

The League at a Glance

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 and professional training, and artistic programs. We strive to create a thriving future for orchestras and their communities that celebrates creativity, artistry, and inclusion.



above A student member speaks at Conference, during a session called “Youth Perspectives on Engaging with Orchestras.” Photo by Jason Cohn.

right Composer Karena Ingram receives enthusiastic applause at the Memphis Symphony premiere of *RAINN*, part of the Virginia B. Toulmin Orchestral Commissions Program. Photo by Jamie Harmon.



Serving orchestras across America—and beyond

- **25,000 members** benefit individually or through a member orchestra.
- We serve **50 states, Canada, and many countries** worldwide.
- The League **lifts up all orchestras**—small and large, urban and rural, professional, youth, and community—through collective action and national leadership.

Advocating for music

- The League mobilizes its members to engage more than **300** federally elected officials each year, resulting in bipartisan support for critical arts policy issues.
- Year-round, the League fulfills an average of **350 requests for assistance** with visas, federal grants, international travel, and building stronger advocacy skills.

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Building community

- **More than 1,000** orchestra professionals gather annually for our National Conference, the field's leading event, to expand their knowledge and networks.
- **More than 1,500** professionals annually take part in online workshops and webinars.
- **More than 1,300** members convene at **nearly 50 annual** online constituency meetings.
- **800+** timely News Briefs and **25** feature articles are published per year in *Symphony* magazine—an essential source of news at a time of declining coverage, with **half a million+** annual views.

“If there weren't a League of American Orchestras, we would have to invent one. The power and support of coming together to work on issues is key to realizing the profound value of orchestras in American society.”

Deborah Borda

Executive Advisor to the President and Board of Directors,
New York Philharmonic; Founder, BordaArts



left Discussions during a Pre-Conference Seminar. Photo by Douglas Carter Photography.

above A live performance of *What It Takes to Thrive* by Patrick W. Lenz, with words by Logan Butcher and narration and acting by Muhammad Yunus-Khaerisman, conducted by Gonzalo Farias, Assistant Conductor, Houston Symphony, at the 2024 Conference. Photo by Melissa Taylor.

Cultivating effective leaders

- **Nearly 1,000** alumni across five decades of professional development programs, with over **150** now in executive leadership positions.
- Up to **36** early- to mid-career professionals participate in the League's annual 10-day Essentials of Orchestra Management program.
- **20%** of Essentials participants report career advancement within a year.

“To describe the experience as empowering, affirming, and enriching would only scratch the surface. The League is an incredible resource filled with wisdom, dynamic leadership, and outstanding faculty and guest speakers who generously share their expertise.”

Tai Oney

Manager, Inclusion and Learning,
St. Louis Symphony (Essentials 2025)

Creating a sense of belonging

- **31 new works** by women commissioned through the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation Orchestral Commissions Program since 2014, totaling **101 performances**.
- More than **40 orchestras and partners** have joined our Inclusive Stages Coalition, dedicated to increasing the racial diversity of musicians in orchestras.

“Throughout my career, I have always worked towards a more equitable orchestra field, especially one where women can have the opportunities they have long deserved. The League plays a vital role in this effort through its important work supporting women composers and executives.”

Marin Alsop

Chief Conductor, Ravinia Festival;
Principal Guest Conductor, The Philadelphia Orchestra

Sharing essential data

- **More than 300** Knowledge Center requests fulfilled annually for vital data and resources informing strategic planning, financial decisions, and operational decisions.
- **More than 50%** of League orchestra members participate annually in studies by the League and its partners, creating robust benchmarking resources and insights across finance, operations, programming, audience behavior, and more.

“The League equips member orchestras with essential data and insights that inspire innovation and support effective budgeting and strategic planning. Our research also underpins the League’s work telling the field’s story in the press, advocating on the Hill, and raising funds to benefit the field.”

Simon Woods

President and CEO, League of American Orchestras

Together with our members, we advance the evolution and impact of the orchestral field—building the capacity, leadership, and innovation orchestras need to thrive.

To learn more, visit americanorchestras.org

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