

Overture

online

The

MAGIC

of

MUSIC



'Tis the Season to Celebrate the Wonder of Our Art



***Music Performance Trust Fund
Offers Increased Funding for 2024***

***Congratulations 66th Annual
Grammy Nominees!***

Overture

online

- Official monthly electronic magazine of the
American Federation of Musicians Local 47 -

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Linda A. Rapka

AFM LOCAL
47

Message From the Editor

Please be aware that until further notice, AFM Local 47 will not be publishing, due to cost-saving measures, a print Overture Magazine. We will continue to publish our monthly digital e-magazine, Overture Online, and will continue email blasts and our Local 47 Beat email newsletter.

In order to better serve you, Local 47 is looking at every possible way to cut costs and save on administrative expenses. One simple yet effective step all members can take to help us reduce expenses is to add your current email address to your Directory profile. This allows us to ensure that you receive timely updates from Local 47 in the most cost-effective way possible.

Please update your Directory profile with your current email and notification preferences by filling out the update form at afm47.org/directory or call 323.993.3159. Thank you!

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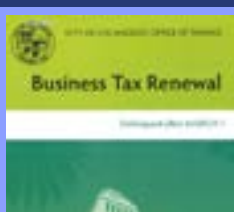
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President Stephanie O’Keefe



When I was playing professionally, I was often struck by the juxtaposition of the sublime and the mundane. I might play a Mahler symphony, in all its glory, or a concert featuring Frank Sinatra, with a huge audience jumping to their feet, and yet 20 minutes later, I’d be stopping to buy gas on the way home. It was as if I had been transported to a magic land and then gently deposited back into my daily life.

What magic had been created and what did it mean to the audience?

Judging from their enthusiasm and the amount of money they paid, I would say that it meant a great deal.

One might surmise then that running a musicians’ union would be easy. Here we have a group of highly skilled artists, creating a priceless art form that is consumed by the public in massive quantities on a daily basis. How hard could it be to ensure that these artists receive adequate compensation?

And yet, every single day, I receive reports of musicians being mistreated – underpaid or not paid at all, recorded with no compensation, asked to play more for less... the list is long and infuriating. This is the paradox of our profession.

But in the face of greed, indifference, and outright corruption, one truth prevails: We make magic.

And as we face our employers across the table; in negotiations, in grievance meetings, in mediations, and in arbitrations, we must never forget that.

A couple of months ago, a musician in a meeting I attended said that there were so many mechanical and artificial ways to replace us that our employers really no longer needed us. And while I am not naïve enough to think that technology hasn’t encroached on our profession, a simple fact remains – our employers are still hiring musicians, both for live performances and recordings of all kinds.

And while our work is also threatened by global outsourcing, the musicians in Los Angeles are, quite simply, magnificent – and that, too, is part of our magic.

While we’re at it, let’s also note the magic of standing together. Personally, I am in awe of the fortitude shown by the thousands of writers and actors this summer who simply refused to back down. They, too, make magic. And they faced employers who hoped they would give in and devalue their own products. But the magic of thousands of artists standing together drew the employers back to the table and to the realization that a fair contract was the only way that the magical creations would resume.

One last bit of magic:

When I first took office at the beginning of 2021, my assistant was Rebecca Gurnee, who had been the presidential assistant since 2019. Rebecca was very helpful, as I tackled the job of running the Local and steering us through the pandemic.

Due to staff cutbacks, Rebecca and I soon found ourselves the only people in the building handling Electronic Media agreements.

Rebecca displayed an incredible aptitude for Media contracts, becoming, in less than a year, the Motion Picture/TV Film Business Representative and, a few months later, the Administrator for the Local’s Electronic Media Division.

Today, I am pleased to announce that, beginning December 5, Rebecca will be the Assistant Director of Electronic Media for the AFM. And while she will no longer be working for Local 47, we are fortunate that she will remain in Los Angeles, heading up the West Coast AFM office, located on the first floor of our building. Congratulations, Rebecca!

I’m wishing for each of us the magic of the Season and the special magic of music,

Stephanie

Vice President
Marc Sazer



I'd like to begin this month's column by expressing my thanks, admiration and best wishes to Rebecca Gurnee, who has served as both the Administrator of our Electronic Media Division and Business Representative for Motion Picture and TV Film. She has moved over to the AFM West Coast Office, working directly for John Painting, the AFM Director of the Electronic Media Services Division. She has served our members with endless enthusiasm, energy and dedication. Here's wishing her the very best in her important new position.

Perhaps you work under union contracts regularly, perhaps you don't. That's the nature of our union together; just like SAG-AFTRA or any other entertainment industry union. The survival of our union, however, depends on the work that happens under contract — it provides the basis for musicians' livelihoods, and the basis for the revenues our institution relies upon. If our union has meaning for you, our contracts have meaning for you.

The union contracts we work under have generally been in existence for many years before we show up and work under them. Imagine having participated in negotiating the very first LA Philharmonic union contract, or the very first Sound Recording Labor Agreement (then called the Phonograph Labor Agreement) back in the 1940s.

Back then, we did it the old-fashioned way; a few Officers would go into a room with the employers, put together a contract, and sign it.

Step by step, we have become a more democratic, musician-oriented union. We're working to keep the progress going.

Largely as a result of the activism of symphonic musicians that led to the formation of ICSOM, the International Conference of Symphony and Opera Musicians, and the activism of recording musicians that led to the formation of RMA, the Recording Musicians Association, democratic rights have blossomed, including the right to vote on our contracts and participate in the negotiations.

The AFM Live TV/Videotape Agreement that covers late night shows, variety shows, awards shows and specials expires at the end of December, and we are reaching out to musicians who have worked under this contract to begin to build communication and empowerment.

The AFM will begin negotiating the Motion Picture and Television Film Agreements with the major studios on January 22, 2024.

These contracts provide full-time and partial-time livings for literally thousands of musicians both here in Los Angeles and in other media centers around the AFM. They are crucial to the survival of our U.S. Pension Fund, our health care systems, and both our Local and the AFM.

Our ability to negotiate the best outcomes for these contracts depends first and foremost on the mass of musicians who work under them — and all musicians. Whether you are a member of the Philharmonic or work in recording, you represent a small minority of our membership and our community. Again, this is the same experience that actors and session singers have in SAG-AFTRA — it takes the full support of all members to be fully successful.

As we move into the holiday season we are also feverishly planning future ways for you to support our union by supporting our musicians fighting for better, more sustainable, more fair and equitable contracts. Stay tuned!

Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season for all!

Secretary/Treasurer Gail Kruvand



To Give or Not To Give?

Most of us have been bombarded with “Giving Tuesday” and year end charitable giving emails but I want to ask you to consider supporting those funds and organizations that help musicians in need. Below are a few that are on the top of my list. A donation of any size helps!

The [AFM Local 47 Relief Fund](#) provides help to Local 47 members suffering from illness or injury that prevents them from working, or who lack the funds to pay for necessities such as food or rent. It is funded by member and community donations. If you haven’t done so already, I urge you to make a donation to our own Relief Fund. If you are in need of help you can find the application of assistance [here](#).

Another great non profit is the [Entertainment Community Fund](#). This national organization offers services in a variety of areas for members of the performing arts and entertainment community From social services, financial assistance, career transitioning and support for Seniors, this Fund serves many needs. You may opt to become a member and access a number of different benefits at different donation levels. This Fund is a 501(c) 3 and all donations are tax deductible.

“We help all musicians” — [The Musicians Foundation](#) has a nationwide scope even though it is based in New York. Their grants are available to musicians of all backgrounds and identities who live and work in the United States. Trombonist and former Local 47 Executive Board member Andy Malloy recently joined their Board of Directors. Their mission since the inception in 1914 is defined by “a culture of compassion, responsibility and respect.” The Musicians Foundation is a 501(c) 3 and all donations are tax deductible.

The [Jazz Foundation of America](#) has grown from a New York City locally based organization founded in 1989 to a non-profit of national scope. Our own Local 47 member, Quincy Jones, is on the Honorary Founders Board. This foundation offers housing and emergency assistance, pro bono medical services for uninsured musicians in crisis, disaster relief and more. “Saving Jazz, Blues and Roots One Musician at a Time,” the focus is on jazz musicians and their families. The Jazz Foundation of America is a 501(c)3 and all donations are tax deductible.

[MusiCares](#) was founded by the Recording Academy in 1989 and offers direct financial grants, support and crisis resources for anyone working in the music industry. This organization has an ongoing commitment to artists and industry professionals.

Please consider a donation of any size to the above organizations. Your generosity will make a difference in the lives of musicians in need.

*We are the music makers,
And we are the dreamers of dreams,
Wandering by lone sea-breakers,
And sitting by desolate streams; —
World-losers and world-forsakers,
On whom the pale moon gleams:
Yet we are the movers and shakers
Of the world forever, it seems.*

- From “Ode” by Arthur O’Shaughnessy

DO WE HAVE ROYALTIES FOR YOU?



