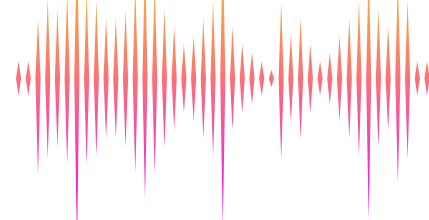


**epic**  
educational  
partnerships  
immersive  
concerts

# IMPACT REPORT



# INTRODUCTION



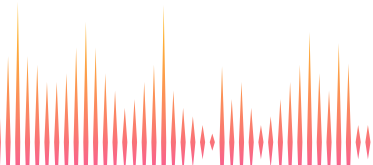
EPIC (Educational Partnerships Immersive Concerts) has emerged as a transformative force in the Southern Colorado music scene, redefining the concert experience through innovative programming and community engagement. Founded by Sergei Vassiliev, Principal Clarinet of the Colorado Springs Philharmonic, **EPIC aims to break away from traditional norms, offering small ensemble concerts that emphasize a welcoming and approachable atmosphere, demonstrating that chamber music gatherings can be the best facilitator of social connection.** Since its inception in 2019, EPIC has evolved from a modest startup to a vital cultural institution, driven by a steadfast commitment to artistic excellence, inclusivity and educational outreach.

## MISSION, VISION, PURPOSE, AND PROMISES

EPIC's mission is to bring a fresh approach to the Southern Colorado music scene by producing concerts that combine classical music with other genres and art forms, creating a visually stunning and interactive concert experience. **EPIC envisions becoming a national leader in innovative performing arts, propelled by collaborations with national level masters and local stars.** EPIC's purpose is to elevate the quality of fine art programs in the community, attracting and retaining talented artists while providing enriching experiences for audiences. To fulfill its mission and purpose, EPIC pledges to use the best professionals in every production, strengthen the overall impact of the arts through collaborations, champion works by underrepresented composers, stage educational concerts, and ignite imaginations with the magic of the arts.



**400%**  
INCREASE IN  
DONATIONS  
FROM 2020 TO 2024  
DEMONSTRATES  
VALUE TO OUR FANS



# BACKGROUND



Sergei's lifelong passion for chamber music didn't just lead him to perform and teach; it ignited a vision that would transform the cultural landscape of Colorado Springs. While he has spent most of his career immersed in orchestral music, Sergei's heart belonged to small ensemble music. The intimate nature of this genre, where musicians collaborate freely without a conductor, resonated deeply with him. Inspired by experiences at renowned chamber music festivals like "Classical Underground" and "Chatter," **Sergei envisioned creating a series that captured the essence of small ensemble music—a celebration of community, devoid of elitism.**

In 2020, despite the looming uncertainty of a global pandemic, Sergei's dream took shape with EPIC Concerts. Supported by Larry Jones, a seasoned volunteer and now board chair, with a knack for organization, Sergei embarked on a journey to bring his vision to life. **Incorporating just before the lockdown, EPIC faced unprecedented challenges. Yet, during this period of uncertainty, Sergei and Larry solidified EPIC's mission and purpose, laying the groundwork for its future success.**

When the restrictions of the pandemic lifted, EPIC's inaugural concert, though modest, marked the beginning of something extraordinary. With local musicians and a socially distanced audience, EPIC's debut resonated deeply with attendees, reaffirming the organization's mission. Over the next four years, EPIC flourished, becoming a beacon of chamber music excellence in Colorado Springs and Manitou Springs. Through collaborations with renowned artists and educational outreach programs, EPIC established itself as a vital cultural institution. **EPIC's success would not be possible without the generous support from individual donations, grants, and ticket sales.**

As EPIC prepares to celebrate its fifth season, Sergei remains committed to his vision of creating warm, welcoming concert experiences that inspire and uplift audiences. With each performance, EPIC continues to fulfill its promise of providing solace and community through the power of music.



