

A | C | S | O

ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA  
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS

# eNews

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

April 27, 2020

## Congress Replenishes CARES Act Funding, Loan Process Re-Opens Today

The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Health Care Enhancement Act, also known as the "COVID-19 3.5" relief package, was passed by Congress on April 23. **As of this morning, the Small Business Administration has resumed accepting nonprofit PPP loan applications from approved lenders on behalf of any eligible borrower.** [Click here to apply](#) for the new PPP Program. Learn more about the resumption of PPP Loans for nonprofits [here](#).

New funding for nonprofits and small businesses includes \$310 billion to replenish the Small Business Administration's (SBA) Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), a loan initiative aimed at helping nonprofits and small businesses weather the economic fallout from the COVID-19 response. Of this amount, \$60 billion has been set aside for smaller lending institutions such as credit unions and other community-based real financial institutions, with the goal of reaching underbanked businesses.

The package also appropriated an additional \$50 billion for SBA's Disaster Loans Program Account and \$10 billion for Emergency Economic Injury Disaster grants, while increasing the authorization level for the emergency economic grants from \$10 billion to \$20 billion. [Read more here](#).

To apply for the **PPP Program** [click here](#). To apply for the **EIDL Program** [click here](#).

## Pending Amendments Announced to How AB 5 Applies to Music Industry

On Friday, April 17, California State Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez (D-San Diego) and Assembly Majority Leader Ian Calderon (D-Whittier) announced pending amendments to her state law, Assembly Bill 5, that addressed some of the complex challenges presented within the music industry and bring some clarity to the new rules affecting musicians.

Read Assemblywoman Gonzalez's [full announcement here](#).

According to the terms of the amended language, musicians performing in symphony orchestras are still subject to the terms of AB 5 because the nature of their work inherently draws a significant level of control and direction from their employer.

ACSO is talking to our advocacy partners and to some of those involved with crafting the language of the amendment to get further clarity on this new development. We will share any information we gather.

---

## Upcoming May 6 Webinar: Composer Diversity in Practice and Programming

[Register today](#) for ACSO's next **Ask an Expert Webinar on Wednesday, May 6 at 11 AM PT** with Rob Deemer, Founder & Director, [Composer Diversity Project](#) and Professor and Head of Composition in the School of Music at the State University of New York at Fredonia.



While it is not yet certain when orchestras can resume performances, it is a good time to be thinking about what future concert programming might look like when we can once again open our halls and welcome audiences.

This webinar will introduce and explore an amazing tool that can help you diversify and innovate your programming.

Launched in 2018, the [Composer Diversity Database](#) was created as the only existing tool

that allows you to search for works by underrepresented composers. The project is now housed at the State University of New York at Fredonia as a full Institute, and the team has launched additional tools and research such an analysis of orchestral 2019-2020 seasons across the country in order to track diversity progress in the field.

Institute Founder and Director Rob Deemer will outline the tools, models, and best practices with which to explore new repertoire and engage in discussion with participants about how and why performers, presenters, educators, researchers, and orchestras of all sizes can and should increase their programming of composers from underrepresented groups. [Click here to learn more and register.](#)

---

## National Arts Action Digital Summit Takes Places this Week, April 27-May 1

Join Americans for the Arts this week for the first-ever National Arts Action Digital Summit. This Digital Summit includes over a dozen issue-specific session webinars including *The Latest in Tax Policy for Artists, Organizations and Philanthropy*, *COVID-19 Relief Package*, and *Supporting Cultural Exchange and Visas for International Artists*.

Over the course of the week, webinar information will cover arts advocacy techniques, updates on federal policy, and more. Register for the full summit or for individual webinars. Programming begins today!

[Click here to learn more and register for the summit.](#)

---

## Free Webinars You Can Use

Here are a few **upcoming free webinars and online trainings** that we think might be of interest to ACSO Members right now.

[Nonprofit HR Concerns During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#), **April 29 at 11 AM**. Presented by CalNonprofits.

[Voting for the Arts in 2020](#), **April 29 at 4 PM**. Presented by Arts for LA.