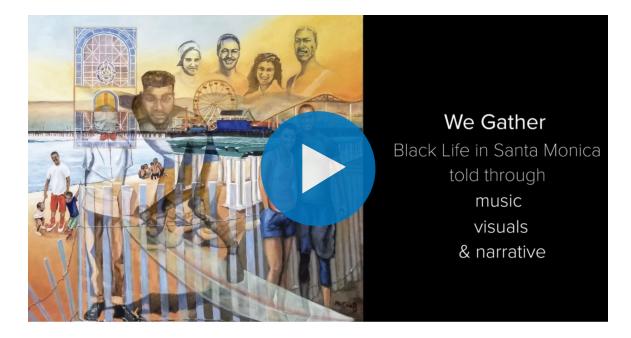


# ACSO Guest Blog An Adventure in Producing We Gather: Orchestra Santa Monica's First Film

#### By Cindy Bandel, President, Orchestra Santa Monica



As part of ACSO's contribution to National Arts & Humanities Month, we asked Cindy Bandel, President of Orchestra Santa Monica (OSM), to share how OSM produced its first film - *We Gather: Black Life in Santa Monica told through Music, Visuals, and Narrative.* Her must-read blog explains why OSM took on this community-based project, how the diverse team came together, what it was like to create an original film during a pandemic, and what other orchestras can learn from OSM's experience.

"In retrospect, looking back at our film *We Gather...* and considering the countless steps and hurdles to produce it, I'd say that creating Orchestra Santa Monica's first film really was an epic journey," Cindy writes. "People have commented about its uniqueness and how they haven't seen anything like this done before by an orchestra. I found a saying by actor Alan Alda that seems fitting, 'Originality is unexplored territory. You get there by carrying a canoe – you can't take a taxi."

Click here to read the full blog post and watch *We Gather*.



## Have You Renewed Your Membership Yet?

ACSO Orchestra, Business, and Individual Members - the new 2022/23 membership season started on October 1, so don't delay! If you haven't already, renew your membership so you and your team can continue to receive the benefits.

And if you have never been a member of ACSO, or if your membership has lapsed, join us! We welcome anyone working in the performing arts, even if you are located outside of California. You will be joining a network of 130 individuals members and 135 organizational members and their 3,000 staff, board, volunteers, and musicians.

You can find more information about ACSO membership and join here.

If you have any membership questions, don't hesitate to contact us at membership@acso.org or 800-495-2276 x3.

#### **Consider Adding a Donation onto Your Membership!**

If you participate in ACSO through your orchestra's membership and you have found value and support from our programs and services, make a donation to ensure that ACSO will always be able to grow and pivot along with our industry's needs.

ACSO is a resource build to advance our sector by connecting and empowering those within it, and never has that been more necessary than now as orchestras work to recover and redefine their relevance and impact.

#### Help us help you by making a gift to ACSO's Annual Fund. Thank you!

#### Donate to ACSO

# POST YOUR CONCERTS

On the ACSO Website

As one of the many benefits of your ACSO membership, we invite you to share your orchestra's concerts with us on our Concerts Calendar! The calendar can be viewed by anyone who visits our website.

Click this button to upload a Word Document o your concert listings for the coming season.

## Advocacy Updates

# Vote Yes on PROP 28: K-12 Art and Music Education Funding



Californians have an opportunity to positively impact every public school in the state by voting Yes on PROP 28. If passed, it will fund high-quality instruction in visual arts, media arts, music, dance, and theatre - without raising taxes!

This kind of wide-spread investment in arts education could help build a pipeline for future orchestra musicians, conductors, administrators, donors, and audiences in California.

This unopposed measure requires a minimum of one percent of Prop 98 funds to be spent on art and music, with 80 percent to be spent on teachers. With only one in five California public schools having a dedicated arts/music teacher, it is vital to support the importance of arts and music for students.

Many California schools currently partner with nonprofit arts providers (like orchestras!) in classrooms, at assemblies, on field trips, and during after-school programs. Prop 28 funds could also be used to bolster these activities.

Learn more about Prop 28 here. Use and share Create CA's Prop 28 toolkit. Make sure you are registered to vote on November 8.

## Governor Newsom Signed SB 1116 Into Law!

On Sept 29, 2022, CA Governor Gavin Newsom signed SB 1116 - the Performing Arts Equitable Payroll Fund into law, which establishes a grant program to support the performing arts through payroll reimbursements.

Thank you to all those in the California orchestra community who responded to ACSO's advocacy alerts and sent emails, signed petitions, posted on social, and sent letters to elected officials in support of SB 1116. This is a big win for small arts organizations!

	SEP 2 9 2022 OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
	To the Members of the California State Senate:
	I am signing Senate Bill 1116, which creates the Performing Arts Equitable Payr Fund. This bill could provide much needed support grants to Small Nonprofit Performing Arts Organizations, to help them offset a portion of their payroll cos
	The creative arts industry was amongst the hardest hill by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. I am proud of the economic and cultural contributions that our arts warkers provide to California, and support industry-ide afforts to improve their ability to succeed and continue to enhance our communities. Without community arts organizations, many of our small and disadvantaged communities may not have access to the arts.
	The 2021 Budget Act appropriated \$150 million in Venues Grants, \$50 million in Nonprofit Performing Arts Grants, and \$50 million in Small Business Covid-19 Rel Grants for Nonprofit Cultural institutions administered by the Office of the Small Business Advocate. The 2021 Budget also included \$500,000 to the California A Council to establish a nonprofit paymaster.
	Though I am signing this bill, the grant program it creates is subject to funding, encourage the author and stackholders to work through the budget process t address the funding needed for these grants, as has been done in previous budgets to finance these existing programs.
7	Sincefuly, Gavin Version

But we still have work to do. **This is an unfunded bill, so advocacy for the 2023-24 legislative session will focus on funding the bill through the California budget process.** 

ACSO is committed to staying actively engaged in the next phase of advocacy, and we will need your help. So stay tuned for next steps!

ACSO extends a huge and heartfelt thank you to the Actor's Equity and Theatre Producers of Southern California for their leadership on this effort, and Governor Newsom, Senator Portantino, and all of the partners and champions that made this possible.

# CA Nonprofit Performing Arts Grant Program is Still Open

The application portal for the CA NPPA Grant Program is still open and continues to accept applications. The portal will remain open until the program funds are depleted. Some orchestras have already received grants!

ACSO strongly urges all California orchestras and performing arts organizations with annual gross revenue under \$2 million to apply.

**NEW! The fiscally sponsored application process has been revised.** Californians for the Arts worked closely with Lendistry and CALOSBA to update the application process. If your performing arts organization is fiscally sponsored, contact Teri at the email below to get complete details on the new process, especially if you have already submitted a fiscally sponsored application or if you intend to submit one.

Contact: Teri Ball, Grants Manager, grantsmanager@californiansforthearts.org, 916-905-5397

### Jobs from the ACSO Career Center

Relationship Marketing Manager (posted 10/10/22) SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY

Gift Processor (posted 10/7/22)

PACIFIC SYMPHONY

Operations & Education Manager (posted 10/6/22) REDLANDS SYMPHONY

Executive Director (posted 10/3/22) SEQUOIA SYMPHONY

Executive Director (posted 9/30/22) AMERICAN YOUTH SYMPHONY

> Click here to view more career opportunities or to post a job in the ACSO Career Center

