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ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS

eNews

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

May 29, 2020

Virtual Conference Registration Opens June 30

Mark your calendars - registration for the [2020 Annual Conference Online](#) opens on June 30! The theme of our conference is **Building Relationships, Building Resilience** and it will take place as an extended virtual event from August 3-14, 2020. More details about the schedule and sessions are coming soon.

ACSO will offer all content on a “pay what you can” basis to members and non-members alike. It is important that all those who want to participate be able to do so.



The opening keynote address will come from [Dr. Laree Kiely](#), Chief Wisdom Officer of [WeWill, Inc.](#) and longtime advisor to the Los Angeles Philharmonic, on organizational resilience and deepening our ability to improvise.

Conference will also include an array of webinars, virtual peer forums, idea exchanges, and access to experts and leaders in our field.

The content is designed to bring us together as a community, inspire new ideas, and help one another navigate through this difficult time so that we come out on the other side more resilient and creative than ever before.

ACSO Members Keep the Music Playing...Virtually

ACSO's organizational members have been creating inspiring and entertaining content even though live performance has been put on pause. In just a few months, many creative and unique virtual programs have taken shape. ACSO staff **Ben Kutner** and **Anthony Crespo** have put together our first [Virtual Content Roundup](#) - a showcase of just some of the exciting virtual content created by our members. Enjoy!

And be sure to submit your orchestra's upcoming virtual programs to our [California Concerts Calendar](#).

Action Alert: Federal Advocacy for Arts Funding

Federal Advocacy: Urge Members of Congress to increase support relief for nonprofit orchestras and musicians in the next legislative package of COVID-19 relief.

Congress is working on its fourth package of federal relief in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and there is still much more work to be done to support orchestras, musicians, and the communities they serve. Keep your elected officials informed about concerns and losses that are not being addressed and tell them about orchestras' unique capacity to support the U.S. economy, uplift the human spirit, and provide lifelong learning. [Talking points to use when contacting your representatives as well as a customizable message](#) are available through the **League of American Orchestras**. We are grateful for the League's national leadership and unifying efforts on behalf of the arts.

PPP Flexibility Act Passes House; Upcoming Webinars on PPP Loan Forgiveness

The U.S. House of Representatives passed bipartisan legislation yesterday, May 28, giving nonprofits more flexibility with the loans they received. The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Flexibility Act of 2020 passed with a 417-1 vote and now heads to the Senate (where it is expected to pass).

The legislation extends the time to use the loan from eight weeks to 24 weeks and gives businesses more time to pay back loans beyond the initial two-year term. The bill eliminates the 75/25 restrictions that said nonprofits must spend 75 percent of their loans on payroll and only 25 percent on other operating

expenses like rent and utilities. The formula changes to 60/40 percent. [Read more from Inside Charity about this act.](#)

If you are working on your organization's forgiveness application, two upcoming webinars may offer you some assistance:

Americans for the Arts and the Arts Action Fund are hosting a [free webinar](#) today, May 29 at 12pm PT that will focus on the latest SBA guidelines for securing Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan forgiveness.

The League of American Orchestras is presenting a virtual conference session on Tuesday, June 2 at 12pm PT called "Loan Forgiveness and the Paycheck Protection Program." [Find more information and register.](#)

New Report from SMU Data Arts Estimates Arts Sector Faces \$6.8 Billion Shortfall

Aimed at helping arts and cultural organizations consider key questions and variables as they plan for reopening and a post-COVID-19 future, this report estimates the pandemic's effect on the nonprofit arts sector and identifies three critical propositions and four prompting questions for consideration.

The report recommends that any organization can develop three propositions in order to achieve success: its value proposition, revenue proposition, and people proposition. It asserts that these steps have the potential to differentiate the organizations that not only weather the crisis but grow through it. [Read the full report.](#)