More than \$650 Million Distributed to Musicians & Vocalists

Royalties Distributed to Both Union & Non-Union Session Musicians & Vocalists For
Their Performance on Songs Played on Satellite Radio, Non-Interactive Streaming Services,
Webcasts, Other Digital Formats and Certain Music Performed on Film & Television

Find Out If We Have Royalties For You

www.afmsagaatrafund.org

AFM & SAG-AFTRA
Intellectual Property Rights Distribution Fund

p. 818.255.7980 | f. 818.255.7985

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The AFM & SAG-AFTRA IPRD Fund is a 501(c)(6) non-profit organization - est. 1998



The **MAGIC** *of* **MUSIC**

'Tis the Season to Celebrate the Wonder of Our Art



Music is magic, and few have been more forthright about this fact than our own AFM Local 47 President Stephanie O'Keefe. In a speech delivered to entertainers during the recent WGA and SAG-AFTRA strikes, in front of thousands, she proclaimed:

"Together we create a magical product that the world cannot live without.

"Make no mistake – American films and television shows are the most valuable of ALL American products – and they simply cannot be replicated anywhere else...

"Artists ... create a product that changes peoples' hearts, peoples' minds, and peoples' lives.

"That is our power and our strength."

This holiday season, we are taking time to reflect upon the extraordinary power of our profession as musicians. From the joy that the free community concerts performed by AFM members has brought to thousands of people throughout the United States and Canada through the Music Performance Trust Fund for 75 years and counting, to the long list of GRAMMY-nominated recordings made right here in Los Angeles under AFM Local 47 union contract, to the many holiday concerts being presented by orchestras covered by union collective bargaining agreements throughout the Southland, the magic of music cannot be overstated.

Wishing you all the happiest of holidays, filled with magical music.



FREE MUSIC!

Music Performance Trust Fund Turns 75 Offers Increased Grant Funding for 2024

Are you interested in presenting a **FREE** and open to the public **CONCERT**?

Now in its 75th year of service, the [Music Performance Trust Fund](#) provides grants for free public live music events. Its mission includes contributing to the public knowledge and appreciation of music, as well as making music a part of every child's life experience. Funds are made available by MPTF to sponsor performances for community events, outdoor park concerts, libraries, senior citizen centers and museums, as well as educational performances by a wide variety of jazz, classical, chamber, symphonic and other ensembles.

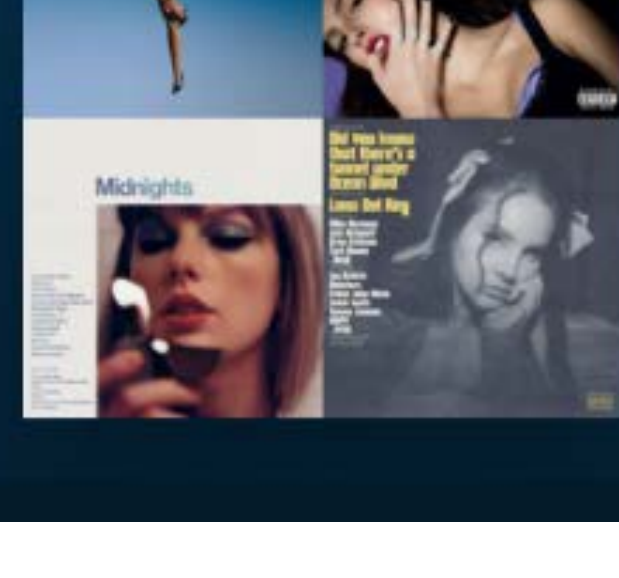
In 2024, MPTF is offering extra funding for performances held in February during Black History Month, in March during Women's History Month, and in April during Jazz Appreciation Month. Those interested in applying for a grant are invited to contact Local 47's MPTF Administrator. All requests will be reviewed for approval, and recommendations will be forwarded to MPTF in New York. For more information on how to apply, [click here](#).



File photo

AFM Local 47 member Charlie Owens presenting a Jazz in Schools program in 2017, initiated by the Los Angeles Jazz Society and co-funded by the Music Performance Trust Fund, which provides free jazz education performances by professional musicians in elementary schools during Black History Month.

The funding that the MPTF distributes to local unions in the United States and Canada comes from the Sound Recording Labor Agreement negotiated between the major recording labels and the American Federation of Musicians. Since its inception in 1948, it has distributed about \$620 million in sponsorship money. During the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the Fund is looking to distribute \$3.3 million to fund free concerts for the benefit of the greater community.



PUBLIC PLAYLIST

Grammys 2024

Grammy-nominated & winning music recorded under American Federation of Musicians Local 47 union contracts

47 AFM47 • 24 songs, 1 hr 26 min

Congratulations 66th Annual GRAMMY Nominees!

Congratulations to everyone whose work can be heard on the 66th Annual GRAMMY-nominated tracks and albums, recorded under AFM union contracts filed with Local 47!

The awards ceremony takes place Sunday, February 4, 2024.

Listen to our [#AFM47 2024 Grammys Playlist](#) while you browse the list of Local 47 nominees below.

Record Of The Year

Flowers - Miley Cyrus
On My Mama - Victoria Monét
Vampire - Olivia Rodrigo
Anti-Hero - Taylor Swift

Album Of The Year

World Music Radio - Jon Batiste
Endless Summer Vacation - Miley Cyrus
Did You Know That There's A Tunnel Under Ocean Blvd - Lana Del Rey
GUTS - Olivia Rodrigo
Midnights - Taylor Swift
SOS - SZA

Song Of The Year

Anti-Hero - Taylor Swift
Butterfly - Jon Batiste
Flowers - Miley Cyrus
Vampire - Olivia Rodrigo

Producer Of The Year, Non-Classical

Daniel Nigro (AFM 47 member)

Best Pop Solo Performance

Flowers - Miley Cyrus
Vampire - Olivia Rodrigo
Anti-Hero - Taylor Swift

Best Pop Duo/Group Performance

Thousand Miles - Miley Cyrus Featuring Brandi Carlile
Candy Necklace - Lana Del Rey Featuring Jon Batiste

Best Pop Vocal Album

Chemistry - Kelly Clarkson
Endless Summer Vacation - Miley Cyrus
GUTS - Olivia Rodrigo
Midnights - Taylor Swift

Best Rock Performance

Rescued - Foo Fighters

Best Rock Song

Rescued - Foo Fighters

Best Rock Album

But Here We Are - Foo Fighters
This Is Why - Paramore

Best Alternative Music Performance

This Is Why - Paramore

Best Alternative Music Album

Did You Know That There's A Tunnel Under Ocean Blvd - Lana Del Rey

Best R&B Performance

Summer Too Hot - Chris Brown
ICU - Coco Jones

Best Traditional R&B Performance

Love Language - SZA

Best R&B Song

Angel - Halle
ICU - Coco Jones
On My Mama - Victoria Monét
Snooze - SZA

Best Progressive R&B Album

SOS - SZA

Best R&B Album

JAGUAR II - Victoria Monét

Best Melodic Rap Performance

Low - SZA

Best Traditional Pop Vocal Album

Holidays Around The World - Pentatonix
Only The Strong Survive - Bruce Springsteen

Best Country Solo Performance

Buried - Brandy Clark

Best Country Duo/Group Performance

I Remember Everything - Zach Bryan Featuring Kacey Musgraves

Best Country Song

Buried - Brandy Clark
I Remember Everything - Zach Bryan Featuring Kacey Musgraves

Best American Roots Performance

Butterfly - Jon Batiste

Best Contemporary Christian Music Album

My Tribe - Blessing Offor

Best Compilation Soundtrack For Visual Media

AURORA - Daisy Jones & The Six

Best Score Soundtrack For Visual Media (Includes Film And Television)

The Fabelmans - John Williams, composer
Indiana Jones And The Dial Of Destiny - John Williams, composer

Best Instrumental Composition

Helena's Theme - John Williams, composer

Best Orchestral Performance

Adès: Dante - Gustavo Dudamel, conductor
(Los Angeles Philharmonic)

The complete list of all 2024 GRAMMY nominations may be found [here](#).

Member Spotlight



Siddhartha Khosla

Composer

"Now more than ever, the musicians that bring our scores to life need us. With the challenging times we're in, unions become even more important in supporting our fellow players and collaborators. It's important for musicians to know that a union, and we composers have their back." *

- Siddhartha Khosla

Siddhartha Khosla is a six-time Emmy-nominated film and television composer, singer/songwriter, and producer of the critically acclaimed band, Goldspot.

Siddhartha received three Primetime Emmy nominations in 2022 for Outstanding Music Composition for a Series and Outstanding Main Title Theme for "Only Murders in the Building," and Outstanding Original Music and Lyrics for his original song and #1 iTunes single "The Forever Now," shared with fellow Local 47 member and Dawes guitarist, Taylor Goldsmith.

