		
Future operating support	\$ 82,722,188	\$ 61,928,012
Subject to expenditure for specified purpose:		
Equipment	<u>3,269,276</u>	<u>3,149,022</u>
Endowments:		
Future operating support	<u>42,893,775</u>	<u>42,471,429</u>
Total	<u>\$ 128,885,239</u>	<u>\$ 107,548,463</u>

Net assets with donor restrictions are released from restrictions either by the passage of time or by the fulfillment of a purpose. Restrictions released during the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, are summarized as follows:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Time restrictions:		
Operating support	\$ 9,202,925	\$ 7,461,830
	<u>9,202,925</u>	<u>7,461,830</u>
Purpose restrictions:		
Operating support	11,512,639	10,627,322
Equipment	<u>50,181</u>	<u>1,829,816</u>
	<u>11,562,820</u>	<u>12,457,138</u>
Total	<u>\$ 20,765,745</u>	<u>\$ 19,918,968</u>

NOTE G – FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGNS

In December 2012, the Board of Directors approved the Breaking New Ground strategic plan, which laid the foundation for the Breaking New Ground (BNG) campaign. The purpose of the campaign is to support operations of the Opera, increase the endowment, and fund stage and other equipment improvements. In fiscal 2014, the Campaign For Excellence, which was established for the purpose of supporting the operations of the Opera, subject to Finance Committee oversight, was merged with BNG. Management's use of BNG proceeds is subject to the oversight of the Finance Committee and approval of the Board of Directors. The fund balances of the Breaking New Ground Fund are \$7,496,657 and \$8,363,914 for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, respectively.

(Continued)

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

NOTE G – FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGNS (Continued)

For the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, the Board authorized a distribution of proceeds without donor restrictions of \$1,090,000 and \$285,508, respectively. Such amounts are included in net assets released from restriction.

NOTE H – BONDS PAYABLE

On March 1, 1994, the Illinois Development Finance Authority (the Authority) issued and sold \$62.2 million aggregate principal amount of Variable/Fixed Rate Demand Revenue Bonds, Series 1994 (Lyric Opera of Chicago Project). Pursuant to a Loan Agreement dated as of February 1, 1994 between the Authority and the Opera, the Authority loaned the proceeds of the bonds to the Opera to provide funds to acquire, construct, renovate, remodel, and equip the facility used by the Opera in the production and performance of its programs, to pay interest on the bonds, and to pay certain costs incurred in connection with the issuance of the bonds. The bonds have adjustable methods of interest rate determination and interest payment and maturity date of December 1, 2028. As of June 30, 2025, the bonds operated in a mode where the interest rate was established each week and interest on the bonds was payable monthly. On June 30, 2025, the interest rate was 1.80%.

On March 13, 2018, the Opera agreed to certain financial and operating covenants, with which the Opera reported compliance, in an agreement with certain banks providing a credit facility (letter of credit) in the amount of \$63 million which was set to expire March 13, 2023. On June 15, 2022, the Opera signed an amendment to the agreement which extended the expiration date to June 15, 2026. Management intends to further extend the expiration date to align with maturity date of the bonds. Under the terms of the agreement and the amendment to the agreement, should the bonds become unmarketable, the Opera would be required to pay off such amounts within two years. Interest on such amounts would not exceed the prime rate plus 2%.

Because these bonds operate in a floating interest rate mode and are remarketed at par value weekly, their carrying values approximate fair value.

On March 13, 2018, the Opera entered into a \$3.6 million term loan. The \$3.6 million term loan has a fixed interest rate of 4.10%, payable monthly, and is set to expire March 12, 2028. Pursuant to the original IFA loan agreement, IFA loaned the proceeds of the bond to the Opera to provide funds to purchase, construct, and equip space for patron hospitality services, and to pay certain issuance costs incurred in connection with the issuance of the bond.

Bond interest expense was \$2,018,608 and \$2,333,612 for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, respectively.

Unamortized bond issuance costs for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024 are as follows:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Deferred bond issuance costs	\$ 2,394,947	\$ 2,394,947
Less: accumulated amortization	<u>2,197,947</u>	<u>2,134,033</u>
Net	<u>\$ 197,000</u>	<u>\$ 260,914</u>

Bond issuance costs are netted against long-term debt on the statements of financial position.

