

# Agenda

## **2025 National Conference Agenda – Orchestra Board Members**

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

Constituent Liaison: David Styers, Director of Learning and Leadership Programs

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The following agenda describes sessions specifically designed for the above-mentioned constituents. For a full listing of Conference events and larger sessions, please visit

<https://leagueconference.org/full-schedule>.

### **Tuesday, June 10, 2025**

2:00pm-5:00pm

[Demystifying Strategic Planning with Simon Woods](#)

*Advance registration and fee of \$310 member / \$385 not-yet-member required*

### **Wednesday, June 11, 2025**

8:00am-12:00pm

[Tech Fair](#)

1:00pm-2:30pm

**Constituency Meeting Block 1**

**Welcome and Introductions**

*Facilitator: **Alan Mason**, Chair, League of American Orchestras; Board Member, Monterey Symphony*

**Music Director Search**

Undertaking a careful search to find your artistic leader is one of the most important responsibilities of an orchestra board. And the process is ongoing, beginning as soon as one search ends. Join this conversation to unlock the secrets of the [music director search](#) process and discuss the roadmap to identifying the key musical leadership that is right for your orchestra.

*Facilitators: **Robert Naparstek**, MD, FACOEM, Past President, Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra & Music School; **Pat Richards**, Member and former Chair, Board of Trustees, Utah Symphony | Utah Opera; **Pratichi Shah**, President and CEO, Flourish Talent Management Solutions*

## **Thursday, June 12, 2025**

10:15am-11:00am      **Orchestra Board Members Networking Reception in Park City, Level 3**

11:00am-12:15pm      **Insights Sessions**

- [Culture of Philanthropy and Best Practices for Institutional Funding](#)
- [Disaster Preparation and Recovery](#)
- [Music and Mind: A Panel Discussion](#)
- [Strategies for Creating Positive, Inclusive Organizations](#)
- [The New Subscription Economy](#)

1:45pm-3:00pm      **Critical Conversations**

- [Building the Case for Strategic Inclusion](#)
- [Centering Youth to Enhance Your Orchestra's Mission and Success](#)
- [From the Ground Up, Reimagining and Redefining the Perfect Volunteer Group](#)
- [Organizational Success Through Musician Engagement](#)
- [Playing Your Part in Today's Arts Policy Landscape](#)
- [Working in Harmony: A Common Vision for Artist Managers and Artistic Planners](#)

**3:30pm-5:30pm      Constituency Meeting Block 2: Striking a Chord and Creating a Culture of Harmony in a Dissonant World**

In a world shaped by rapid change and new challenges, orchestras face a unique opportunity to create resilient, harmonious work cultures. Learn how to continue building a culture that resonates with your team. Participants will explore practical strategies for blending elements into a foundation of harmony within their organization.

*Facilitators: **Stacey Stowell**, Co-Founder and CEO, Stowell Leadership Group; Advisor, Utah Symphony | Utah Opera; Guild President, Utah Festival Opera and Musical Theater; **Dr. Shane Stowell**, COO, Stowell Leadership Group; Member, Board of Trustee, Utah Symphony | Utah Opera*

## **Friday, June 13, 2025**

8:30am-9:45am

### **Insights Sessions**

- [Building a Compelling Case](#)
- [Building Inclusive Stages and Orchestras](#)
- [Creating an Environmentally Sustainable Future for Your Orchestra and Community](#)
- [Orchestras as Partners in Community Health and Wellness](#)
- [Embedding Culture Change Through Design Thinking Principles](#)

10:15am-11:45am

### **Constituency Meeting Block 3: Become a Confident, Fluent Brand Ambassador for Your Orchestra**

As a member of your orchestra board, you have a role in stewarding the trajectory of your organization. You've signed up to give time, talent, and treasure. But another very important role that you can and should take on is being an ambassador. This combination presentation and hands-on workshop is designed to help all board members become more fluent, comfortable, and effective ambassadors for their orchestras.

*Facilitators: **Roger Sametz**, President & CEO, Sametz Blackstone Associates; and **Ronni Reich**, Senior Strategist, Sametz Blackstone Associates*

Orchestra Board Member Constituency Meetings have been generously sponsored  
by **Tom O'Connor Consulting Group**

**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.*