

EAST EUROPEAN FOLKLIFE CENTER

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Marketing & Outreach Manager

Have Questions or Feedback for Us?

We're always listening. Please email the **Board of Directors Liaison** with your thoughts and ideas.

No one knows us better than our community, and your thoughts are invaluable as we plan for the future.

A Note from Kristina Vaškys

2021 is drawing to a close, and what a year it's been! Through all the ups and downs, the one constant has been our ability to connect with each other and find joy in music and dance. Whether logging in to an online class or seeing each other in person at a local event, our community has never failed to uplift and inspire.

Since September, the Board of Directors and EEFC Staff have been hard at work developing a comprehensive Strategic Plan for the EEFC. We spent many meetings reflecting on the strengths and needs of our organization, and identifying opportunities to help us grow stronger in the future. After careful consideration, we have established the following intentions for the years ahead:

- **Communication.** To stay attuned to the community's needs and maintain transparency as an organization, we will host four community meetings with the Board over the course of the year.
- **Virtual Offerings.** We will continue to offer a monthly slate of exciting online classes. In order to expand accessibility to our in-person camp activities, we also plan to live stream dance parties from East Coast Camp and record Mendocino dance parties so that they may be viewed online after camp.
- **Contributors.** We will delineate and establish different ways of giving to the organization as a contributor, whether monetarily, donating time as a volunteer, or contributing to the camp auctions.
- **General Disaster Planning and Preparedness.** To be better prepared for the impact of climate change, we will complete a risk assessment for both of our existing campsites and establish alternative sites that could be used in the event of an emergency.
- **Racial Justice Initiative.** To create a more equitable organization, we will conduct an internal audit of the organization that identifies ways in which we can better serve all members of our community. We will also fulfill our promise to produce two events focusing on racial justice and equity.
- **Financial Stability.** As a financial safety net, we aim to maintain an extra 6 months worth of cash reserve in the bank.

Ways to Help

- **Help us build our audience** by subscribing to and participating in our social media outlets, including [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and our [Listserv Discussion Group](#).
- **Donate**, whether it be financially or by sharing your skills, time, or goods with us. Talk to us about what you can offer.
- **Have other ideas?** Contact the [EEFC Office](#). We'd love to hear from you.

Online Classes & Events

We're constantly adding new dance, singing, and instrumental classes to our online offerings. [Watch this page](#) to see the latest class updates and to register.

Balkan Music & Dance Workshops 2022: Mark Your Calendars!

West Coast
Mendocino Woodlands, CA
June 18-25, 2022

East Coast
Iroquois Springs, NY
August 6-13, 2022

Remembering Don and Susan Anderson

We are sad to note the passing of Don Anderson, husband of Susan K. Anderson, who was a longtime member of our East Coast Balkan Camp community. After Susan's passing, in honor of his wife and of her great love of Balkan music, Don exhibited extraordinary generosity by establishing an endowed workshop scholarship fund in Susan's name. Then up to his death he continued to send us regular donations, which have been deposited into a perpetuating fund which will assist us with programming costs.

- **Education.** We will continue investigating the possibility of students receiving college credit for attending camp.
- **Community Support.** We will explore the possibility of supporting bands in the community by crowdsourcing a list of Balkan-friendly venues and events around the country.
- **Long-Term Development Planning.** With long-term sustainability in mind, we have set a goal of raising \$1 million in endowment funds over the next ten years.

This year has been a time of growth, change, and resilience for the EEFC. We have discovered new ways of broadening our reach and impacting our community, while continuing to deliver the vibrant programming that draws many of you to our workshops. With your continued support and partnership, we are excited to bring this new vision to life!

Reflecting on 2021

Program Committee Notes from Maclovia Quintana

2021 has been another year full of successes, lessons learned, and adaptation for the Program Committee. Throughout the spring and early summer, we simultaneously planned programming for monthly virtual classes and our two virtual camps. The latter task was made much easier by all that we had learned from putting on virtual camps in 2020. We started the planning process for virtual camps much earlier than we did in 2020 and we again benefitted from taking the time to create a consistent structure for the camps, deciding ahead of time how many of what types of classes we would have. This made it much more straightforward for us to then make decisions about who we should invite to teach at the virtual camps.

