

Agenda

2025 National Conference Agenda – Groups 3-4

All times below are Mountain Time. Agenda content subject to change.

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The following agenda describes sessions specifically designed for the above-mentioned constituents. For a full listings of Conference events and larger sessions, please visit
<https://leagueconference.org/full-schedule>.

Wednesday, June 11, 2025

8:00am-12:00pm [Tech Fair](#)

1:00pm-2:30pm **Constituency Meeting Block 1**

1:00pm-1:30pm **Welcome and Reconnect**

We gather again to welcome new colleagues, reconnect with friends, share updates, and set intentions for our time together at Conference. Prompts will be provided in advance.

*Moderator: **Anwar Nasir**, Executive Director, Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra*

1:30pm-2:00pm **More than a Building**

Hear how the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra's Grand Opening of its new Stella Boyle Smith Music Center was not just the opening of a new building, but the culmination of and investment in a strong organizational commitment to community engagement.

*Speaker: **Christina Littlejohn**, CEO, Arkansas Symphony Orchestra*

2:00pm-2:30pm **Organizational Culture is the Strategy**

In times of change and uncertainty, alignment around a strong organizational culture can be the difference between thriving and drifting. This discussion will begin our exploration of how clarifying organizational values and cultivating a resilient and adaptive culture can empower teams, foster collaboration, and drive success. Throughout our constituency time at this conference, we will go on to examine how a robust organizational culture can guide critical functions across the

orchestra, and how it can be the best way to steer through turbulent times and emerge stronger.

*Moderators: **Mieko Hatano**, CEO, Oakland Symphony*

Thursday, June 12, 2025

3:30pm-5:30pm Constituency Meeting Block 2

3:30pm-4:30pm Shared Values, Shared Purpose

Achieving shared values across staff, board, and musicians is one of the most important, and sometimes most elusive, aspects of orchestral leadership. By exploring both successes and failures, participants will learn ways to bridge gaps between stakeholder groups, enhance mutual understanding, stimulate collaboration, and build a cohesive culture that supports collective goals.

*Moderators: **Joe Loehnis**, CEO, Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra; **Simon Woods**, President and CEO, League of American Orchestras*

4:30pm-5:30pm Fostering a Culture of Philanthropy

This discussion will explore the importance of nurturing a philanthropic mindset that emerges from and contributes to a strong organizational culture. We'll delve into strategies for encouraging charitable giving and volunteerism that are aligned around a common purpose and will rise to meet any challenge or opportunity.

*Moderator: **Paul Meecham**, President & CEO, Tucson Symphony Orchestra*

*Speaker: **Shayne Doty**, Vice President of Development, Charlotte Symphony Orchestra*

Friday, June 13, 2025

10:15am-11:45am Constituency Meeting Block 3

10:15am-11:15am Communicating for Change

Effective communication is even more crucial during times of change. This session will delve into the importance of messaging that reflects core values, fosters trust, and maintains consistency. Communications that reinforce organizational culture help keep teams engaged, reduce anxiety, enhance resilience, and maintain creativity.

*Moderator: **Joe Loehnis**, CEO, Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra*

11:15am-11:45am Moving Forward

The year ahead will demand much of orchestral leaders. What are the sources you turn to for inspiration, information, ideas, examples, and motivation? How can this constituency and the League best supplement those resources and support you throughout the season?

*Moderator: **Alan Jordan**, President and CEO, Hilton Head Symphony Orchestra*

Notice: It is important to keep in mind antitrust rules governing competition that apply to this group discussion. While the agenda for this group includes discussion of a variety of issues that are crucial to orchestras' planning and strategies, the goal is not to agree on a single approach to these issues. With the benefit of analysis and discussion, each orchestra will be able to decide independently what course of action is best for its own organization. We ask you to avoid comments that relate to your orchestra's current or future plans for *ticket or event pricing (actual ticket prices, discount amounts), bargaining (including collective bargaining agreements or with vendors), or compensation.*