

MUSICAL THEATRE LIMITED (MTL)

MTL Annual Report for the financial year ended 31 March 2021

1. ABOUT US & OVERVIEW OF CHARITY

MTL was set up on 5 October 2006 as a Public Company Limited by Guarantee with M&AA as its governing instrument. It was registered under the Charities Act on 26 July 2007 and accorded IPC (Institution of a Public Character) status since 15 November 2007.

Unique Registration Number (UEN): 200614780G

Registered Address: 20 Shaw Road #05-05 Ching Shine Industrial Building Singapore 367956

Auditor: Baker Tilly

Bankers: United Overseas Bank & Maybank

Purpose: The objects for which MTL is established are: -

- To promote and advance musical drama in Singapore by staging and/or supporting local and international quality theatre, drama and musical performances, as well as develop new forms of musical drama.
- To groom local talent by creating opportunities for them to be exposed to the local and international musical drama community and provide various training platforms to enhance their skills.
- To collaborate and cooperate with various local and international organizations and associations to further enhance the objective of promoting local talent and creating awareness in the general public in music and drama.
- To create original musicals and use them to further the artistic goals of the Company, and to help the disadvantaged members of society in Singapore.
- To do all such other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them provided that nothing shall be done solely for profit.

Mission: To contribute & sustain a vibrant performing arts culture in Singapore through the appreciation, creation & presentation of original, new musicals.

Funding: MTL is funded mainly by donations from the public, grants from government and arts institutions, program fees & ticket sales at performances.

Staffing: As at 31 March 2021, 1 fulltime staff (Mr. James Wong, Office Manager) & about 10 over volunteers rendering various amount of time at the date of this report. No staff received annual remuneration exceeding \$100,000.

Patron: President Halimah Yacob • **Board of Directors:** Sean Wong, PBM | Desmond Moey | Roland Ang | Stella Kon

www.mtl.sg | MTL.Manager@gmail.com | ACRA : 200614780G | IPC : 000575 | CHARITY : 002045

2. LEADERSHIP

Governing Board

Name	Appointment & Reappointment Dates (if any)
Wong Foo Wah Sean Christopher	Director: 1 Oct 2014, 15 Sep 2015, 21 Aug 2017, 20 Jul 2019 Chairman: 17 Sep 2018 Treasurer: 16 Feb 2019
Ang Tien Soong	Director: 1 Sep 2017, 17 Sep 2018, 8 Oct 2020
Moey Kok Seng Desmond	Director: 5 Oct 2006, 28 Nov 2013, 15 Sep 2015, 21 Aug 2017, 20 July 2019 Consultant: 14 Sep 2012 Artistic Director: 18 Mar 2016
Stella Kon @ Lim Sing Po	Director: 5 Oct 2006, 28 Nov 2013, 15 Sep 2015, 17 Sep 2018, 8 Oct 2020

Attendance of Board Meetings

Name	Date of BOD Meetings			
	11 May 2020	8 Oct 2020	14 Dec 2020	19 Feb 2021
Wong Foo Wah Sean Christopher	√	√	√	√
Ang Tien Soong	√	√	√	√
Moey Kok Seng Desmond	√	√	√	√
Stella Kon @ Lim Sing Po	√	√	√	√

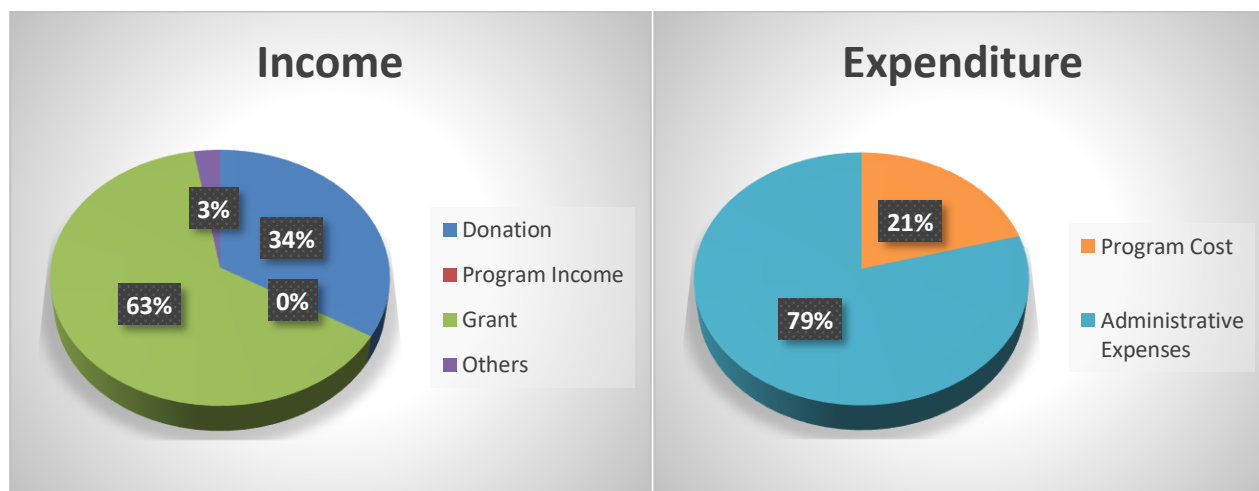
3. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