Additional Emmy nominations include 2021 and 2019 for Outstanding Music Composition For a Series and in 2020 for Outstanding Original Music and Lyrics for his original song "Memorized" (also shared with Taylor Goldsmith) for his work on NBC's Golden Globe and Emmy-winning drama series, "This Is Us." Siddhartha has the distinction of being the first South Asian person to be nominated in the Primetime Emmy score and song categories.

After playing in a hugely powerful montage to end the episode, "Memorized" skyrocketed to the #1 spot on the Billboard soundtrack song charts and #13 overall. Siddhartha also co-composed the hit song "We Can Always Come Back To This" for the show, which ranked #12 overall, and #1 in the Billboard Blues charts for four consecutive weeks. His original songs "Memorized," "Invisible Ink" and "We Can Always Come Back to This" earned Guild of Music Supervisors Award nominations for Best Song/Recording for Television.

Siddhartha's television and film credits include the critically acclaimed Hulu series "Looking for Alaska" and Marvel's "Runaways." Additionally, he composed an original song for the musical film "Basmati Blues."

In November 2013, Siddhartha was invited as the musical guest for First Lady Michelle Obama's Diwali celebration at the White House, where he delivered an emotional performance of several of his original songs. He has also been performing his music from "This Is Us" for audiences worldwide. In 2019, he performed in Los Angeles at the Ford Theatre and at the MOSMA Festival in Málaga, Spain.



AFM LOCAL 47 #WhyUnion?



* Local 47's #WhyUnion? campaign features members from every part of our profession, answering in their own words, this question: "Why Union?"

Read member testimonials, and share your own answer, at WhyUnion.org.



Holiday Office Closures

Monday, December 25 - Christmas Day
Tuesday, December 26 - Day After Christmas
Monday, January 1 - New Year's Day
Tuesday, January 2 - Day After New Year's

Save the Date:

Next General Membership Meeting

Monday, January 22, 7:30 p.m.
AFM Local 47 Captain Greg Welch Gathering Place
3220 Winona Ave. Burbank CA 91504
afm47.org/gmm

Ongoing Events:

Executive Board Meetings

Tuesdays, 10 a.m. (online via Zoom)
Members welcome as observers
For info email st_sec@afm47.org

New Member Orientation

Third Fridays, 10-11 a.m.
Local 47 Executive Board Room
Required of all new members
afm47.org/orientation

*View our full calender of events
@ afm47.org/calendar*



LABOR COMMUNITY SERVICES FOOD DISTRIBUTION

**December 2, 2023
9:00 am - 12:00 pm**

**Ford & Wallach
3619 Motor Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90034**

Drive Thru Distribution

**Following All
Social Distancing
Safety Protocols**



Community Food Distribution: Los Angeles

Labor Community Services will be hosting a Food Distribution at Ford & Wallach on Saturday, December 2 from 9 a.m. to noon.

This will be a drive-thru only distribution; for safety, no walk-ups are permitted.

This distribution is open to members of any union and the entire community. [View location map](#)



RMA NITE LITE HOLIDAY PARTY

MONDAY, 4TH DECEMBER 2023

6-9PM

SAN ANTONIO WINERY

737 LAMAR STREET, LOS ANGELES CA 90031

Free Parking

\$60 Advance – \$80 At Door

**OPEN BEER & WINE BAR
LITE BITES**

ATTIRE: COCKTAIL

SPECIAL GUEST

Blake Neely

COMPOSER

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

*Colin Hay with
Jeff Babko*



SCAN TO PURCHASE



RMA NITE LITE: HOLIDAY PARTY

Monday, December 4, 6-9 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE NEW LOCATION:

San Antonio Winery - DTLA

Come celebrate the holidays and the return
of RMA Nite!

The deadline to purchase at the discounted
Advanced Price has been extended to 12 p.m.
on Monday, December 4.

This event is open to all!

[Click Here to Purchase Tickets](#)



Local 47 EMD Admin Rebecca Gurnee Transitions to AFM International

We are happy to report that Rebecca Gurnee, who has served at the helm of AFM Local 47's Electronic Media Division since early 2022 as Administrator, will be transitioning to her new position as Assistant Director of Electronic Media for the AFM of the United States and Canada effective December 5.

Gurnee will now be working directly with AFM Director of Electronic Media, John Painting, and will assist members throughout the United States and Canada.

Prior to her role as Local 47 EMD Admin, she held the positions of Local 47 Motion Picture/TV Film Business Representative and Administrative Assistant to the President.

Here at Local 47 we are fortunate that Gurnee will remain a friendly face around our offices, as her new post is headquartered in the AFM West Coast office located on the first floor of our building in Burbank.

Congratulations, Rebecca!



Welcome New Members!

- Avalos, Deborah – Violin
- Balentine, Jonathan – Drum Set
- Balfe, Lorne – Piano
- Bergh, Kristofer John – Trumpet
- Carvalho, Karen – Cello
- Cee, Joe - Vocalist
- D'Errico, Rhyann – Piano
- Dan, Johnny – Composer
- Diaz, Oscar Albert - Acoustic/Electric Guitar
- Gama, Leo – Acoustic Guitar
- Glead, Jason - Electric Bass
- Harris, Brandon – Drum Set
- Hwang, Jondren – Violin
- Kang, David – Viola
- Keller, Lynn – Vocalist
- Kosine – Producer
- Maamoun, Tamer – Acoustic Guitar
- Mazunov, Gene – Electric Guitar
- McInnes, David – Drum Set
- Mendoza, Luca – Piano
- Sachs, Jared - Acoustic/Electric Guitar
- Schaffer, Spencer – Trombone
- Scott IV, Charles - Acoustic/Electric Guitar
- Seo, Jenni – Viola
- Smith, Josh - Acoustic/Electric Guitar
- Strong, Buddy – Piano
- Zavala, Damon – Viola
- Zick, Rob – Drum Set



Due Date: January 1

**Renew today to avoid
late fees & penalties!**

afm47.org/dues



This holiday season, please consider a donation to the Local 47 Musicians Relief Fund. Your generous contribution will help Local 47 members suffering from illness or injury that prevents them from working, or who lack the funds to pay for necessities such as food or rent. [Click here to donate today.](http://afm47.org/relief)



