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ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS' ANNUAL CONFERENCE UNITES ORCHESTRAS, SUPPORTS RECOVERY

Los Angeles, CA (JULY 1, 2021) – Just as it did in 2020, the Association of California Symphony Orchestra's (ACSO) Annual Conference has moved online. This year's theme is ***Coming Together, Breaking Through***. The sessions are designed to help orchestra professionals apply the lessons learned during the past sixteen months as they work towards relaunching live performances. This conference will allow them to come together as a community to hear from new and impactful voices, think more deeply, and make breakthrough revelations about the big-picture issues and opportunities for the orchestra field as it moves into a period of recovery. The conference will take place as a virtual event from August 2 - 6, 2021 and will consist of plenary sessions, peer forums, networking events, and more. Sessions will focus on the vital issues facing California's orchestras, such as diversity, equity, and inclusion, community-centric fundraising for the arts, and adaptive leadership.

ACSO is committed to making its virtual conference accessible to all, which is why registration is available on a "pay what you can" basis for members and non-members alike, ensuring that anyone can participate. The value of attending conference is estimated at \$25 per person. There is a complimentary option if needed, or several suggested payment tiers starting at \$25, for those who feel inspired and are able to support ACSO's programs.

While ACSO serves classical music organizations, the conference is open to all arts professionals. Orchestra professionals and musicians and arts workers outside of California are also welcome to attend as conference will focus on contemporary issues relating to the both the national orchestra field and the larger arts sector.

Some of this year's incredible lineup of speakers include [Simon Woods](#), President & CEO of the League of American Orchestras; [Afa Dworkin](#), President & Artistic Director of the Sphinx Organization; [Daniel Bernard Roumain](#), Composer, Violinist, Educator, and Activist; [Vu Le](#), Writer, Speaker, and Creator of Nonprofit AF, and Co-leader of Community-Centric Fundraising; and [Eric Martin](#), Managing Director of Adaptive Change Advisors.

ACSO is excited to present a range of thought-provoking sessions including "Equity in Action", "A New Future for Orchestras", and "Everyone is an Advocate: What's Next for Us in Arts Advocacy?"

According to ACSO's Executive Director Sarah Weber, "As orchestras move into a period of recovery and reopening, the 2021 annual conference will help us focus on the important lessons we have learned in the past year. It will help us continue to push forward with innovation and creativity and define a new path forward for our field that is rooted in equity, advocacy, and service to our communities."

ACSO is a member service nonprofit with nearly 130 classical music organizations and their 2,000 board and administrative staff in its network. ACSO's members are comprised of professional, academic, youth, and community-based orchestras, choruses, and festivals in California and the Western United States.

Further information or to find out how you can attend, please visit ACSO's website at www.acso.org/conference or contact ACSO at (800) 495-2276 or at office@acso.org.