(Continued)

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

NOTE H – BONDS PAYABLE (Continued)

With the intended extension of the letter of credit as noted above, future debt maturities are as follows:

March 12, 2028	\$ 3,600,000
December 1, 2028	<u>62,200,000</u>
Total	<u>\$ 65,800,000</u>

NOTE I – DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT

On May 9, 2006, the Opera entered into an interest rate swap agreement with the Bank of New York Mellon (BNYM) in order to hedge overall exposure to variable rate debt. The Opera has agreed to pay BNYM interest at a fixed rate of 3.804% with the counterparty paying the Opera a floating rate based on 67% of the daily Standard Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR). The interest rate swap agreement has a notional amount of \$40 million and expires December 1, 2028, and has no requirements for collateral posting. The Opera may terminate the interest rate swap early.

Summary information about the interest rate swap agreement as of June 30, 2025 and 2024 is as follows:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Weighted average pay rates (fixed)	3.804%	3.804%
Weighted average daily SOFR rate	3.202%	3.627%

The interest rate swap is recorded at fair value as a liability on the statement of financial position. Interest expense, settled on a net basis, was \$223,391 and \$64,889 for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, respectively.

NOTE J – LINE OF CREDIT

During fiscal year 2025, the Opera carried an unsecured line of credit (LOC) with JP Morgan Chase Bank with a borrowing capacity of \$10 million and a variable rate per annum equal to the CB Floating Rate plus 0.00% of Adjusted Term SOFR plus 0.90%, and an unused fee of 0.15%. Subsequent to fiscal year-end, the Opera extended the LOC with JP Morgan Chase Bank through September 25, 2026.

As of June 30, 2025 and 2024, the Opera has not borrowed on either LOC.

(Continued)

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

NOTE K – COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Contracts with Performers and Unions: Future commitments to artists are approximately \$3.3 million in 2025-26 and \$1.4 million in 2026-27.

The Opera has Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBAs) with numerous unions. The agreement with the Chicago Federation of Musicians (CFM), the American Guild of Musical Artists (AGMA), and the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE), which represents the stagehands, covers the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2028.

The Opera has personal service contracts with three individuals, one through July 2025, one through June 2028, and one through June 2031.

Other Commitments: The Opera has approximately \$0.1 million in outstanding commitments related to new productions, stage equipment, facilities, and information technology investments.

Contingencies: The Opera is the defendant in certain litigation arising in the ordinary course of business. In the opinion of management and outside legal counsel, such items are adequately covered by insurance or their ultimate outcome will not have a material impact on the financial position of the Opera.

NOTE L – RELATED PARTIES, CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND CODE OF CONDUCT

The Opera maintains a conflict of interest policy which applies to all Directors, officers of auxiliary organizations authorized by the Opera as well as senior management and other designated members of staff. The policy requires each person to whom the Policy applies complete an annual disclosure statement which identifies a business or financial interest related to that person and which is planning to engage in a business transaction with the Opera or has engaged in a business transaction with the Opera during the preceding year.

The Policy forbids such individuals from voting on or using their personal influence in connection with such transactions. In the event the Opera does conduct business with a related party, the financial terms of those relationships are reported annually to the Audit Committee, whose members must be independent per the terms of its charter.

The Opera requires each administrative employee to conduct themselves in accordance with the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics approved by the Opera's Board of Directors and to sign an annual statement acknowledging their understanding of this Code.

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

NOTE M – LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILITY

The Opera's financial assets available within one year of the statement of financial position date for general expenditure are as follows:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 6,089,194	\$ 13,981,712
Short-term investments	10,621,943	10,060,263
Ticket and other receivables	1,158,294	358,187
Current pledge and bequest receivables without donor restriction	694,275	1,446,137
Government grants receivable	<u>150,000</u>	<u>221,646</u>
Total	<u>\$ 18,713,706</u>	<u>\$ 26,067,945</u>

As part of the Opera's liquidity management, the Opera invests its financial assets to be available as its general expenditures, liabilities, and other obligations come due. To help manage unanticipated liquidity needs, the Opera has a committed line of credit in the amount of \$10 million upon which it could draw. The use of this line of credit is generally restricted to the extent that the Opera is in need of liquidity to fund program-related obligations.

The Opera's long-term investment funds consist of donor-restricted endowments and funds designated by the Board as long-term investments. Income from donor-restricted endowments is restricted for specific purposes, with the exception of the amounts available for general use. Donor-restricted endowment funds are not available for general expenditure.

The Opera's unrestricted long-term investments of \$108 million are subject to Board approved spending policies. With Board approval, these amounts could be made available if necessary.

