

Agenda

2025 National Conference Agenda – Student Constituency

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

Constituent Liaison: Heather Briere, Director, 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>.

Wednesday, June 11, 2025

8:00am-12:00pm **Tech Fair**

12:30pm-1:00pm **Recommended: First-Timer Gathering**

Welcome to the League's National Conference! Join other first-time attendees for a special networking session to get to know some new friends among the delegates.

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

1:00pm-1:20pm **Welcome and Maximizing Your Conference Experience**

Attending the League of American Orchestras' National Conference can be an overwhelming experience. This interactive session will feature the League's student leadership team leading an activity to get to know your colleagues. They'll share their practical guidance on how to choose which events to go to, network effectively, and enjoy being fully present in the process.

*Moderators: **Heather Briere**, Director of Learning & Leadership Programs, League of American Orchestras; **Anthony Cangemi**, MA '26 (Arts Administration), Indiana University, Bloomington; MA '26 (Cultural Policy and Arts Management), University College Dublin; **Jacob Eddy**, BM '27 (Classical Composition), Manhattan School of Music; New York Youth Symphony Composition Program; **Lorin Green**, DMA '25 (Flute Performance), University of Washington, Community Relations Manager, Seattle Symphony; **Paul Murphy**, MA '24 (Arts Administration), Southern Utah University, Board Member and Bass Trombone, Utah Philharmonic Orchestra; **Megan Rasmussen**, BM '25 (Flute Performance with a Minor in Entrepreneurship), Utah State University; **Lauren Zwonik**, DMA '25*

(Flute Performance, with Certificate in University Teaching), University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Productions Stage Manager, Virginia Symphony Orchestra, Advancement Assistant, Richmond Symphony; Adjunct Professor of Flute, Virginia Wesleyan University; Part-Time Instructor, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

1:20-1:30pm

Breaking Into Decision Making Spaces

Join in conversation with your peers on how to break into decision making spaces and offer insights and ideas that challenge traditional ways. This discussion will set us up for a meaningful conversation with the General Managers & Operations constituency.

*Facilitator: **Megan Rasmussen**, BM '25 (Flute Performance with a Minor in Entrepreneurship), Utah State University*

1:30pm-2:30pm

Orchestra Management and Career Panel

Learn how orchestras operate, from an overview of the various functional areas to roles and relationships that are essential for the success of any orchestra. Then, hear from and engage in small group conversations with professionals in a variety of roles about their careers and advice for success in the orchestra world.

*Speakers: **Kaylene Beal**, Director of Orchestra Operations, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra; **Julie Bemis**, Vice President of Education and Community Engagement, Richmond Symphony; **Pamela Calero Wardell**, Senior Director of Development, Capital, and Special Campaigns, Jacksonville Symphony; **Charles Dickerson**, Executive Director and Conductor of Inner City Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles; **Scott Faulkner**, Principal Bassist, Reno Philharmonic & Reno Chamber Orchestra, Former Executive Director, Reno Chamber Orchestra*

Thursday, June 12, 2025

3:30pm-5:30pm

Constituency Meeting Block 2

3:30pm-4:00pm

Maintaining Mental and Physical Health in Music

Join local professionals for a discussion on ways to stay healthy as you pursue your music career aspirations.

*Speakers: **Benjamin Kipp**, Vice President of Education and Community Engagement, Utah Symphony | Utah Opera, **Kerry Smith**, Vice President of Artistic Planning, Utah Symphony | Utah Opera*

4:00pm-4:55pm

American Orchestras of the Future

Join us in envisioning what the American orchestra of the future looks like. This interactive session will kick-off a year of students exploring orchestra: missions, roles in their communities, organizational structures, key challenges and opportunities, and traditional and innovative approaches towards ultimately proposing an emerging leaders' vision of the idealistic American orchestra of the future.

Facilitator: *Sonja Thoms, Executive Director, Wheeling Symphony Orchestra*

4:55pm-5:00pm

Break

5:00pm-5:30pm

The Current State and Future of Orchestras

Simon Woods will share insight on the opportunities and challenges facing orchestras today and how orchestras are navigating the changing policy and advocacy landscape. Then, join in a conversation around the future of American orchestras and the role the League can play in supporting the next generation of orchestra leaders.

Speaker: *Simon Woods, President and CEO, League of American Orchestras*

5:45pm-7:00pm

Optional: Student Constituency Dinner—[RSVP by June 9](#)

Questions? Contact Paul Murphy at (385) 685-8225

Friday, June 13, 2025

10:15am-11:45am

Constituency Meeting Block 3

10:15am-11:15am

Cross-Constituency Session with General Managers and Operations Directors: Intergenerational Communication and Collaboration

This session explores the dynamics of intergenerational communication in today's diverse workforce. With multiple generations working side by side, understanding the nuances of communication styles, values, and expectations across age groups is essential for fostering collaboration and productivity. Participants will gain insights into how generational differences influence workplace interactions and learn strategies for bridging communication gaps between Baby Boomers, Gen X, Millennials, and Gen Z. Through conversation between the student and General Managers and Operations Directors constituencies, attendees will learn ways to improve cross-generational relationships, enhance team relationships dynamics, and create a more inclusive and harmonious work environment.

*Speakers: **Rebecca Cain**, Vice President of Operations, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra; **Megan Rasmussen**, BM '25 (Flute Performance with a Minor in Entrepreneurship), Utah State University*

11:15-11:45am

Final Reflection and Staying Connected

As we leave Conference, what will we choose to take with us? How do we stay connected and energized by what we've learned? What 2025-26 League student topics, events, projects, and leadership opportunities will you want to participate in? We will identify strategies to keep the momentum on our path and deepen relationships that will fulfill us as we return home.

*Moderators: **Anthony Cangemi**, MA '26 (Arts Administration), Indiana University, Bloomington; MA '26 (Cultural Policy and Arts Management), University College Dublin; **Jacob Eddy**, BM '27 (Classical Composition), Manhattan School of Music; New York Youth Symphony Composition Program; **Paul Murphy**, MA '24 (Arts Administration), Southern Utah University. Board Member and Bass Trombone, Utah Philharmonic Orchestra; **Megan Rasmussen**, BM '25 (Flute Performance with a Minor in Entrepreneurship), Utah State University; **Lauren Zwonik**, DMA '25 (Flute Performance, with Certificate in University Teaching), University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Productions Stage Manager, Virginia Symphony Orchestra, Advancement Assistant, Richmond Symphony; Adjunct Professor of Flute, Virginia Wesleyan University; Part-Time Instructor, University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

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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.*