

Investors' report

David Kastrup

February 2013

After record donations in December, the January balance dropped to about half, more or less covering my costs for living. Donations in February took a further plunge, making for a rather blunt outlook. So this is the perfect opportunity to point your musical friends to last year's LilyPond Report 24 outlining my work arrangement on LilyPond.

February

Fixed payments (€)	
<hr/>	
150	
2×100	
2×50	
30	
5×25	
2×20	
3×10	
<hr/>	
675	
	Variable plans (€)
	<hr/>
	25 + 50 (target €1200 not reached in January)
	<hr/>
	75

Totals €750

Development results

One can list the developments submitted in February with

```
git shortlog origin --since 2013/02/01 --until 2013/03/01 -n
```

in a checkout of the project repository.

The totals from me are 38 commits¹ like last month, most of them various problem fixes and code cleanups. A lot of time was spent on reviewing and discussing code from others. That takes a lot of energy for me but was necessary for improving the quality of the code we are putting into LilyPond.

¹It turns out that this output went *down* since writing it, while the difference between the two-month count and the January count stayed the same. It is not quite clear to me how Git does its statistics.

The changes in `\transposition` discussed last month (namely not making it change its behavior when inside of `\transpose`) have been put into effect. Point and click information for code generated within music functions has been improved.

Since February completes a year of my paid work on LilyPond, the statistics for the year are also interesting. It turns out that there were 369 commits all in all, more or less averaging one per day.

Ongoing tasks

As mentioned last month, I am holding a talk about LilyPond in Chemnitz in the middle of the month, and am going on a climbing trip at the end of the month. Given the current level of financing, both activities will cut quite a bit into my private financial reserves. I am, however, not foregoing every bit of external activity in order to extend the time I can afford to lose money working on LilyPond.

The Chemnitz talk is still in need of quite a bit of preparation.

There is still syntax work that has been stalled for most of last month since I had too many other things to focus on. I am also intermittently debugging a few elusive problems in the C++ area where it is not quite clear to me when I will be able to solve them.

Perspectives

It probably makes sense wrapping up documentation issues and finishing issues that I have already started working on while it is not clear how the financial situation can be put back on track.

It might help getting new LilyPond Reports out which bring a bit more of a focus of LilyPond's situation (and mine) to the public: the last has been published in August and since then health problems of its editor have caused quite a hiatus.

My original hope that a growing base of smaller contributions will get the load off from larger contributors (sometimes significantly involved since the beginning of my external financing) has not really come to pass. Yes, there *are* new contributors joining the effort, but previous contributors drop off at a similar rate, and any remaining net growth in small contributions can't really replace the larger ones.

The current developments of the U.S. state finances are likely going to affect not just the financial situation of U.S. contributors, so even stabilizing the current level of support might prove challenging.

Thanks for doing your part in enabling my work on LilyPond

David Kastrup