As part of the Opera's liquidity management plan, the Opera invests cash in excess of daily requirements in short-term investments and money market funds.

(Continued)

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

NOTE N – FUNCTIONAL ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES

The Opera's functional allocation of expenses as of June 30, 2025 are as follows:

	2025				2024
	Program	Management & General	Fundraising	Total	Total
Salaries, benefits, & employment taxes	\$ 39,089,821	\$ 4,446,893	\$ 3,841,656	\$ 47,378,370	\$ 47,603,889
Contracted services & professional fees	3,970,433	1,131,960	205,119	5,307,512	5,895,252
Production costs	2,819,061	-	-	2,819,061	3,226,756
Advertising and promotions	1,678,902	31,508	83,726	1,794,136	1,590,708
Occupancy	2,465,083	241,341	81,817	2,788,241	2,651,499
Office expense	1,142,131	395,809	171,760	1,709,700	1,461,257
Travel	500,718	76,099	207,615	784,432	997,006
Other expenses	3,387,325	1,408,662	468,645	5,264,632	5,194,537
Other debt service costs	590,446	82,852	3,681	676,979	670,596
Interest	1,884,453	379,742	11,749	2,275,944	2,415,905
Depreciation & amortization	4,088,237	129,894	-	4,218,131	4,467,820
In-kind services	-	2,065,295	-	2,065,295	419,757
	<u>\$ 61,616,610</u>	<u>\$ 10,390,055</u>	<u>\$ 5,075,768</u>	<u>\$ 77,082,433</u>	<u>\$ 76,594,982</u>

The Opera's functional allocation of expenses as of June 30, 2024 are as follows:

	2024			
	Program	Management & General	Fundraising	Total
Salaries, benefits, & employment taxes	\$ 39,309,237	\$ 4,624,636	\$ 3,670,016	\$ 47,603,889
Contracted services & professional fees	4,522,001	1,199,806	173,445	5,895,252
Production costs	3,226,756	-	-	3,226,756
Advertising and promotions	1,498,751	22,391	69,566	1,590,708
Occupancy	2,311,298	252,657	87,544	2,651,499
Office expense	934,448	373,911	152,898	1,461,257
Travel	654,518	134,319	208,169	997,006
Other expenses	3,234,232	1,462,845	497,460	5,194,537
Other debt service costs	538,778	128,451	3,367	670,596
Interest	2,205,831	196,322	13,752	2,415,905
Depreciation & amortization	4,325,825	141,995	-	4,467,820
In-kind services	-	419,757	-	419,757
	<u>\$ 62,761,675</u>	<u>\$ 8,957,090</u>	<u>\$ 4,876,217</u>	<u>\$ 76,594,982</u>

The financial statements report certain categories of expenses that are attributed to more than one program or supporting function. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated among the programs and supporting services benefited. Salaries and related benefits expenses are allocated based on time worked in a department. Most expenses are directly charged to the department/function incurring the expense. However, occupancy costs are allocated based on square footage.

(Continued)

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

NOTE O – REVENUE FROM CONTRACTS WITH CUSTOMERS

All of the Opera's revenue from contracts with customers in the scope of ASC 606 is recognized within the following categories for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024.

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Operating revenue		
Ticket sales	\$ 14,177,527	\$ 12,949,434
Restaurant and concession sales	888,606	724,882
Facility rentals	3,624,584	2,791,587
Production rentals and sales	<u>121,608</u>	<u>424,906</u>
 Total	 <u>\$ 18,812,325</u>	 <u>\$ 16,890,809</u>

A description of the Opera's revenue streams accounted for under ASC 606 follows:

Ticket Sales: The Opera sells tickets to attend the Opera's performances and events, either through subscription sales or through single ticket sales. Ticket sales are recognized as revenue at the point of performance. Ticket fees are recognized as revenue in the fiscal year that the performance occurred. Ticket fees were \$737,210 and \$706,166 for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, respectively.

Restaurant and Concession Sales: The Opera sells food and beverages to performance attendees through its restaurants and concession stands. Sales are recognized as revenue at the point of sale.

Facility Rentals: The Opera rents the use of its theater space, labor, and food and beverage services to individuals, corporations, and non-profits. Rental revenue, including the deposit, is recognized as revenue in the month the rental event occurred.

