

Resolution N°. 5

July 29, 2026

Subject: *Support for the Musicians of the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra*

Dayton Philharmonic Resolution

Whereas, The Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra has served the Dayton community for generations as a cornerstone of artistic excellence, cultural enrichment, and music education through performances of the highest professional caliber; and

Whereas, The musicians of the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra are highly trained professional musicians whose work strengthens their community through artistic excellence, public engagement, education, and the preservation of orchestral music; and

Whereas, The musicians are represented by the American Federation of Musicians of the United States and Canada (“AFM”) Local 101-473 and are currently engaged in collective bargaining with the Dayton Performing Arts Alliance (“DPAA”) regarding the terms and conditions of their employment; and

Whereas, In February 2026, the DPAA announced significant reductions to the Philharmonic's programming for the 2026 - 2027 season, including the elimination of longstanding pops and rock series programming and reductions to performances that would substantially diminish employment opportunities and compensation for the musicians; and

Whereas, These programming reductions threaten the artistic mission of the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra, reduce public access to live orchestral performances, and undermine the livelihoods of the professional musicians whose artistry makes those performances possible; and

Whereas, The musicians have consistently maintained that sustainable financial planning should not come at the expense of artistic excellence, fair employment, or meaningful collaboration with those who comprise the orchestra; and

Whereas, The musicians have called upon the DPAA to pursue creative, collaborative, and mutually beneficial solutions that preserve employment opportunities, artistic programming, and the long-term vitality of the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra; and

Whereas, The musicians' advocacy has been met with overwhelming public support, including a petition signed by thousands of community members affirming the importance of preserving the orchestra's artistic mission and opposing reductions that weaken Dayton's cultural life; and

Whereas, On June 18, 2026, musicians, labor allies, arts advocates, and members of the Dayton community gathered in solidarity to call for "Creativity Not Cuts," emphasizing that investment in professional artists is essential to maintaining a vibrant and accessible cultural institution; and

Whereas, The musicians of the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra have remained committed to bargaining in good faith while advocating for a sustainable future that protects both artistic excellence and the dignity of professional orchestral employment; and

Whereas, The Regional Orchestra Players' Association ("ROPA") believes that thriving professional orchestras depend upon meaningful collaboration between management and musicians, responsible financial stewardship, respect for collective bargaining, and investment in the performers whose work serves their communities; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Regional Orchestra Players' Association ("ROPA") expresses its full support and solidarity with the musicians of the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra during their ongoing efforts to preserve artistic excellence, community access to live orchestral music, and fair employment through collective bargaining; and be it further

Resolved, That ROPA recognizes the musicians of the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra for their professionalism, dedication, and continued commitment to serving the Dayton community despite significant challenges to their livelihoods; and be it further

Resolved, That ROPA encourages the Dayton Performing Arts Alliance to engage in good-faith negotiations with the musicians and to pursue collaborative solutions that strengthen both the financial sustainability of the organization and the long-term artistic vitality of the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra; and be it further

Resolved, That ROPA affirms that professional orchestras are vital cultural institutions whose success depends upon respecting, supporting, and fairly compensating the professional musicians whose artistry makes their missions possible.

Submitted by: The ROPA Executive Board