

EAST EUROPEAN FOLKLIFE CENTER

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Matt Moran, Secretary

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Marchette DuBois

Anna Goldberg

Camille Holmes

Rob Pleshar

Kristina Vaskys

Staff

Rachel MacFarlane

General Manager

Amita Vempati

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 Maclovia Quintana

2022 has been such an important year for EEFC. Though the beginning of the year was certainly tough, as we had to cancel camps yet again due to the pandemic, the months that followed gave us so many opportunities to try new things, reconnect with each other, and to recenter and affirm our priorities as an organization. And most importantly, for the first time since the beginning of the pandemic, we were able to gather the EEFC community in person at a large scale at our BalkanFests in New York and San Francisco.



Enjoying the evening sets at Bohemian Hall in Astoria, East Coast BalkanFest. Photo credit: Amita Vempati

The Board and staff of the EEFC are fully committed to putting on our in-person camps in 2023, and planning for those camps is well under way. But before we get to that, let's look back at some of the highlights from 2022:

❖ Two live **BalkanFest** events—our first in-person events since 2019! These events, one in New York and one in San Francisco, brought together hundreds of people—including many people who had never been to an EEFC event—to dance, sing, and make music together.

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 2023: Mark Your Calendars!

West Coast

Mendocino Woodlands, CA
June 17-24, 2023

East Coast

Iroquois Springs, NY
August 5-12, 2023

- ❖ Sixteen month-long **virtual classes**, which brought incredible teachers from around the globe directly to our homes. These ongoing virtual classes have become a central part of our programming, creating an accessible platform to help us better advance our mission of educating the public about Balkan music and dance.
- ❖ Three virtual "**Office Hours**" with EEFC Board and staff, increasing transparency, connection, and dialogue.
- ❖ We welcomed three **new board members**, Camille Holmes, Hannah Blair, and Rob Pleshar, and we are so grateful for their willingness to serve our community.
- ❖ The EEFC was awarded a **grant for \$27,000 from the California Arts Council** to support our work over the next year. This grant is part of a broader effort to ensure that we have greater financial stability as an organization.

In 2023, you can look forward to:

- ❖ **East and West Coast Balkan Camps!** Save the dates if you haven't already: Mendocino, June 17-24; Iroquois Springs, August 5-12. Keep your eye out for registration early in the new year!
 - ❖ **Ongoing monthly virtual classes.** We will continue to offer virtual classes and other online events throughout the year. These online offerings have expanded the reach of our programming and have allowed us to bring in teachers from near and far.
 - ❖ **EEFC Office Hours.** It has been so valuable to have regular opportunities to be in direct conversation with community members. The Board and staff will continue to offer quarterly virtual office hours to answer questions, share our plans, and connect with one another.
- 2022 has shown us how flexible and resilient we can be as an organization and a community. We can't wait to be back together at camp in 2023.

Reflecting on 2022

Program Committee Notes from Maclovia Quintana

2022 has been a year of immense creativity and resourcefulness on the part of the program committee. Early in the year, we pivoted from organizing in-person camps to planning something completely new for the EEFC: weekend-long music and dance events. We were all very excited to create these events—after all, community members had been asking for years whether the EEFC could offer shorter versions of Balkan Camp. However, we had no template for events of this scale. Unlike planning for Balkan Camp, where we create a slate of teachers to be plugged into a well-established event format, we were truly starting from scratch for BalkanFest. In order to create BalkanFest, the Program Committee had to become a full event-planning committee. We researched venues, explored catering options, created different options for daily schedules—and, of course, curated a slate of teachers and bands.

The Program Committee rose to this occasion admirably, nimbly splitting into East and West Coast subcommittees to create two wonderful

Thank You to Our 2022 Volunteers!

Our festivals 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, offer technical expertise, and provide general assistance for our 2022 programs. We also wish to thank the non-board volunteers serving selflessly on many of our organizational committees, remembering that EEFc Board members are volunteers themselves. We love you!

