

Fall
2024



ROPA

Regional
Orchestra
Players'
Association

A conference of the American Federation of Musicians, AFL-CIO

Notes from the President
by Steve Wade, ROPA President



REGIONAL ORCHESTRA PLAYERS' ASSOCIATION

The Leading Tone

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Welcome to the Fall 2024 issue of *The Leading Tone!* In normal times I would devote this column to any number of interesting take-aways from our annual Conference, but more pressing needs have presented themselves as we approach the coming election on November 5. I have written an exhaustive recap on the Conference for the latest issue of the *International Musician*, so I would like to take this opportunity to urge all of our ROPA delegates and musicians to vote, and to encourage all of our friends and colleagues to do so as well.

We took the time in San Francisco to pass a resolution on this subject. At that point, the political landscape looked a lot different.

Since then, the Democratic ticket has changed, and our outlook has

changed as well, dramatically so. As I noted in the October IM, the Harris/Walz campaign has done well so far, but we need to stay focused on the outcome now more than ever. Here is Resolution 14 as we passed it by acclamation on July 31: Resolved, That the Regional Orchestra Players' Association ("ROPA") stands in solidarity with the Democratic Party and the labor movement as they prepare for the upcoming Presidential Election; and be it further Resolved, That ROPA strongly encourages all of its (continued on p. 2)

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