

2026 National Conference Agenda—Artistic Administrators

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

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

dstyers@americanorchestras.org

646 822 4033

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>.

Monday, June 1, 2026

1:00pm-2:30pm Constituency Meeting Block 1: Welcome and Peer Roundtables

Join your colleagues for peer roundtables to share your biggest successes and challenges of the past year. Come ready to celebrate, commiserate, lend your ears, and support.

*Moderator: **James Barry**, Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra*

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

3:00pm-5:00pm Constituency Meeting Block 2: Artistic Administrators and Artist Managers Forum

What does it actually look like to build a season from the inside? What do artist managers wish orchestras understood, and vice versa? This rare joint forum brings artistic administrators and artist managers into the same room for an honest, facilitated conversation about how we each work, what we each need, and how we can do this better— together.

*Moderators: **Charlotte Lee**, Primo Artists; **Jeremy Rothman**, The Philadelphia Orchestra; joined by **Alberto Gutierrez**, Colorado Springs Philharmonic; **John Zion**, MKI Artists*

Wednesday, June 3, 2026

11:15am-12:45pm Constituency Meeting Block 3: Aligning Artistic and Operations Teams (joint meeting)

Join this collaborative session designed to strengthen coordination between artistic administrators, operations/production staff, and orchestra management. Through guided conversation, participants will explore each team's priorities, pressures, and constraints—including but not limited to calendar usage, resource management, vision vs. reality, and service utilization. This session will focus on improving communication while aligning artistic vision with operational realities.

*Moderators: **Alison Bolton**, Jacksonville Symphony, and **Sonja Thoms**, Chattanooga Symphony and Opera*

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. Please consult the [League one-page Antitrust Overview](#) for more information, available at www.americanorchestras.org.