Statement of Accounts

The Financial Statements for the period from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 (see attached).

Summary Financial Performance

- Total Income \$418,381
- Total Expenditure \$295,314
- Income and program expenditure have decreased overall in financial year 2021 mainly due to reduced or scaled down activities in view of COVID-19. However, operation expenditure has increased slightly in view of the need to get MTL more digitally ready.



4. OUR WORK: PROGRAMMES & ACTIVITIES

Soar The Skies (Mission)

- Dance Moves-X Musicals

MTL hosted the musical dance moves program via Zoom to keep MTL's supporters and seniors entertained by learning musical moves, stay fit and render employment opportunities to person who was previously incarcerated.

- Songs Scoring

MTL planned to engage talented ex-convict to score some of the past musicals works of MTL for archiving purpose and future use, as well as supporting the scorer's living during circuit breakers. However, it does not proceed as planned due to various issues.

Heal The Heart (Mission)

- Buskerlife Saturday Night

The earning of street buskers was greatly affected during the circuit breaker. Accordingly, MTL organized the Buskerlife Saturday Night shows via Zoom to help with their income while keeping MTL supporters entertained.

- Z-Buskers

MTL produced a series of 8 mini concerts called Z-Buskers from December 2020 to March 2021 which provides platform for buskers and disabled artistes to perform and promote musicals songs. The program was supported by NAC's Digital Presentation Grant (DPG) where MTL was awarded \$20,000 to produce the same.

- Merlion Musical

MTL explored the production of Merlion Musical which involves the participation of handicapped performers and present the work digitally by applying for NAC Digital Presentation Grant (DPG) for the Arts. The idea was subsequently dropped due to lack of time.

Master The Mind (Mission)

- Semoga Bahagia Playbook

MTL plan to publish the Semoga Bahagia play by Geraldine Song into a playbook and distribute copies to libraries and schools for their perusal and to promote the musical.

- WSQ Course

MTL is working with Wisdom Academy to develop WSQ courses relating to musical incubation and production. The project is currently on hold in view of COVID-19 outbreak.

- LKY Bilingual Program

MTL was exploring the possibility of developing bilingual programs such as Mee Pok Man (Italian-English) and Merlion (English-Malay) and apply for the Lee Kuan Yew Fund for Bilingualism which support such initiative. The idea was subsequently aborted.

- Musical Appreciation

MTL wants to increase general public's appreciation, knowledge and enjoyment of musical via various courses, talks and performances. The plan was put on hold due to circuit breaker. MTL is now looking into producing the show online in year 2021/22.

Care For Community (Mission)

- Silver (Seniors) Chorale

In line with MTL's mission to care for the community and seniors, MTL organized singing class and online show for seniors, such as Christmazoom and CNYZoom

- Online Presence

In line with MTL's mission and to keep the public entertained during the circuit breaker, MTL has been streaming some past musicals of MTL online for free.

- Five Foot Broadway (FFB) Mini Musicals

MTL initially planned to revive the 10-15 minutes FFB Mini Musicals by tying it to MTL's incubation process, making it into a festival and sell it to interested organizations and schools. The mini musicals produced should carry a social message. Currently, MTL is exploring the possibility of presenting the Street of Singapore mini musicals either virtually, at HDB estate, via hawker notice panel or staging at community hub, subject to social distancing requirements in place.

