

December 19, 2024

Contact: Rachelle Schlosser
Director of Media Relations and Communications
rschlosser@americanorchestras.org
646 822 4027

League of American Orchestras Receives New Grants for Mission-Driven Work



Gen Z-focused Conference session created by the League's new Student Leadership Council. Photo: Asaeda Badat

New York, NY (December 19, 2024) – Closing out the year on a high, the League of American Orchestras has received several new grants for future initiatives aimed at driving youth engagement, leadership development, musician and composer diversity, and orchestra governance.

“We’re so grateful to the many individual and institutional donors who care deeply about America’s orchestras,” said League of American Orchestras President and CEO Simon Woods. “With their support, the League can continue its vital support for the organizations and people of the orchestra field.”

Newly announced grants include:

(cont.)

Sakana Foundation

Major support for the League's [Inclusive Stages](#) program, aimed at increasing musician racial diversity at American orchestras.

- Now expanded to include youth orchestras, educational institutions, and pathway programs
- Helping orchestras establish best practices and processes for musician recruitment and tenure
- Providing data-driven insights to help fuel change

The Clinton Family Fund

\$100,000 in new support for:

- Updating the League's popular handbook, **Effective Orchestra Governance**
- Governance Roundtables
- Youth engagement initiatives
- Supporting the League's role in the National Alliance for Audition Support

Julian Family Foundation

\$100,000 in support of youth engagement initiatives:

- Free League memberships and Conference attendance for students
- Support for the League's new [Student Leadership Council](#)
- Youth-focused digital learning and Conference content

Patricia A. Richards

\$125,000 to renew the [Anne Parsons Leadership Program](#).

- Program supports women and non-binary orchestra professionals in their career progressions
- In 2023-24, six participants were paired with mentors from the orchestra field
- Participants attend Leadership Forums and Workshops featuring executive and professional development coaches, performing artists, and executives

New York State Council on the Arts

\$40,000 to support regional initiatives in New York State.

- Fall forum for small-budget orchestras north of New York City
- Scholarships for League professional development programs
- Discounted webinars for lower-budget New York State orchestras

The **League of American Orchestras** champions the vitality of music and the orchestral experience, supports the orchestra community, and leads change boldly. The only national organization dedicated to orchestras and their communities, the League supports the field through advocacy, research, convenings, leadership development, artistic programs, and grants. Founded in 1942 and chartered by Congress in 1962, the League includes nearly 25,000 musicians, conductors, orchestra staff, board members, volunteers, and business partners working within our membership of 1,600 world-renowned orchestras, community groups, summer festivals, student and youth ensembles, conservatories and libraries, businesses serving orchestras, and individuals who love symphonic music. Visit americanorchestras.org.