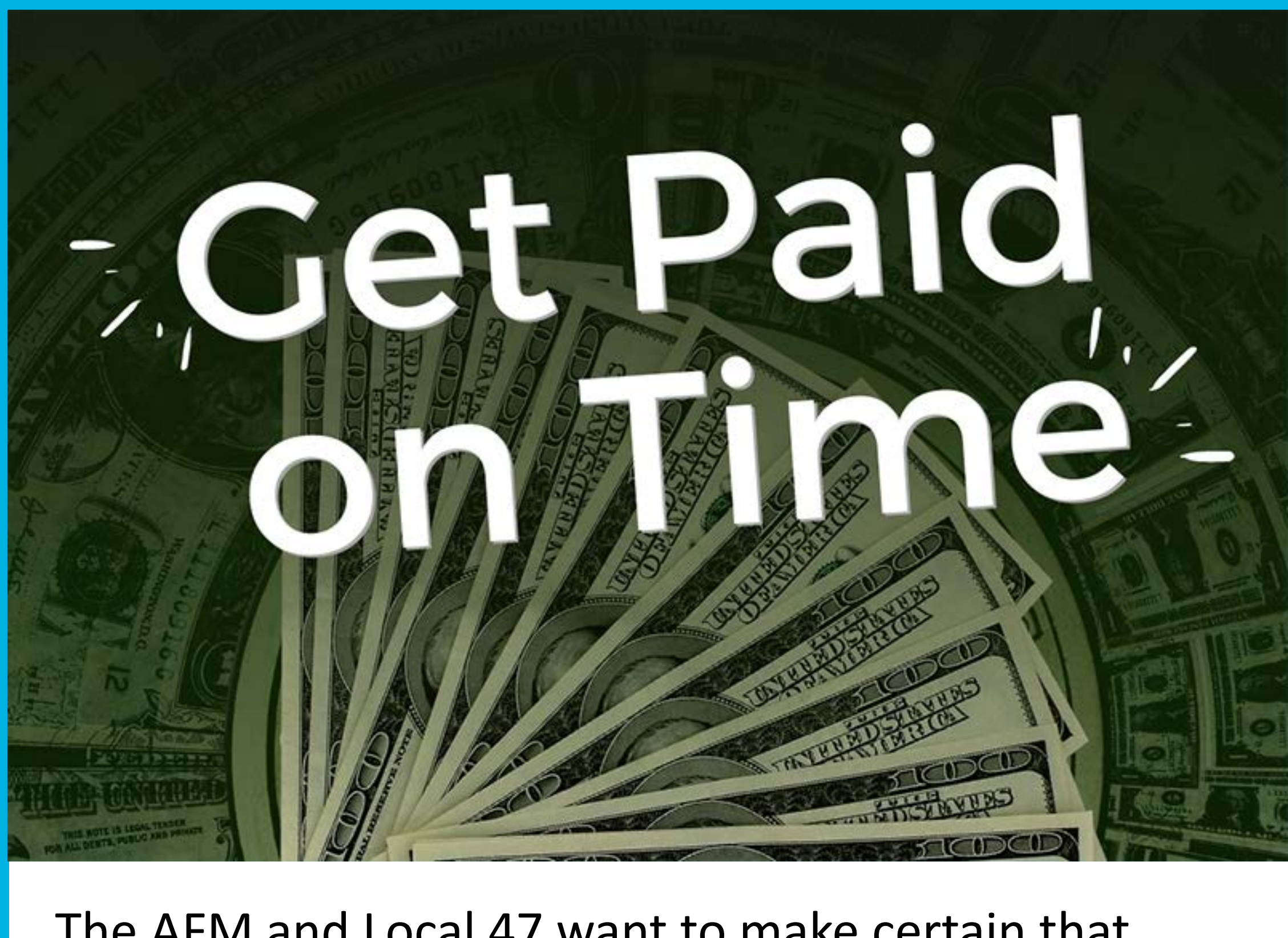
News Briefs

Local Wage Scale Updates for 2024

Live Performance/Music Prep Wage Scales have been updated for the New Year (the 2024 IRS mileage reimbursement rate remains TBA). A preliminary digital copy of the booklet may be found in the [members-only section](#) of our website (login required). Print copies will be made available beginning in early 2024. Members may submit your request now at bit.ly/wsbook2024.

Do We Have an Unclaimed Check for You?

[The musicians listed here](#) have not responded to notices of checks in escrow at Local 47. If your name is listed or you know the whereabouts of these musicians or their beneficiaries, please contact our Finance Department: 323.993.3146, bookkeeping@afm47.org



Get Paid on Time

The AFM and Local 47 want to make certain that musicians are being **paid on time**.

Please visit bit.ly/session47 when you receive a session call and let us know – anonymously – when it is to occur. Once we have that information – something not always provided to the Union – we can “start the clock” and track payments to musicians, assessing late penalties when appropriate.

If you have any questions, please contact Electronic Media Division Administrator Rebecca Gurnee at emd@afm47.org or 323.993.3143.

IS YOUR BENEFICIARY CARD CURRENT?

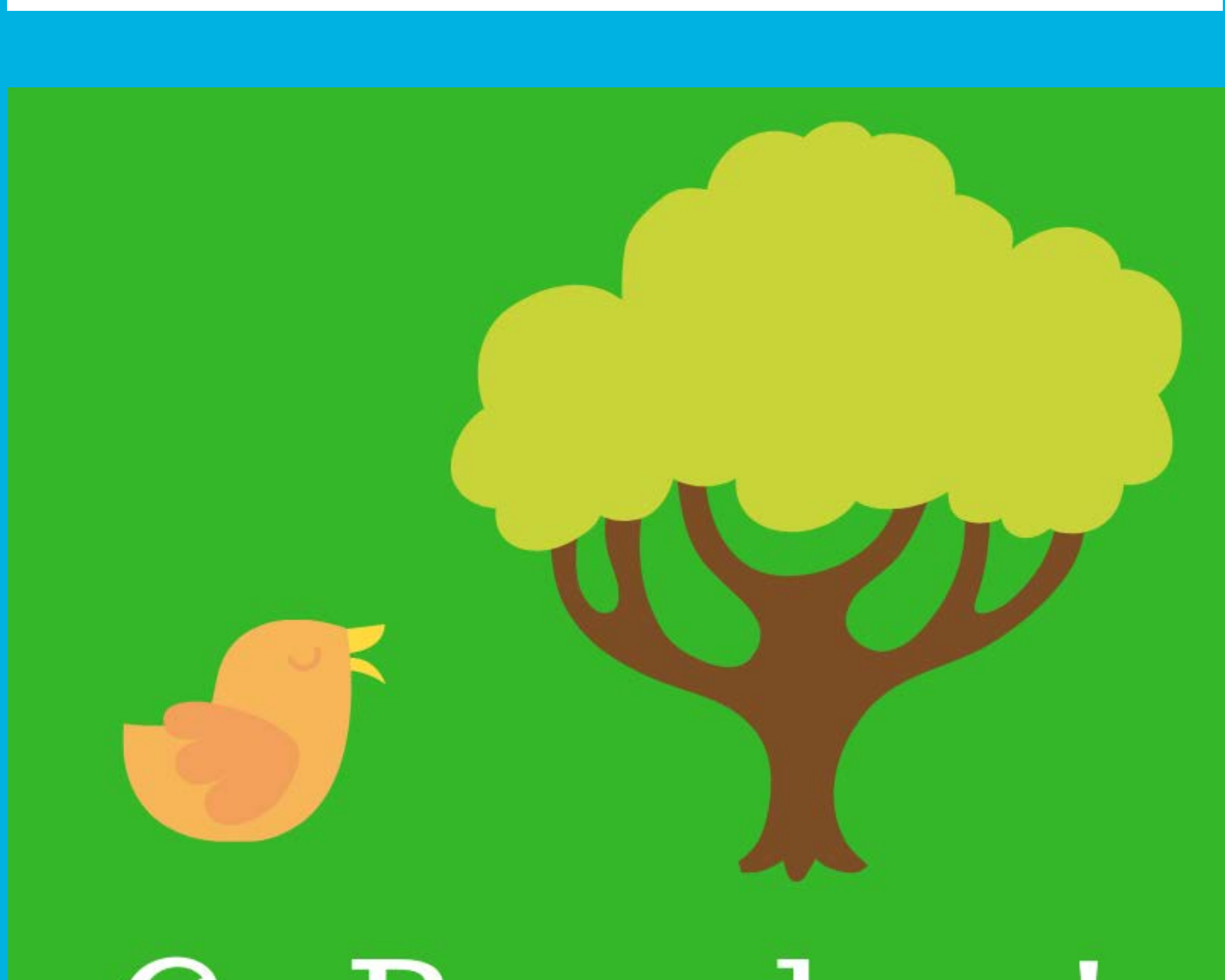


Visit: afm47.org/beneficiary

Your beneficiary card designates the recipient of the Local 47 \$1,000 death benefit. If you need to change your beneficiary, update beneficiary information, or if you just can't remember who you have listed, please visit afm47.org/beneficiary.

- If you have any change of beneficiary or contact info updates, be sure to also to report them to:
- AFM Pension Fund (AFM-EPF) – (800) 833-8065
- Film Musicians Secondary Markets Fund – (818) 755-7777
- Sound Recording Special Payments Fund: (212) 310-9100
- AFM & SAG-AFTRA Intellectual Property Rights Fund: 818-255-7985

Please note: This benefit is not payable to a beneficiary if the member was suspended, expelled or had resigned at time of passing.



Go Paperless!

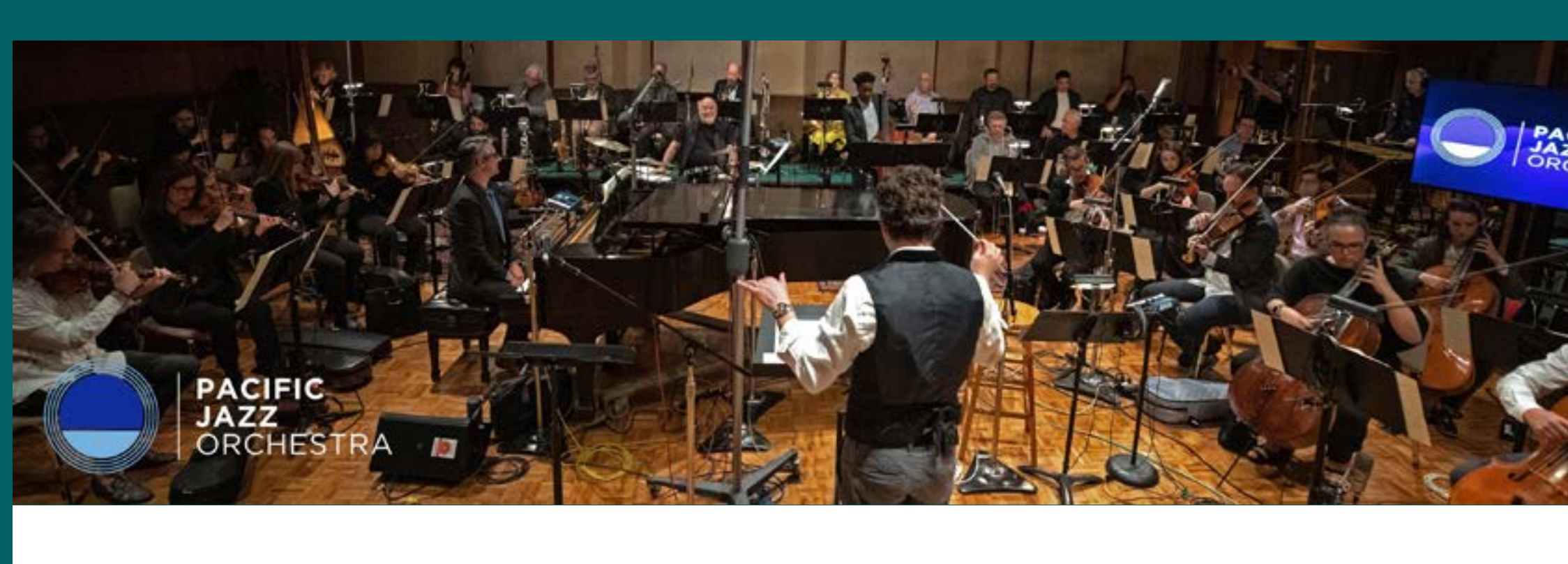
Sign up to receive work dues statements online @ afm47.org/paperless

Is Your Info Current?