**\$53,300**  
RECEIVED IN  
**COMPETITIVE**  
**GRANTS**

# PROGRAMS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



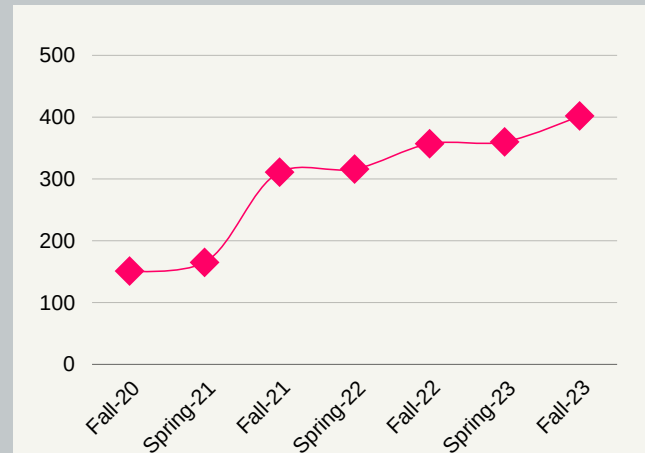
EPIC's current season exemplifies their commitment to artistic excellence and community engagement. The organization produces intimate, interactive small ensemble concerts featuring top-notch musicians and innovative programming. Additionally, **EPIC conducts educational outreach programs in local schools, reaching young audiences who may not otherwise have access to classical music.** Through partnerships with organizations like KCME and the Ent Center for the Arts, EPIC expands its reach and enhances the quality of its programming, fostering a vibrant arts community in the Pikes Peak region.

# ACHIEVEMENTS AND FUTURE OUTLOOK

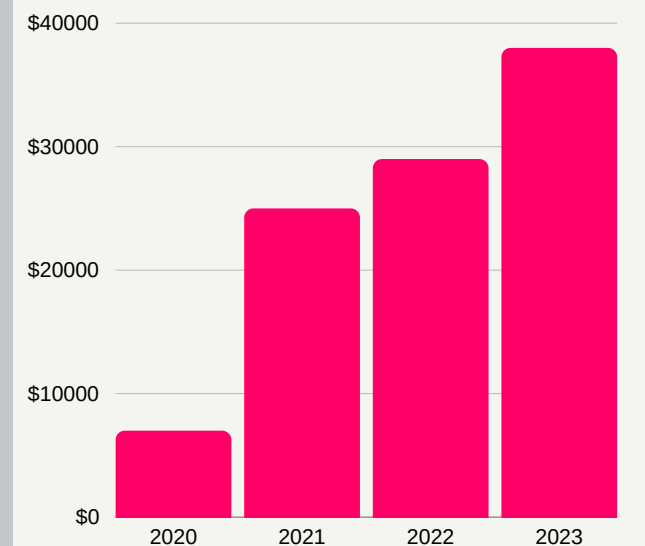
Over the past four years, **EPIC has achieved significant milestones, establishing itself as the premiere small ensemble music series in the region.** Through strategic partnerships, educational initiatives, and artistic collaborations, EPIC has enriched the cultural landscape of Southern Colorado, leaving a lasting impact on audiences and artists alike. **Through commitment to offer competitive compensation, EPIC attracted top-tier musicians from across the nation.** For instance, violinist Gabriela Diaz pictured below recently joined the Grammy winning Kronos Quartet, while the Apollo Chamber Players discussed social issues on NPR's "Weekend Edition Sunday". As EPIC prepares to celebrate its fifth season, it remains committed to its founding principles, offering world-class concerts that inspire, educate and unite communities through the power of music.

# CONCLUSION

In conclusion, **EPIC has emerged as a dynamic force for artistic innovation and community engagement in Southern Colorado.** Guided by its mission, vision, and promises, the organization continues to push boundaries, challenge norms, and foster a deeper appreciation for the arts. As EPIC looks to the future, it remains steadfast in its commitment to excellence, inclusivity, and the transformative power of music.



Ticket sales season over season



Individual donations received by year



**1000 KIDS REACHED  
THROUGH PERFORMANCE  
OUTREACH IN 23-24 SEASON**