Production Rentals & Sales: The Opera rents the use of and sells its productions and costumes to other performing arts organizations. Production rental revenue, including the deposit, is recognized as revenue in the fiscal year the contract obligations are performed. Production sale revenue is recognized at the point of sale.

NOTE P – LEASES

The Opera leases certain equipment used in its operations, primarily under leases with third parties, with lease terms that expire through fiscal year 2029.

A summary of amounts reported within the statements of financial position is as follows:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Assets		
Deferred production costs and other assets		
Operating lease right-of-use assets	<u>\$ 453,104</u>	<u>\$ 241,033</u>
 Total lease assets	 <u>\$ 453,104</u>	 <u>\$ 241,033</u>

(Continued)

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2025 and 2024

NOTE P – LEASES (Continued)

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and other liabilities		
Operating lease liabilities	\$ 453,104	\$ 241,033
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Operating lease weighted average remaining lease term (years)	4	1
Operating lease weighted average discount rate	4.30%	1.81%

Maturities of lease liabilities were as follows:

2026	\$ 167,887
2027	108,347
2028	106,947
2029	104,347
	<u> </u>
Total lease payments	487,528
Less: imputed interest	(34,424)
	<u> </u>
Total lease liabilities	\$ 453,104
	<u> </u>

NOTE Q – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has performed an analysis of the activities and transactions subsequent to June 30, 2025, to determine the need for any adjustments to and/or disclosures within the financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2025. Management has performed their analysis through October 27, 2025, the date the financial statements were issued. Activities subsequent to this date have not been evaluated by management. Refer to Footnotes J for disclosure of subsequent events.

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES – COLUMN FORMAT
Year ended June 30, 2025

	For the year ended June 30, 2025					
	Without Donor Restrictions			With Donor Restrictions	2025 Total	2024 Total
	Operating	Other	Total			
Operating revenue and support						
Revenue						
Ticket sales	\$ 14,177,527	\$ -	\$ 14,177,527	\$ -	\$ 14,177,527	\$ 12,949,434
Investment return designated for operations	18,735,540	(18,735,540)	-	-	-	-
Investment return	800,547	-	800,547	-	800,547	750,981
Other	5,449,885	79,939	5,529,824	-	5,529,824	4,978,234
Total revenue	39,163,499	(18,655,601)	20,507,898	-	20,507,898	18,678,649
Support						
Contributions and fundraising revenue, net	15,948,558	-	15,948,558	31,015,663	46,964,221	30,488,113
Government grants			-	626,676	626,676	632,146
Net assets released from restriction and designation	17,603,639	3,162,106	20,765,745	(20,765,745)	-	-
Total support	33,552,197	3,162,106	36,714,303	10,876,594	47,590,897	31,120,259
Total operating revenue and support	72,715,696	(15,493,495)	57,222,201	10,876,594	68,098,795	49,798,908
Operating expenses						
Artistic, production, and promotional	57,382,247	4,234,364	61,616,611	-	61,616,611	62,761,675
Administration	10,259,609	130,444	10,390,053	-	10,390,053	8,957,089
Development	5,073,840	1,929	5,075,769	-	5,075,769	4,876,218
Total operating expenses	72,715,696	4,366,737	77,082,433	-	77,082,433	76,594,982
Change in net assets before non-operating activities	-	(19,860,232)	(19,860,232)	10,876,594	(8,983,638)	(26,796,074)
Non-operating activities						
Gifts restricted to endowment	-	-	-	422,346	422,346	1,925,420
Investments excluding investment return designated for operations	-	13,712,336	13,712,336	10,037,836	23,750,172	23,257,681
Unrealized (loss) gain on interest rate swap	-	(283,229)	(283,229)	-	(283,229)	658,396
Total non-operating activities	-	13,429,107	13,429,107	10,460,182	23,889,289	25,841,497
Change in net assets			(6,431,125)	21,336,776	14,905,651	(954,577)
Net assets at beginning of year			77,396,071	107,548,463	184,944,534	185,899,111
Net assets at end of year			\$ 70,964,946	\$ 128,885,239	\$ 199,850,185	\$ 184,944,534

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND
ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

The Board of Directors
Lyric Opera of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of Lyric Opera of Chicago (the Opera), which comprise the statement of financial position as of June 30, 2025, and the related statements of activities and changes in net assets, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated October 27, 2025.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Opera's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Opera's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Opera's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Opera's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Opera's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Crowe LLP". The script is cursive and fluid.

Crowe LLP

Chicago, Illinois
October 27, 2025