Make sure your contact info is up-to-date with our Directory Department to ensure timely delivery of dues statements and important news updates.

afm47.org/directory
323.462.2161





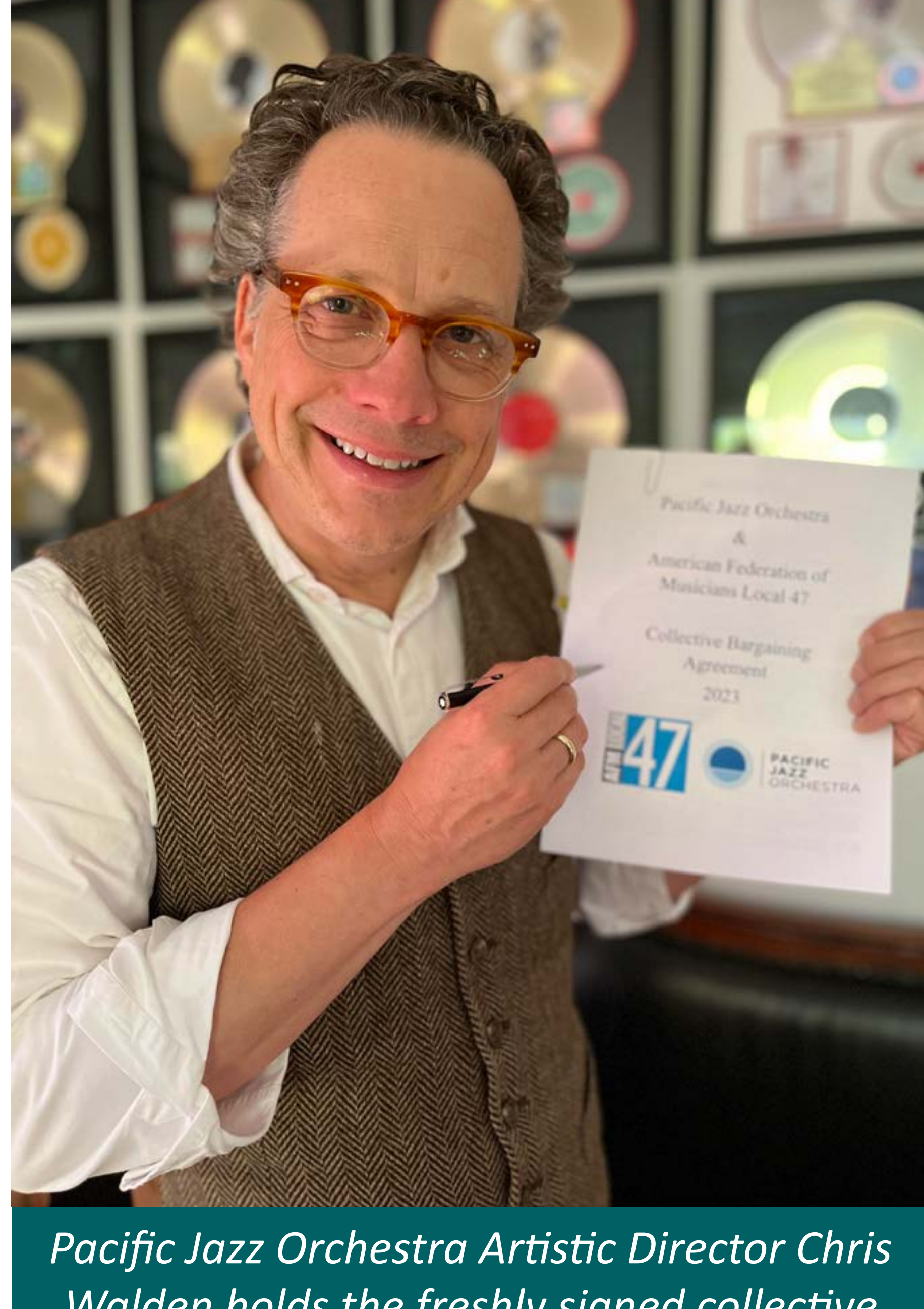
Pacific Jazz Orchestra Launches Spectacular Debut Season

by Linda A. Rapka

Aiming to entertain and enrich the local community of Los Angeles as well as the global community through performance and education, the newly formed Pacific Jazz Orchestra is the ambitious innovation of Chris Walden, a seven-time GRAMMY-nominated arranger/conductor who serves as the orchestra's artistic director and conductor.

"I've been arranging and conducting for recording artists and for TV and film for 30 years, but I'm now at a point in my career and my life where I wanted to fulfill my own musical vision," Walden said. "Having worked a lot with symphony orchestras as well as with big bands, I wanted to create a hybrid ensemble that embodies both. And with this 40-piece ensemble we're able to play jazz as well as symphonic material."

Creating a new orchestra from the ground up is a labor of love that requires ingenuity, persistence, and an army of supporters. "In order to finance this orchestra I founded a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization since a project like this can't survive on ticket sales alone," Walden said. "But I see this orchestra as a community service as we try to bring orchestral jazz performances to various parts of Los Angeles and expose underrepresented youth to this truly unique American art form."



Pacific Jazz Orchestra Artistic Director Chris Walden holds the freshly signed collective bargaining agreement between the orchestra and AFM Local 47.

Getting from initial talks to inking the collective bargaining agreement with AFM Local 47 was as seamless as it gets. "The progress was actually very easy," he said. "I had a good idea of what I wanted in the agreement, and the Local 47 leadership was very helpful to get to an agreement quickly, within a matter of a week or so."

The Pacific Jazz Orchestra plans to produce an annual concert season consisting of five projects, each with a different guest artist to be presented at five different venues throughout Los Angeles. "The program reaches beyond the boundaries of jazz as we feature music of all kinds of styles and origin," Walden said. "In the not so distant future we'll also host a summer music camp for young musicians in Los Angeles, and other places of the world where access to music education is missing."

PJO presented an impressive pair of opening concerts on October 27-28 at the Wallis Center for the Performing Arts in Beverly Hills. The performances featured Grammy award-winning artist Ledisi — who also serves on the PJO advisory board — and internationally acclaimed saxophonist Ben Wendel.

"To be conducting the PJO in this first opening concert was a really gratifying experience," Walden said. "Most of the orchestra members are musicians that I've known for a long time and have worked with on all kinds of projects. But now having all my favorite players in one place is just magnificent."

Herb Alpert, whose foundation serves as primary sponsor of the orchestra's first season, said in a video message that the Pacific Jazz Orchestra "will continue in the tradition of orchestral jazz, but this is the important part: We will explore musical collaborations beyond jazz, which will appeal to a wider and more diverse audience. And this will undoubtedly entertain, inspire and enrich our great city of Los Angeles."



The next concert takes place Saturday, December 23 from 8-10 p.m. at the Alex Theatre in Glendale. The holiday-themed concert features singer/actress Katharine McPhee ("Smash," "Waitress"), Grammy-winning vocal group TAKE 6, and internationally renowned violinist Caroline Campbell. Tickets may be purchased [here](#).

Future dates are expected to be announced including the Soraya in Northridge, the Irvine Barclay Theatre and the Theatre at Ace Hotel downtown. Walden says audiences can expect "a great musical experience that you won't get anywhere else."

For more information about PJO, including the concert calendar and how to donate, may be found at pacificjazz.org.



FAIR SHARE FOR MUSICIANS



Musicians Deserve a Fair Share

*A Message from the AFM of the United States
and Canada*

The American Federation of Musicians and the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television (AMPTP) have set contract negotiations for theatrical and television film work for January 22-31 (minus weekends) in Los Angeles.

Negotiations for AFM's Basic Theatrical Motion Picture and Basic Television Motion Picture Agreements will begin later than planned in part due to AMPTP's prolonged labor disputes with the WGA and SAG-AFTRA, which caused significant disruptions in the entertainment industry.

