

BPO Orchestra/Negotiation Committee (OC) Meeting Minutes 9/2/09

In attendance:

Bob Orecchio, Sarah Delevoryas, Megan Edrington, Devon Park, Roberta Goodall, Tom Blomster

Election Results:

Devon Park, Chair

Megan Edrington, Vice Chair

Bob Orecchio, E-Communications Chair

Roberta Goodall, Liaison to Management

Sarah Delevoryas, Secretary

Items informally discussed:

1. The Orchestra and Negotiation Committees have been merged and we are now called the "Orchestra/Negotiation Committee". Our purpose is to act as a liaison between orchestra members and management and to negotiate the next contract for the 2010/2011 season.
2. Both the Greeley Philharmonic and the Fort Collins Symphony received more money from the Colorado Council on the Arts than Boulder Philharmonic received. Some of this funding was from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA stimulus package).
3. The limited number of concerts makes our season for 2009/2010 look more like a community orchestra season rather than a professional orchestra season.
4. BPOPA.ORG should be utilized as a resource for all orchestra members. It will work well as a format to communicate important information from the BPO Player's Association, Orchestra/Negotiation Committee, Board of Directors/Musician Trustees, and the Union. We will post OC meeting minutes and other information on the site.
5. Any musician may attend a Board Meeting at any time and attendance is encouraged. The next BPO Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 9/15 7 p.m. All committee members plan to attend.
7. Bob will be putting together a "pre-season" survey asking about: 1) thoughts on the compressed schedule; 2) if anyone is interested in going to the office to place "pre-season" phone calls to subscription ticket holders as a volunteer opportunity to help with subscription sales; 3) how they felt about playing the Arvada Center concerts this past summer; 4) how musicians felt about playing the May 09 concert with 2 rehearsals and half pay. Bob will also post "post-concert" surveys to orchestra members after each performance to get feedback from the musicians.

Issues we want to discuss with management:

1. Scheduling is supposed to be approved by the Orchestra Committee and we aren't sure the OC was consulted about the 2009/2010 season schedule. We need to determine if we gave written approval.
2. We would like a less compact rehearsal schedule. The February 2010 concert set has three rehearsals and one concert scheduled within two days. Can we move the Sunday morning rehearsal on 2/14/10 to Friday night, 2/12/10 at 7:30?
3. What is the reasoning behind the Wednesday concert on 3/19?
4. Could Board members participate in an "adopt a section" of the orchestra program where they would have an opportunity to meet orchestra members and get to know them?

BPO Orchestra/Negotiation Committee (OC) Meeting Minutes 9/2/09

5. Could Board members offer an afternoon location for musicians with long commutes to "hang out" between Saturday morning rehearsals and Saturday night concerts?
6. Attendance at concerts has been mediocre and there are always seats available in the front of Macky Auditorium. We would like to see the front seats of Macky completely full. Can we have student vouchers that musicians can use to give to students? Student families could then call the box office to purchase an adult ticket with the free student tickets. Giving them the front seats of the house would generate some excitement.
7. We would like to see open positions (such as the half time position in the office and hourly box office positions) to be first advertised to BPO musicians. Many musicians are currently under-employed or unemployed. If filled by a musician, it would eliminate recruitment costs.
8. We feel that the Gala should include an orchestra concert. Can we plan the 2010 Gala around a BPO performance?
9. We need a minimum of two rehearsals at Macky to perform well.
10. Are the musicians that played at half price in May 09 listed in the Fall 2009 BPO Program as donors?
11. We would like to have the Discovery concerts at Macky.
12. Many musicians would like to distribute subscription fliers to students/family/friends. How can we get them?
13. Some musicians are playing only two concerts next year. What can be done to improve the situation?

Action Items for Committee Members:

1. Devon will send Dave and Sue an email with officer elections.
2. All members will think of pre-season survey questions for Bob to include.
3. Devon will put together a meeting agenda for future meeting with Dave and Sue.
4. Plan to attend next Board Meeting 9/15.