Achieving High Artistry (Mission)

- Lim Boon Keng (LBK) the Musical

MTL planned to revive LBK the Musical but there was no progress reported due to circuit breaker and lack of funding. It is currently on hold until further notice.

- Singapore Also Got Cardenio!

MTL support the Singapore Also Got Cardenio! play by Geraldine Song and plan to stage it at Drama Centre Black Box in May 2021. The show was subsequently cancelled in view of COVID-19 situation.

- Dragon's Teeth Gate

MTL is developing a play with recording which involve authors' narrations, illustrations on screen and 4-5 casts in presenting the work. The storyline is about a companion of Eunuch Admiral Cheng Ho returns to modern Singapore as a powerful spirit, to attempt a global takeover of the world economy. His pawn in this endeavour is Singapore Businessman Freddie Tan, and his opponent is the Bodhisattva Kuan Yin.

- The Ugly Singaporeans

MTL is working with Geraldine on The Ugly Singaporeans which features the unlikely friendship between a young python and a young frog. This story seeks to foreground the plight of native Singapore animals as they cope with their changing landscape, and how they grapple with the loss of their homes due to urbanization. MTL has engaged an artist to start work on the illustration for the play.

- Listening to Letters from America

MTL is exploring the possibility of staging the novel 'Listening to Letters from America', which is based on the true stories of some elderly people who told their World War II stories to the author (Dr Kua) when he was conducting the WHO study on dementia in Singapore in 1987. MTL is now in talk on engaging talents and sourcing fund for the project.

- Tok Tok Chiang (TTC) Teochew Opera

MTL is in early talks with TTC to develop, present and promote a new collaboration work of potentially combining musical and Teochew opera. The progress has been slow in view of COVID-19 outbreak.

Operations and Business Development

- Institute of Public Character (IPC) Status

MTL's IPC status application was approved and renewed successfully for another 2 years, till 13 Nov 2022 by MCCY.

- Job Support Scheme (JSS)

MTL has been receiving JSS wage support from government to help retain employee during the period of economic uncertainty.

- Cultural Matching Fund (CMF)

MTL continued to apply and receive CMF grant which helps to ease MTL's operational burden and programmes cost considerably. Baker Tilly was engaged for the CMF certification.

- NCSS The Invictus Grant

MTL's application of The Invictus Grant for Temperature & Safe Entry Solution was approved by NCSS. The solution was subsequently implemented to ease the safe entrance to MTL Centre.

- VCF Info-Communications Technology (ICT) Grant

In view of increased needs for online programs, MTL has subscribed to M1 broadband and mobile plan & purchased one laptop with subsidy of VCF Info-Communications Technology (ICT) Grant.

- Leasehold Improvements

MTL engaged contractor to carry out renovations works at Spazio @ Kovan to improve the environment and converting it into a digital studio.

- Tenancy, Rental Waiver & Property Tax Relief

MTL has received some rental waiver and property tax relief from government via the landlord. The tenancies for rental units at Shaw Road and Spazio @ Kovan were renewed.

- RP Interns

MTL engaged 2 Republic Polytechnic interns to help carry out various programs and provide them a learning platform.

- Zoncert

The online fund-raising concert, Zoncert was successfully completed and raised more than \$24,000 in donations for MTL.

5. THE YEAR AHEAD

Fundraising Plan

MTL plan to raise more fund / donations via online Zconcert in late 2021 or Charity Gala in early 2022, depending on the prevailing social distancing guideline. MTL will also continue to apply for various government grants for funding support, where relevant and necessary.

Expenditure Plan

While the year ahead remained uncertain, MTL's programmes cost is expected to increase with more online and physical shows planned. Administrative expenditure is expected to increase slightly in FY2022 in view of the need to get MTL more digitally ready.

6. GOVERNANCE

Conflict of Interest Policy

All directors and members are obligated to report all potential conflict of interest transaction (including that of his/her immediate family members) to MTL's Board of Directors. Each case will be evaluated separately and the person having the interest will be abstained from the discussion and decision making. The declaration and decision will be recorded in the BOD Minutes of Meeting.

Governance Evaluation Checklist

The Governance Evaluation Checklist FY2021 (see attached).