The current contract expired on November 13. To ensure the integrity of essential contractual protections until the next agreement is reached and ratified, the current agreements have been extended by six months.

Streaming now dominates the entertainment industry, and "new media" is no longer a new business. The AMPTP has unfairly exploited musicians' labor and shut musicians out of millions of dollars of streaming profits for over a decade. It's past time for a fair contract for current and future generations of all musicians.

The AFM is committed to fighting for the rights and well-being of members and improving industry wages, working conditions, and residual payments for made-for-streaming content. The AFM Fair Share for Musicians campaign was created by musicians who record for motion pictures and television shows in preparation for negotiations of the AFM's Basic Theatrical Motion Picture and Basic Television Motion Picture Agreements.

For more information and updates, please visit AFMFairShareForMusicians.org.



This monthly column is your one-stop-shop for information about all the benefits provided by your union membership. Got a question? [Ask us](#) to have the answer featured here.

HEALTH CARE BENEFITS

PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS LOCAL 47 AND EMPLOYERS HEALTH & WELFARE FUND

The Professional Musicians Local 47 and Employers Health & Welfare Fund is administered by PacFed Benefit Administrators. AFM Local 47 negotiates benefits on behalf of our members. The Health & Welfare Trust provides medical, dental, vision, chiropractic, acupuncture, prescription drugs and life insurance to musicians who qualify for benefits based upon contributions received on their behalf in accordance with Local 47 and AFM contracts and collective bargaining agreements.

Eligibility

Eligibility for enrollment in the Health & Welfare Fund is based upon contributions the Fund receives on musicians' behalf from Participating Employers. A Participating Employer, or an Employers' Payroll Designee, has entered into a Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) with the Union which calls for contributions to come to the Health & Welfare Fund. All contributions must come from a Participating Employer; musicians may not "self-pay" into the Health & Welfare Fund.

Coverage

A musician may qualify at one of three levels: Level A (\$1,500+ contribution), Level B (\$1,200-\$1,499 contribution), and Level C (\$700-\$1,199 contribution). Currently the Health & Welfare Fund has contracted with the following benefit providers: Blue Shield, Kaiser Permanente, Landmark Healthplan, Delta Dental, MES Vision underwritten by Gerber Life, and the Prudential Insurance Company of America ("Prudential Life"). To review the Summary Plan Description (SPD), please click [here](#). Any questions regarding a participant or dependent's eligibility and coverage should be directed to the Health & Welfare Fund.

Contact

The Health & Welfare Fund staff can help you with enrollment, coverage and HMO claims. The Health & Welfare Member Services department is available Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 1-800-753-0222 or by email at musicians@pacfed.com. Website: pacfed-musicians.com

ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY FLEX PLAN

The Entertainment industry Flex Plan is an employee benefit plan which combines both Employer Contributions and Employee Contributions to fund benefits including medical, dental, vision, disability, group term life insurance, and dependent care assistance for union members working in Motion Picture and Television. The Flex Plan was established in 1985 to provide Health and related benefits for "Daily-Hire" Union employees working under Collective Bargaining Agreements in the Entertainment Industry.

Eligibility

The Flex Plan covers each person who is employed by an Employer who has entered into a Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) with a Local Union providing for Employer Contributions to the Flex Plan. If you are unsure if a specific employer participates in the Flex Plan, contact the Flex Plan. For a complete summary of benefits and information on Employer contributions and Employee contributions, view the Flex Plan Summary Plan Description (SPD).

Coverage

The Plan offers a flexible "cafeteria style" benefit option list in which you design your individual plan according to your needs. If you elect coverage from the Flex Plan Providers, the Flex Plan will make monthly premium payments on your behalf to the carrier(s) you select (provided your account balance is sufficient to pay all of the premiums). Please refer to the Flex Plan Summary of Benefits for descriptions and monthly costs of the coverages offered. If you do not have sufficient funds in your account to pay your premiums, the Flex Plan allows you to "self-pay" the necessary premiums for a period of 12 months.

Contact

Call the Flex Plan Member Services Department at 888.353.9401 (Monday through Friday) between 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. (PT). You may also contact the Flex Plan electronically here. Website: flexplan.com

SELF-PAY HEALTH CARE

If a musician does not qualify for coverage under the Health & Welfare Fund or the Flex Plan, Covered California offers individuals and small businesses residing in California to purchase private health insurance coverage at federally subsidized rates. For information about coverage outside of California, visit healthcare.gov. AFM Local 47 members may also contact Mark Cormany of French Cormany Insurance Services at 949.975.1155.

A Message from AFM-EPF:

Learn More About Your Pension Benefit

American Federation of Musicians and Employers' Pension Fund (AFM-EPF) Trustees understand that your pension benefit is both valuable and complex for participants. As a result, a new effort to assemble some practical, easy-to-understand information is underway. You can access this information now on the [Participant Page at afm-epf.org](http://afm-epf.org).

AFM-EPF is committed to providing you with the knowledge and resources necessary to maximize your pension planning and benefits.

With one click to the Participants page, here's what you'll find:

How Our Pension Plan Works

Learn more about AFM-EPF, its Trustees and your pension benefit

- [What is the AFM-EPF?](#)
- [Role of a Trustee](#)
- [How the Plan is Governed](#)
- [How the Money Flows](#)
- [What the Fund Office Does](#)
- [What's Happening with ARPA](#)
- [Benefits of Diversification](#)



Retirement is Down the Road

Things to consider and action to take even if retirement is years away

- [Tips You Can Use Now](#)
- [You Need to Designate a Beneficiary](#)
- [How to Register for the Participant Portal](#)
- [How the Pension Estimator Works](#)



Life Happens

Tips and information to help you manage life's unexpected events

- [You Need to Designate a Beneficiary](#)
- [What to Do if You Get Divorced](#)
- [How You Can Protect Your Loved Ones](#)
- [How and When to Contact the Fund Office](#)



Retirement is Around the Corner

Be prepared. Learn what you need to do before you need to do it!

- [Tips for Approaching Retirement](#)
- [You Need to Designate a Beneficiary](#)
- [How to Register for the Participant Portal](#)
- [How the Pension Estimator Works](#)
- [Navigating the Application Process](#)
- [Optional Forms of Payment](#)
- [How to Start Your Benefits](#)



For more information visit:
www.afm-epf.org



AFM Local 47 musicians performed with AGMA opera singers bringing music and solidarity to SAG-AFTRA actors at Paramount on November 3, just days before their long strike came to an end. Watch video footage [here](#).

SAG-AFTRA Strike is Over!

On November 8, after 118 days on the picket line, SAG-AFTRA announced a tentative agreement with the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP), ending the strike.

Actors went on strike fighting for pay increases, improved residuals, and protections against Artificial Intelligence (AI) in a rapidly changing entertainment industry. An 18-page summary of the tentative agreement can be read [here](#).

The SAG-AFTRA board approved the tentative agreement by a majority of 86% to 14% and recommended a vote of “yes” to ratify the contracts. SAG-AFTRA members are currently in the ratification process, with voting taking place through early December.



SAG·AFTRA

The AFM congratulates SAG-AFTRA on securing a strong agreement that will benefit their members.

This agreement is a testament to the power of solidarity and the willingness of performers to stand up for what they deserve.

We are hopeful that the success of the SAG-AFTRA negotiations will bode well for AFM's upcoming negotiations of the Basic Theatrical Motion Picture and Basic Television Motion Picture Agreements.

Happy Holidays

from your friends at Labor 411



Labor 411

MAKING IT EASY TO SUPPORT GOOD JOBS

LOS ANGELES | SAN FRANCISCO | WASHINGTON, DC | PHILADELPHIA | NEW YORK



Be an Ethical Consumer

BUY UNION

Labor 411

Labor 411 Holiday Gift Guide

'Tis the Season to Support Unions!

The holiday season is here! And for many that means gift-giving. The Labor 411 holiday gift guide is a powerful tool for consumers to use their consumer dollars to create a better America for workers, while giving you an easy reference for finding ethical brands quickly.

