

Resolution N°. 9

July 29, 2026

Subject: *Honoring the Life and Legacy of Lynn Martine Johnson*

Lynn Johnson Resolution

Whereas, Lynn Martine Johnson, a distinguished violist, labor organizer, and advocate for musicians, passed away on December 26, 2025, at the age of 72, in her Berkshire home with her beloved dog Layla by her side; and

Whereas, Lynn was born on November 15, 1953, in New York, the daughter of Alexander and Gloria Johnson and sister to Allyson Johnson, and pursued her musical education at Oberlin Conservatory of Music, earning a Bachelor of Music degree with a minor in Russian in May 1975; and

Whereas, She further refined her artistry through participation in the Tanglewood Music Center in 1976 and 1977, where she performed with the Boston Symphony Orchestra and had the opportunity to work under the baton of Leonard Bernstein, one of her greatest inspirations; and

Whereas, Lynn Johnson enjoyed a distinguished career as a professional violist, performing with the San Diego Symphony, San Diego Opera, and professional orchestras across Ohio and Alabama; and

Whereas, She devoted nearly a decade of service to the American Federation of Musicians of the United States and Canada (“AFM”) as a labor negotiator and organizer, tirelessly advocating for professional symphony musicians throughout the United States and Canada by negotiating collective bargaining agreements, administering complex union contracts, and contributing articles to trade publications; and

Whereas, Her dedication to the labor movement was exemplified by her willingness to travel extensively under difficult conditions, often spending long periods on the road through hot summers without air conditioning, with her cairn terrier Boogie riding co-pilot, bringing her sharp wit, detail-oriented mind, intellect, and unwavering commitment wherever musicians needed support in their struggles for fair wages and reasonable working conditions; and

Whereas, Lynn Johnson later expanded her professional contributions by earning a paralegal certificate in civil litigation, with honors, from the University of San Diego in 1995, and went on to serve with distinction as a senior paralegal at Gordon & Rees beginning in 1997, where she was named Paralegal of the Year in 2007; and

Whereas, She continued her service-oriented career at Berkshire Health Systems in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, where she applied her legal knowledge in support of the medical profession and was widely respected for her professionalism, humor, charismatic nature, and dedication until her retirement in 2017; and

Whereas, Lynn was known not only for her professional accomplishments, but also as a force of nature, caring friend, and inspiring presence who formed lifelong connections throughout her many career paths, leaving a lasting impact on colleagues, friends, fellow musicians, and the broader labor community; and

Whereas, Her passing leaves a profound void in the lives of those who knew her and in the communities she faithfully served; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Regional Orchestra Players' Association ("ROPA") honors the life and legacy of Lynn Martine Johnson, recognizing her significant contributions as a musician, labor advocate, and dedicated professional; and be it further

Resolved, That we express our deepest condolences to her family, friends, and colleagues, and extend our gratitude for her enduring impact on the labor movement, the orchestral community, and all those whose lives she touched.

Submitted by: The ROPA Executive Board