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League of American Orchestras and Ibero-American Network of Symphony Orchestras (RIOS) Announce New Partnership

Collaboration Opens Doors for International Resource Sharing and the Advancement of Mutual Goals across the Americas

New York, NY (December 12, 2025) – The **League of American Orchestras** is pleased to announce a partnership with the recently formed **Ibero-American Network of Symphony Orchestras (RIOS)**. The collaboration aims to unite orchestras throughout the Americas for dialogue and the sharing of ideas, make the League's resources available to Latin American orchestras, and provide impetus to the development of **Spanish language content** on the League's website.

RIOS held their **inaugural meeting** at the Centro de Extensión Artística y Cultural (Center for Artistic and Cultural Extension) of the University of Chile in November, uniting **over 60 orchestras** from North, Central, and South America, and the Iberian Peninsula. League President and CEO, Simon Woods, gave a keynote speech entitled “Leading Change Boldly: Transformation in a Complex World,” which closed the conference. The conference featured presentations by field leaders from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Columbia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Germany, Mexico, Paraguay, Portugal, Venezuela, and the United States.

“Latin American countries are filled with music, and its orchestras are a vital part of that landscape,” says Woods. “They are vibrant and creative organizations who are deeply focused on their artistic growth and social impact—and being present at their first gathering was an honor and an inspiration. We are thrilled to partner with RIOS to for this historic opportunity to share experience and ensure that all our orchestras thrive and grow in the future.”

RIOS Director, Francisco Varela, commented: “We’re extremely pleased to launch this partnership with the League of American Orchestras, an organization that has pioneered the type of advocacy and support for the orchestra world that we aspire to achieve with RIOS in our region. We look forward to learn from the vast accumulated experience of the League, and to share and collaborate together for the promotion and sustainability of our institutions and symphonic music.”

As a part of this new relationship, RIOS orchestras will receive League memberships through September 2028, with access to all member benefits and resources. Over the next few years, RIOS will translate some of the League’s member resources into Spanish, beginning with the popular Music Director Search Handbook. [The Spanish-language version of this Handbook](#) is available for download now. The League’s magazine, *Symphony*, also published its [first bilingual article](#) in Spanish and English in June. Further collaborations will include conference sessions, articles, and other forms of exchange.

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](#).

The **Ibero-American Network of Symphony Orchestras (RIOS)** is the organization that brings together Ibero-American professional orchestras under the auspices of the IBERMÚSICAS Program. Its mission is to serve as a reference point for symphony orchestras across Ibero-America, coordinating collaborative projects both within the region and internationally. RIOS advances a shared agenda of joint initiatives aimed at

strengthening symphonic institutions and promoting symphonic activity throughout the Ibero-American community. Visit ibermusicas.org/index.php/rios.