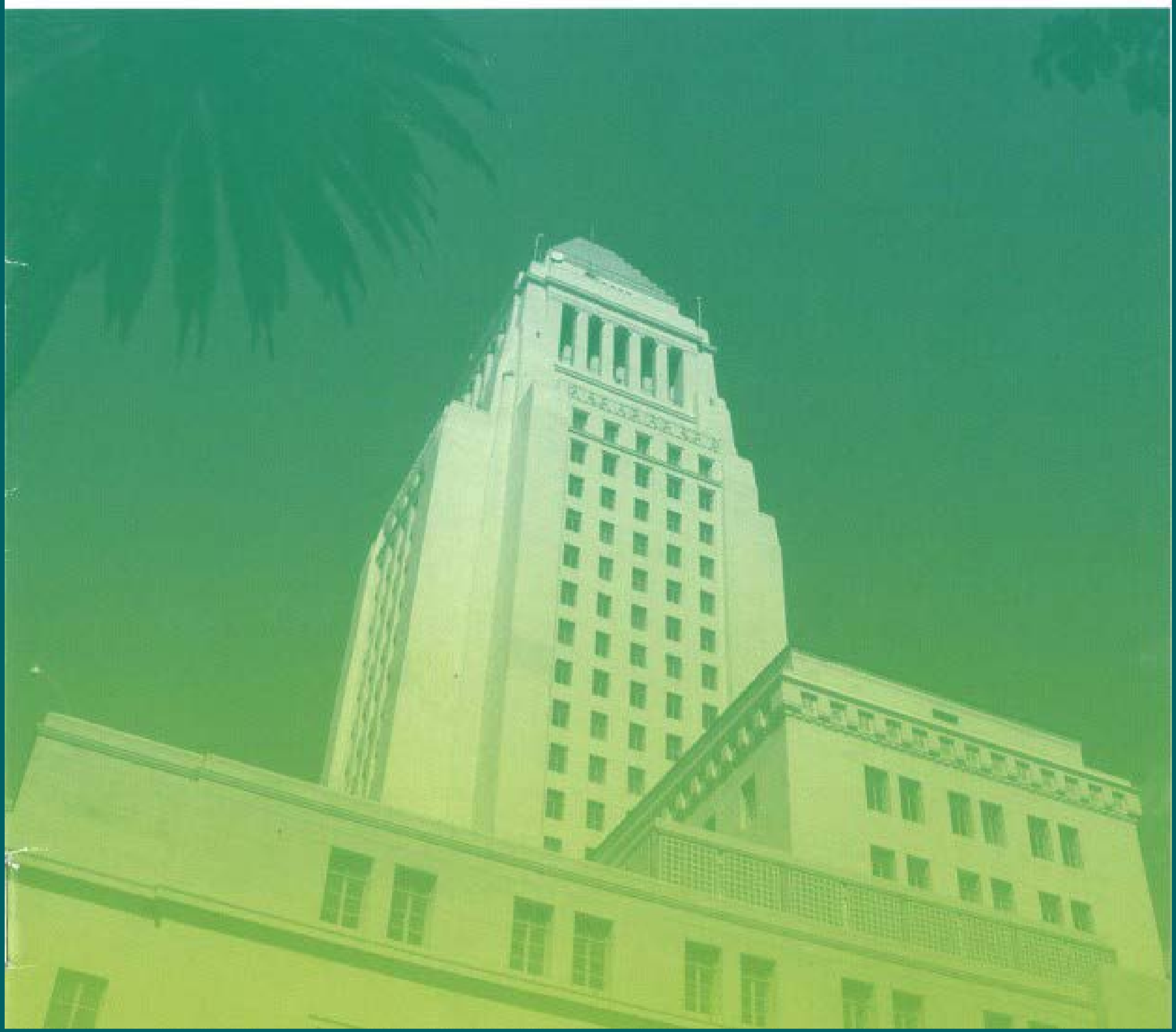
It contains gifts like board games, cookware, libations, cars, tires, tools, and much more. You can find something for everyone and know that your dollars are going to companies that treat workers well.

View the Labor 411 Holiday Gift Guide [here](#).



Business Tax Renewal

Delinquent after MARCH 1



File for Your Creative Artist Business Tax Exemption

**Filing due date is January 1; submit by February 29
to avoid delinquency**

If you are defined as a “creative artist” under the Los Angeles Municipal Code, you might be eligible for the Business Tax Exemption provision.

Under the Small Business Exemption, if you have earned less than \$300,000 from [creative artist work](#) (or less than \$100,000 from other 1099 work) within the city of Los Angeles, then you will owe no tax. This exemption applies strictly to individual “creative artists” (individual, individual acting as a loan-out corporation, or individual acting through a limited liability company), when performing “creative activities” for “entertainment or aesthetic purposes.” It only applies to those receipts the creative artists earn from their creative activities and does not include income from any other source.

Businesses must file a renewal in a "timely manner" in order to receive the exemption. From the Office of Finance: "Business tax is due January 1st of each year and is delinquent if not paid on or before the last day of February of each year. All payments received at any of our branch offices by 5 p.m. of the last day of February or postmarked by the U.S. Post Office not later than 11:59 p.m. on the last day of February are considered timely." If you do not file for this exemption on or before the last day of February each year you will owe a fine, even if you don't owe any taxes.

For answers to more frequently asked questions and for additional information, visit the Los Angeles Office of Finance website [here](#).

Final Notes



In Memoriam

Randall (Randy) Aldcroft

Life Member. Trombone
2/13/1942 – 10/14/2023
Member since: 6/28/1961

Robert Dominguez

Former Life Member. Drum Set
10/19/1949 – 10/3/2023
Member since: 11/27/1973

Jeanne Donato (Gilliam)

Former Life Member. Copyist
5/14/1928 – 10/11/2023
Member since: 5/10/1943

Sandra (Sandy) Kipp Iles

Member. Flute
7/24/1963 – 9/9/2023
Member since: 11/21/1989

James E. Mack

Life Member. English Horn
6/12/1931 – 4/28/2023
Member since: 1/15/1953

Marilyn Baker Van Natta

Life Member. Viola
11/6/1936 – 11/13/2023
Member since: 12/26/1963

Send your Final Notes remembrances using our online submission form at: afm47.org/overture

or you may send to:

overture@afm47.org

Local 47 Overture Online
3220 Winona Ave.
Burbank CA 91504

Final Notes



Final Note: Valencia Mitchell

Life Member. Violin

3/4/1949 – 9/3/2023

Valencia began violin studies with Frank Frederick Ficus in Los Angeles at the age of 10. She attended Manual Arts High School and upon graduation enrolled at Mills College in Oakland, CA. At Mills she studied with Nathan Ruben and earned the Bachelor's Degree in Music. She enrolled at the University of Southern California pursuing a degree in Library Science with an emphasis in music and was awarded the Master's Degree in Music Literature from California State University, Long Beach. Valencia worked as a librarian for the County of Los Angeles and Cerritos College.

Valencia performed in a variety of musical settings including solo performance, chamber ensembles, orchestral and commercial music. She was a member of the Culver City, Peninsula, and Marina Del Rey Symphonies. She recorded with Chaka Kahn and appeared on the Grammys telecast with Vanessa Williams and Rihanna. Valencia was a consummate professional and proud Life Member of Local 47.

Val taught violin at the Watts-Willowbrook Conservatory and Angelica Center for Arts and Music where she was dedicated to expanding access to music instruction for under-served communities.

Travel, genealogical research, and sewing were hobbies Val enjoyed with great enthusiasm. With her husband Joseph and daughter Stephanie the family made a yearly sojourn to Death Valley to celebrate New Year's Eve. She was passionate about finding her familial roots and was thrilled to discover a connection or link to her ancestors. At the start of the COVID pandemic Val bought a new Viking sewing machine to make personalized face coverings.

Valencia was loved and admired by scores of relatives, friends, colleagues, and strangers. She had a beautiful smile that reflected her ebullient personality and life affirming, positive attitude.

Open Mic

share YOUR story
with
the Overture

OPEN MIC!



Got a story to tell?

AFM Local 47 welcomes submissions from
our members!

Please share about your latest union recording,
performance or event by sending us your story
and photos using our online submission form at
afm47.org/overture.

Seeking Interviews for Larry Levine Documentary

We are doing a documentary on my dad, Larry Levine. He was the sound engineer for all of Phil Spector's hits and helped create the "Wall of Sound," and all of the Wrecking Crew's hits. He was also Chief Engineer at A&M Records when he went from Gold Star Studios to A&M, and this story is absolutely amazing!

We have several interviews so far. Just to name a few: Herb Alpert, Bill Medley, Dave Gold (owner of Gold Star Studios) Don Randi, and several others.

If anybody has any stories about my dad, or worked with him and would like to contribute in anyway please call me at 818-388-8179 or send me an email to mike@scanninghouse.com.

Thanks so much — and we are very excited about the story!

We want to hear from you!

Send in your Letters to the Editor:

overture@afm47.org

3220 Winona Ave.

Burbank CA 91504

Please keep within a maximum of 400 words.
For full submission guidelines, please [click here](#).

Membership Dues Policy

Membership Dues Fees

Regular Member

Annual Dues: \$210

Semi-Annual Dues: \$110

Life Member

Annual Dues: \$110

Inactive Life Member

Annual Dues: \$90

Make checks or money orders payable to:

AFM Local 47,
3220 Winona Ave.
Burbank CA 91504

You may also make payments with VISA, MasterCard, Discover, AmEx by phone at 323.993.3116 or at afm47.org/dues

Dues Schedule

Annual and Semi-Annual Membership Dues for Regular, Life and Inactive Life Members are due **Jan. 1** of each year. Payment must be received by **March 31** (three-month grace period) to avoid suspension. If not paid by this date, a \$75 reinstatement fee will be assessed. **Payment must be paid by June 30 to avoid expulsion.**

Likewise, Semi-Annual Membership Dues for Regular Members are due **July 1** and must be received by **Sept. 30** (three-month grace period) to avoid suspension. If not paid by this date, a \$75 reinstatement fee will be assessed. **Payment must be paid by Dec. 31 to avoid expulsion.**

Please note: Inactive Life Members do not have all of the same rights as privileges as Regular and Life Members, such as the right to vote in Local elections. Please review the AFM Local 47 Bylaws for complete information.