Lisa Auerbach
 Annie Bachar
 Belle Birchfield
 Andrew Branna
 Briget Boyle
 Nancy Butowski
 Sonia Connolly
 Susan Cohen DeStefano
 Lacey Cope
 Doug Finley
 Ira Gessel
 Erica George
 Adam Good
 Henry Goldberg
 Melanie Goldberg
 Duygu Gun
 Melinda Hunt
 Jerry Kisslinger
 Katy Kondrat
 Dahlia Kropf
 Noel Kropf
 Craig Kurumada
 Julie Lancaster
 Karen Levine
 Shireen Nabatian
 Laura Pannaman
 Zina Pozen
 Alysha Shaw
 Doug Shearer
 Jesse Shearer
 Matt Smith
 Cathie Springer
 Angela Tanner
 Katey Tanner
 Sarah Tanzer Talbot
 Demetri Tashie
 Claire Thiemann
 Holly Thuman
 Keiko Trenholm
 Barbara Uhlemann
 Adam Waite
 Cory Wilks
 Ernie Williams
 Sue Williard
 Adela Winter



Dancing to Dróméno at Presidio Theatre in San Francisco, West Coast BalkanCamp. Photo credit: Maclovia Quintana

events. And the committee did all this while continuing to offer monthly virtual classes throughout the year!

After a year of hard work, the Program Committee is happy to report these successes:

- ❖ East and West Coast BalkanFests brought together 17 teachers, 11 live bands, and hundreds of community members for two weekends of singing, dancing, and music making.
- ❖ Our ongoing virtual classes continue to be very popular. We offered 16 virtual classes over the past year, which were attended by 560 students in total. In June, Macedonian photographer Jasna Bogdanovska gave a marvelous audiovisual presentation on the magical village of Galičnik and its mass wedding tradition. We also hosted a virtual movie night with Joe Graziosi in July, which was an excellent educational opportunity and a lot of fun to boot.
- ❖ Thanks to our virtual format, we were able to feature several teachers based overseas, including Ljubomir Živkov (Serbian Singing), Rena Karyofyllidou and Kyriakos Moisisdis (Greek Dance), Svetlana Spajić (Serbian Singing), and Nina Kavardjikova (Bulgarian Dance).

We're very excited to be in the full swing of planning our 2023 Balkan Camps. The committee has put together a great slate of teachers for both camps, and a number of teachers have already accepted our invitation to teach. 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, Rachel MacFarlane,** and **Demetri Tashie.** A big thanks also to board members **Kristina Vaskys** and **Matt Moran** for stepping in to help plan East Coast BalkanFest; and to community members **Bonnie Silver** and **Sharon Grodin** for their yeoman's work as BalkanFest Site Managers.

