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ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS

eNews

UPDATES & OPPORTUNITIES FOR CALIFORNIA'S ORCHESTRAS & CLASSICAL MUSIC FIELD

March 25, 2021

We mistakenly sent out an in-progress draft of ACSO eNews earlier today. Please see the complete and final version below. Our apologies for sending multiple emails.

Deadline Tomorrow! CA Small Business COVID-19 Relief Grants for Nonprofit Cultural Institutions

California's Office of the Small Business Advocate (CalOSBA) is administering a new relief package that includes a \$50 million allocation for nonprofit cultural institutions. Competitive funding for the California Small Business COVID-19 Relief Grant Program will be conducted by CalOSBA's selected intermediary, Lendistry. Details on the opportunity for nonprofit cultural institutions can be found at careliefgrant.com/arts-and-culture. **The deadline to apply is Friday, March 26 at 5:00 pm PT.**

NEW! Important Application Information: Lendistry encourages all eligible nonprofit cultural institutions to submit an application in round 4. **Organizing and other verifying documents, including Form 990s, are not required until you are selected to go through the validation process.** Lendistry encourages all nonprofit cultural institution applicants to begin collecting and organizing the required documents in advance of selection.

Questions? Dedicated technical assistance, including office hours, FAQs, and application guidance, is available through [Californians for the Arts: Relief Grant Program Assistance](#).

- Eligible applicants: Only nonprofit cultural institutions with any revenue size that meet eligibility criteria found at careliefgrant.com/arts-and-culture
- Eligible grant award: \$5,000 - \$25,000
- Details: Eligible nonprofit cultural institutions must complete a new application even if they already applied in Rounds 1 and 2; grants will only be available to nonprofit cultural institutions that did not receive funding in Rounds 1, 2 or 3; grants will be prioritized based on documented percentage revenue declines based on a reporting period comparing Q2 and Q3 of 2020 (as reported by the applicant on the application) versus Q2 and Q3 of 2019

Invest in a Bright Future for Orchestras by Sponsoring ACSO's 2021 Annual Conference



The [2021 Annual Conference Online](#) is taking place as an extended virtual event from August 2-13 and the theme is ***Coming Together, Breaking Through.***

Whether you are a business or an individual donor, **sponsoring the Annual Conference is a unique opportunity to engage with and support California's orchestra community.** Beyond the capacity building it generates for the classical music field, there are many great benefits to sponsoring.

For corporate sponsors, this includes visibility and name recognition, connecting with current and potential clients, learning about our sector's latest developments and trends, and generating new leads.

For individual donors, your tax-deductible sponsorship will help ensure the classical music landscape of the state and the region is vibrant, healthy, diverse, and connected to the communities it serves now and long into the future.

To find more information about the different sponsor tiers and benefits, visit our [website](#), or to become a sponsor, contact us at office@acso.org or 800-495-2276 x1.

Register for April Online Learning Programs

WEBINARS

[Register for all Webinars Here](#)

The Orchestra Flywheel: A Post-Pandemic Business Model

Wednesday, April 7, 10:00-11:00 am PT

Presenter: [Aubrey Bergauer](#), CEO, Changing the Narrative

The Long Road Back: Audience Attitudes About Going out to Concerts

Wednesday, April 21, 1:00-2:00 pm PT

Presenter: [Alan Brown](#), Principal, [WolfBrown](#)

VIRTUAL PEER FORUMS

[Register for all Virtual Peer Forums Here](#)

Education & Community Engagement Staff: Tuesday, April 6, 11 am PT

Facilitator: Anastasia Herold, San Francisco Symphony

Board Members of Professional Orchestras: Thursday, April 13, 11 am PT

Facilitators: Jamei Haswell, Santa Rosa Symphony & Nicola Reilly, Monterey Symphony

Finance & HR Staff: Tuesday, April 20, 11 am PT

Facilitators: Alicia Gonzalez & Maureen Melville, San Diego Symphony

Development Staff: Thursday, April 22, 11 am PT

Facilitators: Scott Vandrick, Pasadena Symphony and POPS & Nuri Kye, Marin Symphony

Marketing & Communications Staff: Tuesday, April 27, 11 am PT

Facilitator: Nora Brady, Los Angeles Philharmonic



Box Office & Patron Services Virtual Peer Forum, March 23, 2021

Guest Blog Post by Katie Pieschala: Expanding the Canon



Last month, ACSO's fantastic Program and Membership Intern, **Katie Pieschala**, wrapped up her five-month internship and left us with a thought-provoking blog about re-examining our perception of excellence in classical music. Katie wrote, "As a young composer and performer, I believe the key to the growth of this field is expanding the canon, using fresh perspectives to reinvigorate existing audiences and engage new ones." [Read the full blog post here.](#)

Would you like to be a guest blogger for ACSO or do you have some ideas for topics or people you'd like to hear from? Let us know at office@acso.org.

April is Arts, Culture, and Creativity Month in CA



This April, we encourage all our members to join with ACSO in celebrating [California Arts, Culture, and Creativity Month](#), organized by our friends at Californians for the Arts. The month of April is our time to celebrate, recognize, and advocate for the significant impact we make in California. The pandemic has shown us what a year without the arts looks and feels like, it also showed us how resilient the arts

and artists are. We learned that the arts are essential and provide the needed support, relief and guidance that makes the world tick. You can't cancel the arts.

Raise your voice for the arts and join us for Advocacy Week (April 19-23) for direct advocacy to electeds, attend ACCM Virtual Convening on April 27, and show your solidarity with the arts and make the pledge at www.californiansforthearts.org.