Notice From the Executive Board: Work Dues Delinquency and Suspension

1) Local 47 members whose work dues delinquency exceeds \$500 shall be suspended; and

2) Non-Local 47 members whose work dues delinquency exceeds \$500 shall be referred to the IEB as provided in the AFM Bylaws.

In order to reinstate membership, a \$75 reinstatement fee will be assessed.

Resignation Policy

In order to resign in good standing, you must submit your written request to Local 47 before your membership is suspended. Though dues are due Jan. 1 and July 1, current grace periods extend to March 31 and Sept. 30, respectively; suspensions are posted April 1 and Oct. 1.

In addition to membership dues, all other financial obligations, Local and International, must be paid prior to resignation. Your letter of resignation will be presented at the following Executive Board meeting and a written response will be mailed to you. If you wait, you will be required to pay another half year's dues and/or clearance fee.

AFM Local 47 Refund/Return Policy

Unless otherwise specified, Membership and Work dues payments made to AFM Local 47 are not refundable. Merchandise or other items purchased directly from AFM Local 47 may be returned within fourteen days of purchase upon return of the item(s) in the condition in which you received said item(s). To request a refund and return content, please contact AFM Local 47, Attn: Vice President's Office, 323.993.3172, merchandise@afm47.org, 3220 Winona Ave. Burbank CA 91504, to receive instructions on returning your product(s).

HELP A MUSICIAN IN NEED

Be an anonymous donor to the Local 47 Musicians Relief Fund. Send contributions to the Secretary's office or call (323) 993-3159 for more information.

Multiple-Card AFM Member Rebate

Did you know? If you hold membership in three or more Locals throughout a full calendar year, you are entitled to a rebate from the AFM.

Under the rebate program, membership in a base of two Locals must be established in order for a member to qualify for a rebate. The International Secretary/Treasurer's office has determined that a musician's membership in his or her "Home Local" and the subsequent Local of longest tenure shall be designated as the two base Locals. The Secretary/Treasurer's office will then rebate the appropriate per capita dues for membership in the third Local and any other Local(s) beyond three to which a member belonged for the entire previous calendar year.

To petition for a Multiple-Card Member Rebate, members should fill out the form and return it to the Secretary/Treasurer's office together with copies of all their paid-up membership cards, receipts of canceled checks for annual dues from all Locals, or a letter from each Local stating that the petitioner was a member in good standing of the Locals for the full year prior. Rebates will be issued after Jan. 1.

Members may download the rebate form from the international AFM website [here](http://afm.org) (afm.org login required; locate the rebate form under "Miscellaneous" in the Document Library).

Notice to All Persons Entering or Utilizing the Property of the Musicians' Club* of Los Angeles:

The premises of the Musicians' Club of Los Angeles are reserved for the exclusive use by the officers, employees, and Full, Youth, Life or Inactive Life Members in good standing of AFM Local 47 and the American Federation of Musicians. All other persons must receive written permission from the office of Local 47's president to enter or utilize these premises. Local 47 reserves the right to remove and to cite for trespass any party found on these premises who does not fulfill the above conditions of occupancy. (Note: This notice is not applicable to those making deliveries to AFM Local 47, or customers of and those making deliveries to tenants of the Local 47 headquarters.)

** The Musicians' Club of Los Angeles, Inc., is a California Non-Profit Corporation incorporated in 1926. It owns all land and improvements where AFM Local 47 conducts its business. The Corporation rents space to other tenants, mainly industry related. All members of AFM Local 47 are also members of the Musicians' Club of Los Angeles.*

Do Not Work For...

The list published at afm47.org/donotworkfor.html contains the names of employers with whom Local 47 currently has disputes.



If you have any questions about this list please contact the President's Office: 323.993.3181

Notice of Strike Sanctions

On June 24, 2015, strike sanctions were approved by the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor against:

Cinema Scoring
CMG Music Recording
Peter Rotter Music Services

If and when any of the aforementioned parties calls a non-union engagement, other labor unions have agreed to stand in solidarity with Local 47 and not cross our line.

If you are being pressured to participate in non-union work or take financial-core status and quit the union, know that it is illegal for employers or employers' representatives to coerce, pressure or otherwise influence any employee to take fi-core status under the National Labor Relations Act. Should this happen to you, call 323.993.3181.

Your Union will take action — with legal counsel if necessary — on your behalf to ensure your rights as a union worker are protected.

Auditions

HOLLYWOOD BOWL ORCHESTRA

Thomas Wilkins, Principal Conductor
Announces auditions for:

PRINCIPAL HARP

March 18, 2024

PRINCIPAL BASS

March 19, 2024

PRINCIPAL SECOND VIOLIN

March 20-21, 2024

Visit www.hollywoodbowl.com/auditions for more information.

Please email a PDF copy of your one-page resume to hboauditions@laphil.org
by **January 14, 2024**.

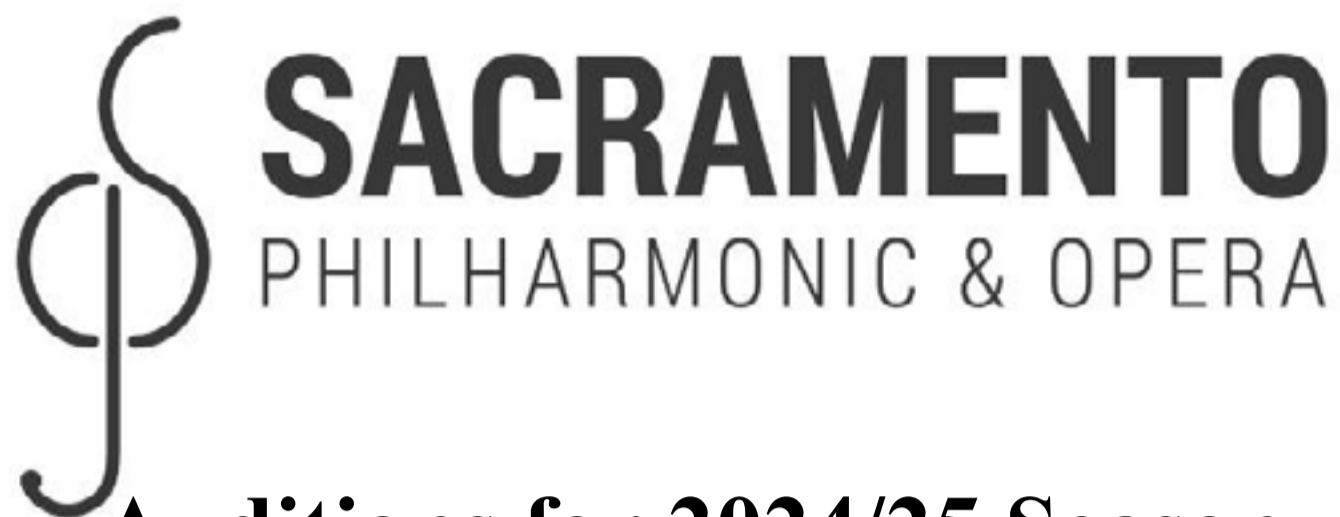
Auditions will be held in Los Angeles.

Employment to commence based upon the winner's availability and
Hollywood Bowl Orchestra schedule.

The Hollywood Bowl Orchestra and Audition Committee reserve the right to
dismiss immediately any candidate not meeting the highest professional
standards at these auditions.

The Hollywood Bowl Orchestra is a project of the Los Angeles Philharmonic
Association, which is an equal opportunity employer.

Auditions



Auditions for 2024/25 Season

Second Oboe

Monday, January 15, 2024

Sacramento, CA

Second Clarinet

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

Sacramento, CA

Application and resume deadline for all auditions:

Friday, December 29, 2023 @ 5:00 pm PST

For more information, or to apply online,

visit www.SacPhilOpera.org/auditions

The SP&O is a per service orchestra with 38 services per season

Section: \$165.00 per service 2024-2025 Season

Resumes will be screened, and candidates sent repertoire and other details after review and acceptance of their application

Advertise

ADVERTISE

WITH AFM LOCAL 47!

Overture Online App

— Released monthly —

The Local 47 Beat

— Emailed biweekly —

»»» —————> RESERVE TODAY <————— «««

View rates, specs & publication schedules
@ afm47.org/advertise

CONTACT: advertising@afm47.org

*For information on posting auditions, please visit
afm47.org/auditions.html*