With this additional experience under our belt, the Program Committee is happy to report the following accomplishments:

- **Two Virtual Camps.** We were so pleased to have hosted two virtual camps this year, each with 15 classes, two Kafanas, and many more performances and gatherings. Thanks to the experiences of 2020, we were able to work with our Tech and Remote Offerings Committees to ensure that our instructors, students, and performers had a smooth experience.
- **Year-Round Virtual Offerings.** We hosted 22 virtual classes this year. We did this by setting a flexible offerings structure aimed at offering three virtual classes a month: one dance class, one instrumental class, and one singing class.

Thank You to Our 2021 Volunteers & Crews!

Our virtual camps and online offerings may be magical, but they don't run themselves. We extend our deep gratitude to the community members who stepped in to moderate, translate, offer technical expertise, and so much more for our 2021 programs. We love you!

Paul Beck
 Batja Bell
 Michelle Benoit
 Belle Birchfield
 Peter Bonos
 Briget Boyle
 Tano Brock
 Genevieve Feiner
 Kathy Fors
 Brent Geary
 Henry Goldberg
 Melanie Goldberg
 Joe Graziosi
 Drew Harris
 Laine Harris
 Biz Hertzberg
 Camille Holmes
 Debbie Jackson
 Kitty Kagay
 Jenny Kilgore
 Steve Kotansky
 Dalia Kropf
 Judy Kropf
 Sophie Kropf
 Alex Markovic
 Amy Mills
 Jen Morris
 Peter Notarfrancesco
 Holly Plotner
 Gerardo Razumney
 Kathy Sandstrom
 Nico Sophiea
 Cathie Springer
 Matt Smith
 CB Stevenson
 Debby Szajnberg
 Terri Taggart
 Demetri Tashie
 Claire Thiemann
 Dina Trageser

• **Remote Offerings Committee.** The creation of a Remote Offerings Committee, chaired by Marchette DuBois, which handled everything from technical logistics to volunteer wrangling for the virtual camps so that the Program Committee could focus on programming.

• **International Teaching Opportunities.** Thanks to our virtual format, we were able to feature teachers based in the Balkans, including Rena Karyofyllidou and Kyriakos Moisidis, Svetlana Spajić, Bergen Alimova, Nizo Alimov, Bajsa Arifovska and band, and Nikolay Kodzhabashev; as well as Nina Kavardjikova in the Netherlands.

Over the past few months, we've been so glad to start planning our in-person camps for 2022. It's been a new challenge to do this while also coordinating our monthly online classes, but we've figured out a rhythm so that we're able to forge ahead with both simultaneously. After cancelling in-person camps in 2020 and 2021, we're excited to start sending out invitations to teaching staff for 2022. Many teachers have already accepted our invitation, and the workshop slates are taking shape nicely.

Even as we begin planning for in-person camps, our online programming is here to stay. Having consistent online classes has made the EEFC's programming more accessible to people around the world, including many who aren't able to attend in-person camp.

A huge thank you to all the members of the Program Committee: **Belle Birchfield, Hannah Blair, Anna Goldberg, Camille Holmes, Lea Anne Kangas, Rachel MacFarlane, and Demetri Tashie.** They have all been incredibly flexible, creative, and committed to this work. We're excited to keep offering virtual and in-person programming in 2022.

