



December 17, 2020

Save the Date for January's Ask An Expert Webinar

Streaming Your Season: Three Case Studies of California Orchestras That Made It Happen

Wednesday, January 27, 2021 | 1:00-2:30pm PT

With concert halls still closed for live performance in California, many orchestras are creating digital content to keep their patrons, donors, and communities engaged. Several pioneering orchestras have taken it a step further by developing entirely new virtual concert experiences for their 2020/21 seasons.

In this webinar from ACSO, we'll hear from executive and artistic leaders from three orchestras who did just that: Santa Rosa Symphony, Santa Barbara Symphony, and Fresno Philharmonic.

How did they do it? What approvals and buy-in did they need? What safety protocols were necessary? What technology was used? What operational ingredients were necessary to make such a dramatic and profound shift in how they are delivering on their missions?

And most importantly, what did they learn that they may carry into the future?

More details and registration information are coming soon, but mark your calendars now!

Leading During Uncertain Times: Words of Wisdom from ACSO's 2020 Award Winners

This past September, ACSO announced the 2020 winners of the inaugural Executive Leadership Award, the inaugural Emerging Professional Award, the fourth Kris Sinclair Leadership Award, and the 24th Most Valuable Player (MVP) Volunteer Awards.



From Left to Right: Stephanie Snyder, Stephen Wilson, Tara Aesquivel, Connor Bogenreif, Dr. Jay Fiene, Mary Ann Orr

As a turbulent year comes to a close, and as we are still navigating the challenges brought on by a global pandemic and engaging in social and cultural changes to promote equity in our field, we asked our award winners to reflect on and answer the question: ***How do you lead during uncertain times?***

Their words of wisdom are a thoughtful way to close out 2020 and a dose of inspiration to begin 2021. [You can read them in full here.](#)

Don't Forget to Register for Virtual Peer Forums

ACSO has launched the next round of Virtual Peer Forums (VPFs), offering 33 forums for 11 different peer groups between January and June.

VPFs are peer-to-peer conversations led by a facilitator and designed to connect you with your counterparts at other orchestras and ensembles in the ACSO membership network. We have scheduled VPFs for: board members, patron services staff, community orchestra leaders, development staff, education/community engagement staff, executive directors, finance & HR staff, marketing staff, music festival managers, operations staff, and youth orchestra leaders.

VPFs are complimentary for members and \$10 for not-yet-members. Registration is required and limited to 20 per peer forum to maximize conversation time and allow everyone to participate.

[See the 2021 schedule and register here.](#) Don't delay – they are filling up quickly!

Join ACSO's Month of Giving and Help the Helpers

At the beginning of December, we launched our first ever all-virtual fundraising campaign with a goal to raise \$5,000 by the end of December to support our Ask an Expert Webinars and Virtual Peer Forums in 2021.

If you have found value in ACSO's services and advocacy, we invite you to join our campaign and make a donation to support a network that exists to help your orchestra and the classical music field.

Imagine how much more we can accomplish for orchestras in California and beyond in the coming year with your support!

[DONATE NOW](#)

New CA Small Business Emergency Relief Package

On November 30, Governor Newsom announced the creation of a \$500 million COVID Relief Grant, administered by the California Office of the Small Business Advocate (CalOSBA), for small businesses that have been impacted by COVID and the health and safety restrictions. Grants of up to \$25,000 will be made available to underserved micro and small businesses, nonprofits, and cultural institutions throughout the state. The program is currently being developed and will open for applications as soon as possible. [For updates on the program's launch, sign up here.](#)

The announcement also included temporary tax relief for eligible businesses impacted by COVID-19 restrictions, consisting of an automatic three-month income tax extension for taxpayers filing less than \$1 million in sales tax, an extension in the availability of existing interest and penalty-free payment agreements to companies with up to \$5 million in taxable sales. [Click here for the full list of existing state support for small businesses.](#)

NEA Announces Grants for Arts Projects 2021 Deadlines

[Grants for Arts Projects](#) support artistically excellent projects that celebrate our creativity and cultural heritage, invite mutual respect for differing beliefs and values, and enrich humanity. Application Deadlines: February 11 & July 8, 2021 for projects taking place beginning in 2022.

Guidelines and application materials for Grants for Arts Projects funding are now available on the [National Endowment for the Arts' website](#).

A Grants for Arts Projects Guidelines Webinar for potential applicants will take place on January 6, 2021 from 12-1 pm PT/3-4 pm ET. Click [here](#) to register.

New 2021 Nonprofit Filing Forms from CA Attorney General

Our colleagues at CalNonprofits notified our field that beginning January 1, 2021, the Attorney General's office, which oversees nonprofits and fundraising professionals in California, updated a number of forms that some nonprofits are required to file, including:

- [Registration](#) – for new organizations
- [Renewal](#) – annual registration renewal form, required for most organizations
- [Raffles](#) – if you host a raffle during the year, you're required to file for a permit and a post-event report
- [Professional Fundraisers](#) – for firms or people who charge for their fundraising services, including online fundraising platforms

Using the old forms will cause a delay in your registration/renewal. The official, updated forms, along with helpful videos and instructions, are available on the [Attorney General's Charities website](#).

Also, be sure to also check out CalNonprofits' newly updated [Nonprofit Compliance Checklist](#) that includes details about all the filings nonprofits are required to complete, including three state agencies, and federal forms. The downloadable comprehensive checklist helps nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations keep up-to-date with annual filing requirements.

Jobs from the ACSO Career Center

[Associate Director](#), New Philanthropy (posted 12/7/20)

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY

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