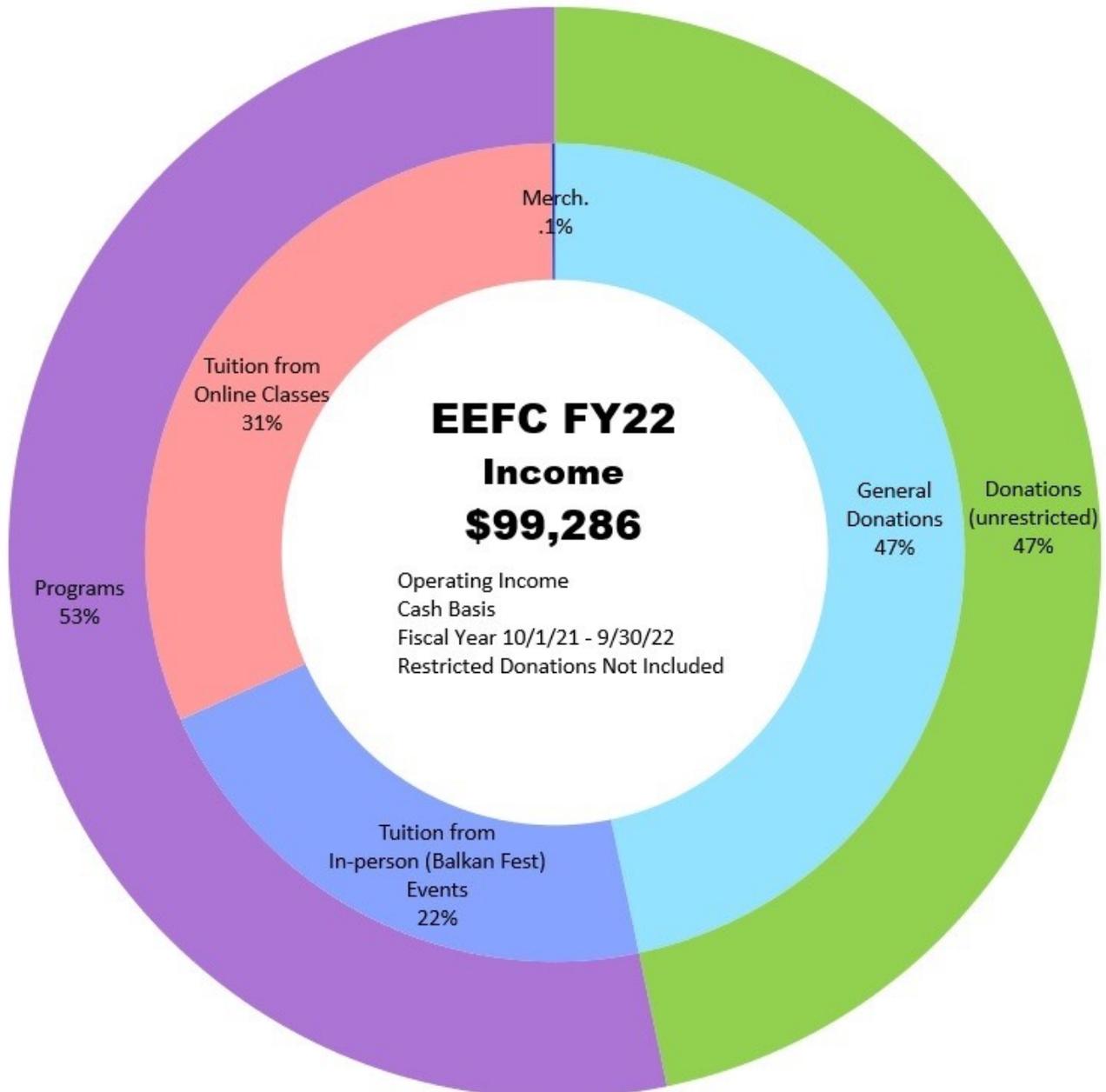
Fiscal Year 2022

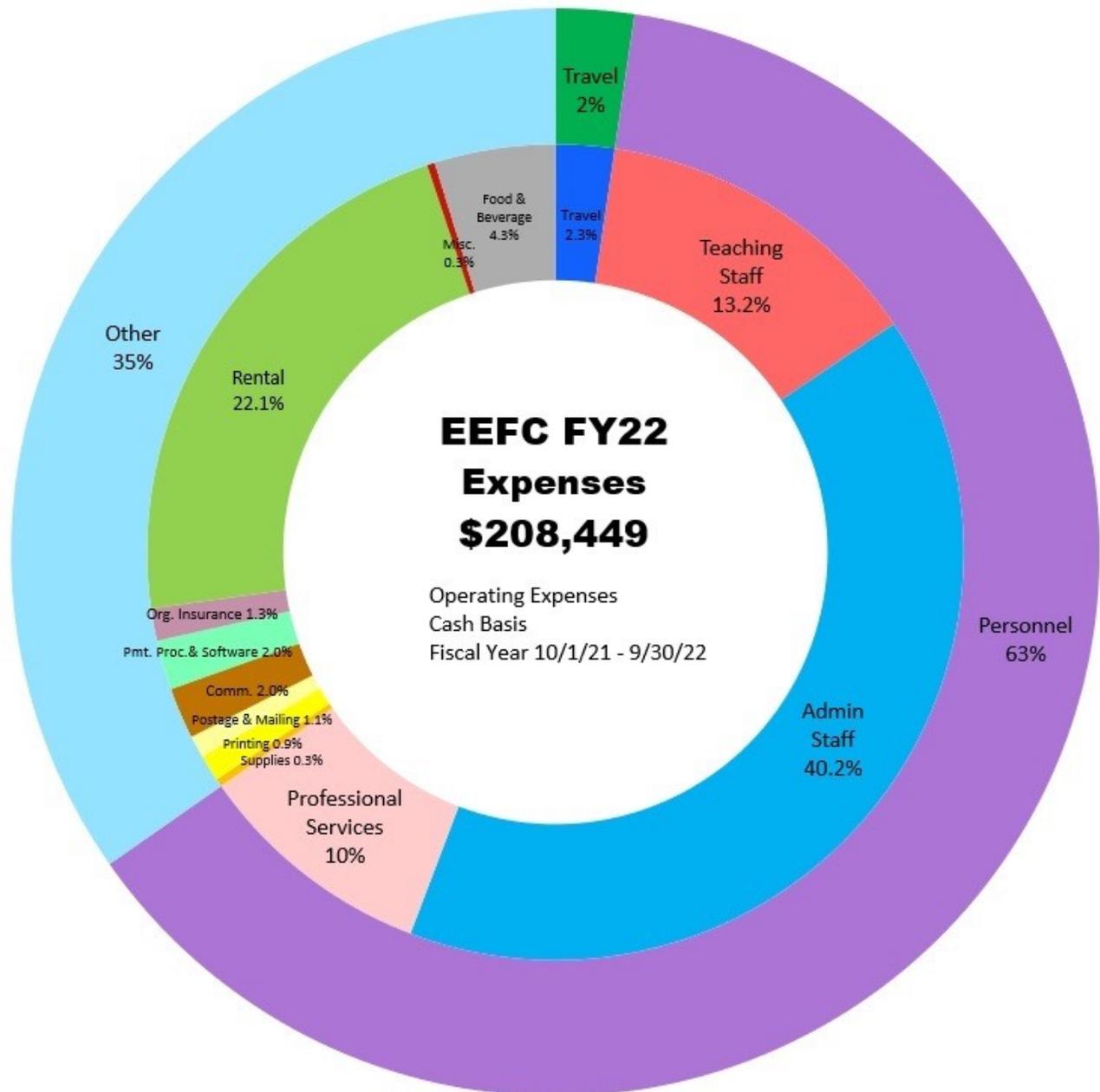
Treasurer's Notes from Lea Anne Kangas

As of September 30, 2022 the EEFC had an operating deficit of approximately \$109,000, which was covered by reserves. A grant for \$27,000 pending at the time of close has since been received. We ended the fiscal year with assets of roughly \$311,000 thanks to previous generous contributions. We hope to make up some of this loss in the coming year. Of note:

- ❖ Donations were down significantly from previous years.
- ❖ We received Nest Egg (Endowment) and Crum/Kef Scholarship donations of \$2,186 and \$5,305 respectively, which results in a combined total of \$7,491 in restricted income for FY22. This is not included in the graph for annual operating income.
- ❖ Due to the cancelation of regular camps, no scholarships were awarded in FY22.
- ❖ The endowment is invested in no-fee, no-load market index funds.

*Outer rings are summary categories; inner rings show more detail.
FY2021 charts are [here](#), FY2020 financial charts are [here](#), and FY2019 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 well over forty years. With all of these gifts, we look forward to 2023 with you.

Thank you for being a part of our circle.