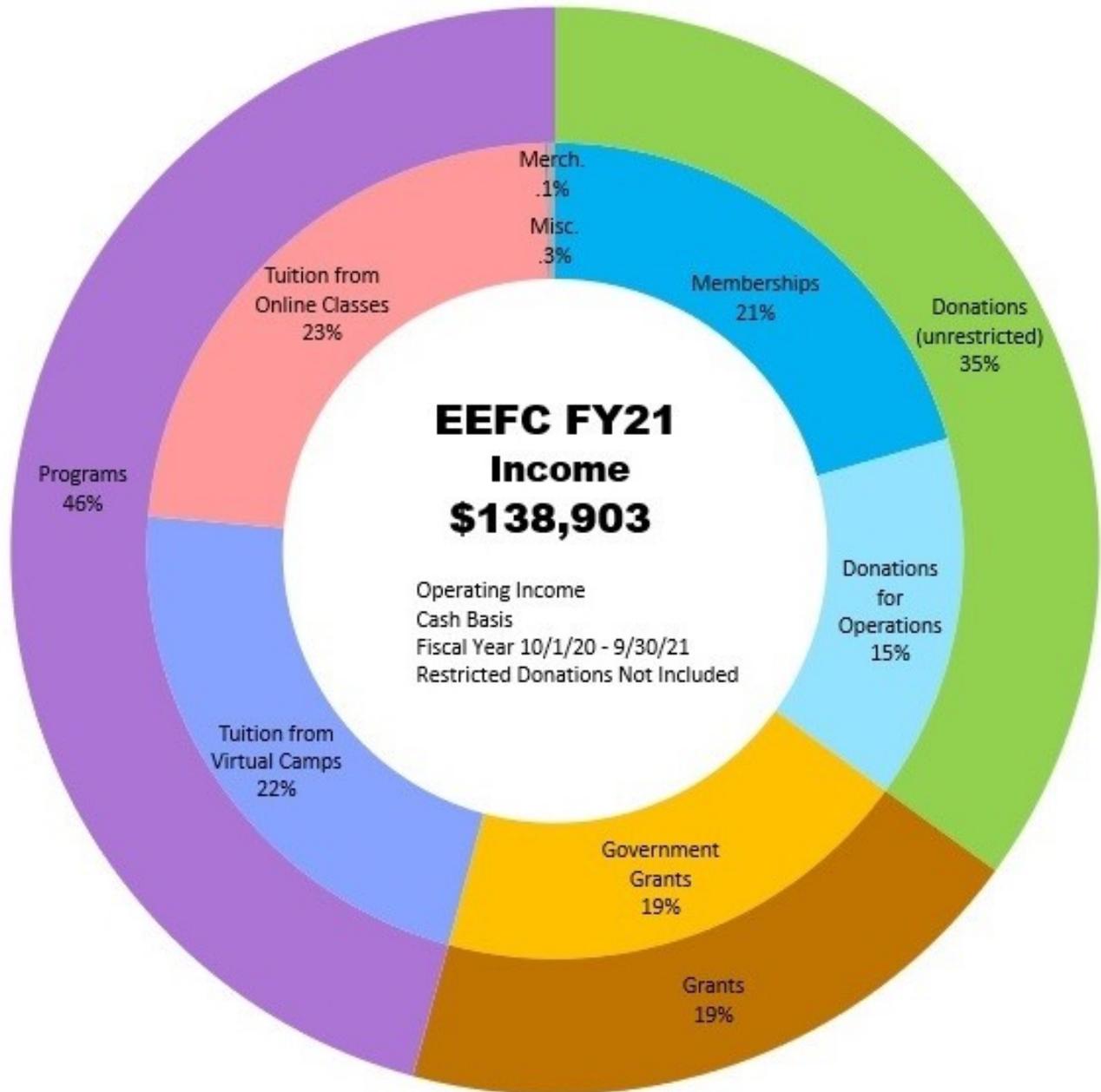
Fiscal Year 2021

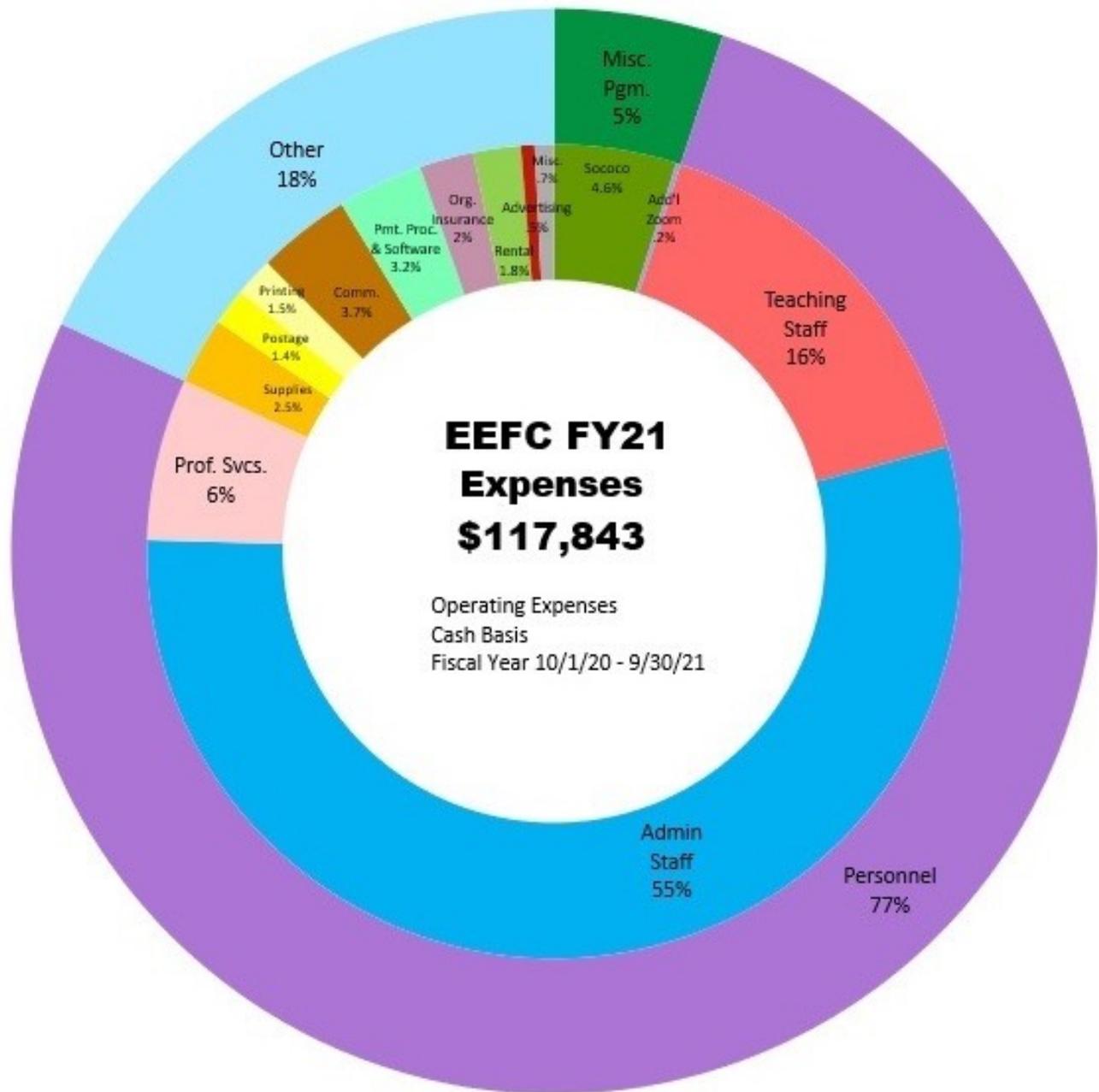
Treasurer's Notes from Lea Anne Kangas

As of September 30, 2021 the EEFC showed an operating surplus of roughly \$26,000 and ended the year with assets of roughly \$450,000.

- We obtained PPP and CA Relief grants for \$11,680 and \$15,000 respectively.
- We received Nest Egg (Endowment) and Crum/Kef Scholarship donations of \$1,635 and \$2,494 respectively, as well as \$32,500 in donations designated towards programming, which results in a combined total of \$36,629 in restricted income for FY21. This is not included in the graph for annual operating income.
- No scholarships were awarded in FY21 due to there being no in-person camps.
- The endowment is invested in no-fee, no-load market index funds.

Inner rings show more detail; outer rings are summary categories.
FY2020 financial charts are [here](#), FY2019 charts are [here](#), and FY2018 charts are [here](#).





This year—and all the others that precede and follow it—are the result of our dedicated and enthusiastic community. Our international membership continues to flourish, and we are proud to mark all of those who are interested in and participate in our events as part of that growing membership. Similarly we would like to extend our gratitude to the contributors who help our community through financial, time, and other non-monetary contributions. If you who would like to make an end-of-year contribution, visit our donation page [here](#).

We thank all of you for sharing your experience and passion for Balkan culture and arts, for your participation and contributions of all sorts, and—above all—for the love that has made our community a place of safe exploration and edification for over forty years. With all of these gifts, we look forward to 2022 with you.

Thank you for being a part of our circle.