SBA Will Begin Accepting SVOG Applications on April 8

On March 19, 2021, the Small Business Administration (SBA) [announced](#) that Thursday, April 8 is the slated date for receiving applications to the Shuttered Venue Operators Grants (SVOG) program and created a [new SVOG web portal](#) to host further SVOG updates as the application process prepares to launch.

The SVOG program was established by the Economic Aid to Hard Hit Small Businesses, Nonprofits and Venues Act, which appropriated \$15 billion for it. The [American Rescue Plan Act](#) appropriated an additional \$1.25 billion, bringing the program funding to a total of \$16.25 billion, with more than \$16 billion allocated for grants.

Prepare to apply on April 8: All applicants will need to be registered in the federal government's System for Award Management (SAM.gov) in advance of

applying for a grant. An [SBA video tutorial](#) outlines this process. The SBA continues to update its [Frequently Asked Questions](#), [Application Checklist](#), and [eligibility requirements](#). While the SBA will release further details about the application process, it is important to be prepared to apply as soon as possible. The SBA has indicated that the order in which applications are received will be taken into account as the agency processes grants through the priority periods, and through the general grant processing period.

Register for a March 30 SBA Webinar: The SBA will provide a webinar on Tuesday, March 30 at 11:30 am PT to review details regarding documentation requirements and the application process. [Register to participate here](#).

Sign up for more updates: Potential applicants can [sign up using this link](#) to receive further updates. According to the SBA, in the next several weeks, the SBA will release updates to the portal, including the ability to create an account and submit an SVOG application. As the updates are made, further email alerts will share short summaries of additional functions and user capabilities.

Understand how dual PPP/SVOG eligibility works: Last week, the SBA released [new Paycheck Protection Program \(PPP\) guidance](#) and new [first](#) and [second draw](#) PPP application forms, implementing the American Rescue Plan's new policy allowing organizations that received PPP funding after December 27, 2020 to qualify for an SVOG and subtract the amount of 2021 PPP funding received from the maximum SVOG grant amount.

While it is possible to apply for a Shuttered Venues Grant after receiving a 2021 PPP loan, it is not permissible to receive a PPP loan after your organization has been approved for an SVO grant. The regulations specify, "If a PPP applicant is approved for an SVO grant before SBA issues a loan number for the PPP loan, the applicant is ineligible for the PPP loan and acceptance of any PPP loan proceeds will be considered an unauthorized use."

Today, Congress extended the PPP application period through May 31, 2021. For those who receive first draw PPP in the first quarter of 2021, you now have more time to properly complete spending down your first draw in as few as 8 weeks and then apply for a second draw PPP before May 31. For

those of you who plan to submit an SVOG application on or after April 8, 2021, and you are also interested in securing a PPP loan now, you must apply for the PPP before you apply for the SVOG.

(Thanks to the [League of American Orchestras](#) for synthesizing this important information.)

American Rescue Plan Extends and Creates Critical Relief for the Arts

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed into law the \$1.9 trillion [American Rescue Plan](#), that will extend many current COVID-19 relief provisions and provide critical new ones. Highlights of the American Rescue Plan include:

Paycheck Protection Program: An additional \$7.25 billion will be added to the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) resources, and eligibility changes will allow nonprofits with no more than 500 employees at each location to be eligible for forgivable loans. As of March 7, the [SBA PPP Data](#) shows that \$165 billion of the \$280 billion of PPP funding made available for 2021 has been distributed to loan applicants. The 2021 PPP program is now open for all eligible applicants for first and second draws and is currently slated to close on May 31, 2021.

New Dual Eligibility for Shuttered Venue Operators Grants and PPP:

Rules that had required applicants to choose between seeking a 2021 PPP loan or a Shuttered Venue Operators Grant have changed.

Employee Retention Tax Credit: The refundable payroll tax credits that are currently available in the first two quarters of 2021 will be extended through the remainder of the calendar year.

Pension Relief: The Butch-Lewis Emergency Pension Plan Relief Act of 2021 is included in the American Rescue Plan and will relieve the current strain on both single- and multi-employer plans. This [section-by-section summary](#) is just three pages and your quickest route to an overview of the proposed relief.

National Endowment for the Arts COVID-19 Relief: [The National](#)

[Endowment for the Arts](#) will receive an additional \$135 million in dedicated funding, with 40% allocated to state/regional arts agencies and 60% to support direct grants to organizations. The NEA will release further information about the process and timeframe for implementing new grants soon.

(Thanks to the [Performing Arts Alliance](#) for synthesizing this important information.)

Jobs from the ACSO Career Center

[Operations and Artistic Planning Manager](#) (posted 3/24/21)

OAKLAND SYMPHONY

[Development Programs Manager](#) (posted 3/23/21)

SANTA BARBARA SYMPHONY

[Senior Accountant](#) (posted 3/15/21)

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY

[Financial Planning Analyst](#) (posted 3/15/21)

LOS ANGELES PHILHARMONIC

[Annual Fund Coordinator](#) (posted 3/15/21)

LOS ANGELES PHILHARMONIC

[Program Manager, YOLA at Torres](#) (posted 3/12/21)

LOS ANGELES PHILHARMONIC

[Executive Director](#) (posted 3/8/21)

BEAR VALLEY MUSIC FESTIVAL

[Click here to view more career opportunities or to post a job in the ACSO Career Center.](#)

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