

# Overture

online



MAY DAY 2022

## A NEW SEASON

Oscars 2022 Orchestra Highlights  
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

After a Two-Year Hiatus,  
Rehearsals are Back!



# Overture

online

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

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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.

Additionally, officer reports will now be published quarterly, rather than monthly.

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](http://afm47.org/directory) or call 323.462.2161. Thank you!

## AFM LOCAL 47 EXECUTIVE BOARD & COMMITTEES

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# Contents

*Navigate back to Contents by tapping the "O"*

Overture Online / Vol. 8 No. 5 / May 2022 / [afm47.org](http://afm47.org)



Celebrating  
victories  
in the  
music industry  
and the  
greater labor  
movement

## Columns

## Features



**Musicians, Artists  
Rally for Arts  
Education in CA**



**#WhyUnion? AFM  
47 Members Share  
Their Union Pride**



**Oscars 2022 Orchestra Highlights  
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion**



**Orchestration Classes With Dr.  
Norman Ludwin - Free for Members!**



**LA Fed Announces Ambitious New  
'People's Project'**



# DO WE HAVE ROYALTIES FOR YOU?



## More than \$550 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](http://www.afmsagaatrafund.org)

  **SAG-AFTRA**  
Intellectual Property Rights Distribution Fund

The AFM & SAG-AFTRA IPRD Fund is a 501(c)(6) non-profit organization - est. 1998  
4705 Laurel Canyon Blvd., Suite 400, Valley Village, CA 91607  
p. 818.255.7980 | f. 818.255.7985 | [www.afmsagaatrafund.org](http://www.afmsagaatrafund.org)







## Celebrating victories in the music industry and the greater labor movement

May Day is a holiday rich in history and folklore, celebrating the return of spring as well as commemorating the historic struggles and gains made by workers and the labor movement.

In dozens of countries around the world, May Day has been recognized as a public holiday, and it continues to be celebrated with picnics and parties while serving as the occasion for demonstrations and rallies in support of workers.

In 1889 an international federation of socialist groups and trade unions designated May 1 as a day in support of workers, in commemoration of the Haymarket Riot in Chicago of 1886. Five years later, U.S. Pres. Grover Cleveland, uneasy with the socialist origins of Workers' Day, signed legislation to make Labor Day — already held in some states on the first Monday of September — the official U.S. holiday in honor of workers. Canada followed suit shortly thereafter.

Today, despite the challenges of organizing during a deadly pandemic, working people across the country and beyond continue organizing, bargaining and mobilizing for a better life. Here at AFM Local 47, since taking office in 2021, President Stephanie O'Keefe has successfully completed negotiations or extensions for over 20 collective bargaining agreements including Musical Theatre Guild, Thousand Oaks Philharmonic, and the Greek Theater. Among these are several new employers with exciting new projects like Great American Songbook Orchestra and Open Fist Theatre. Currently there are over 30 ongoing negotiations with both previously contracted employers and new productions like the LA Film Orchestra and SoFi Stadium.

A small sampling of the many recent labor wins here in California and on the national level include:

- An Amazon warehouse on Staten Island made history last month when more than 8,000 workers became the first location to vote to unionize, favoring the union by more than 10 percentage points, though Amazon is seeking to overturn the result. About 1,500 workers at an Amazon sorting center on Staten Island are expected to vote in an election that could produce the second union at the company in the United States. A worker-led movement, the Amazon Worker Union aims to put power in the hands of employees and to negotiate for a better, safer, and fairer workplace.
- Since the first corporate Starbucks location in Buffalo, New York voted to unionize late last year, seven more Starbucks voted yes on unionizing, and last month the company's flagship store in Manhattan became the largest to unionize nearly 100 workers. Some 170 other locations in about 30 states are slated to vote in the coming weeks and months.
- Over 13,000 members of United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) locals 8GS, 135, 324, 770, 1167 and 1428 who work at some 170 Stater Bros. stores in Southern California ratified a new contract that strengthens wages and benefits, provides guaranteed minimum work hours and protects pensions. The deal was reached after months of negotiations and active participation by tens of thousands of California's essential grocery workers.
- More than 17,000 graduate student researchers across the University of California's campuses have secured recognition from the university as members of Student Researchers United, an affiliate of the UAW. Members of the union held a series of protests demanding representation, employment security, protection from harassment and other common workplace protections.
- Averting a threatened strike, a union at Parcast recently reached a tentative agreement with Spotify and Parcast management on a first contract covering the podcast studio's content writers, fact-checkers, producers, researchers and other workers. The Parcast Union, affiliated with the Writers Guild of America, East, announced the deal on their final day of bargaining with the music streaming giant and the Spotify-owned podcast studio.
- In a massive victory for the UAW and the entire labor movement, the Student Researchers United-UAW union was officially recognized after a months-long organizing campaign by the University of California (UC) system.
- A clear majority of workers at the iHeart Podcast Network — the fastest-growing division of iHeartMedia — signed union cards to organize with the WGAE. The guild is calling on management to voluntarily recognize the union of about 125 producers, editors, researchers, writers and hosts. The iHeart Podcast Organizing Committee wrote a letter to management explaining their decision to form a union with WGAE and expressing their desire for appropriate compensation and benefits, accountability mechanisms regarding diversity and inclusion efforts, and clear paths for advancement and job security.
- The U.S. Senate passed the Postal Service Reform Act by a broadly bipartisan vote of 79-19. Together, the labor movement ensured it happened. America's postal service unions are celebrating this landmark win to strengthen our U.S. Postal Service.
- Following an "open and frank discussion," the producers of the Super Bowl halftime show have agreed with SAG-AFTRA that professional dancers will not be asked to work as volunteers for the massively popular TV event. The agreement follows complaints from professional dancers who had been encouraged to volunteer to work the field show without compensation.

When we organize and band together, we win.





# Auto, Home, or Personal Loans Rates That Make You Smile



## **BURBANK**

3820 W. Riverside Dr.  
Burbank, CA 91505

## **LOS ANGELES**

5757 Wilshire Blvd.  
Suite 124  
Los Angeles, CA  
90036

## **SHERMAN OAKS**

14118 Magnolia Blvd.  
Sherman Oaks, CA  
91423

## **NORTH BURBANK**

3220 Winona Ave.  
Burbank, CA 91504

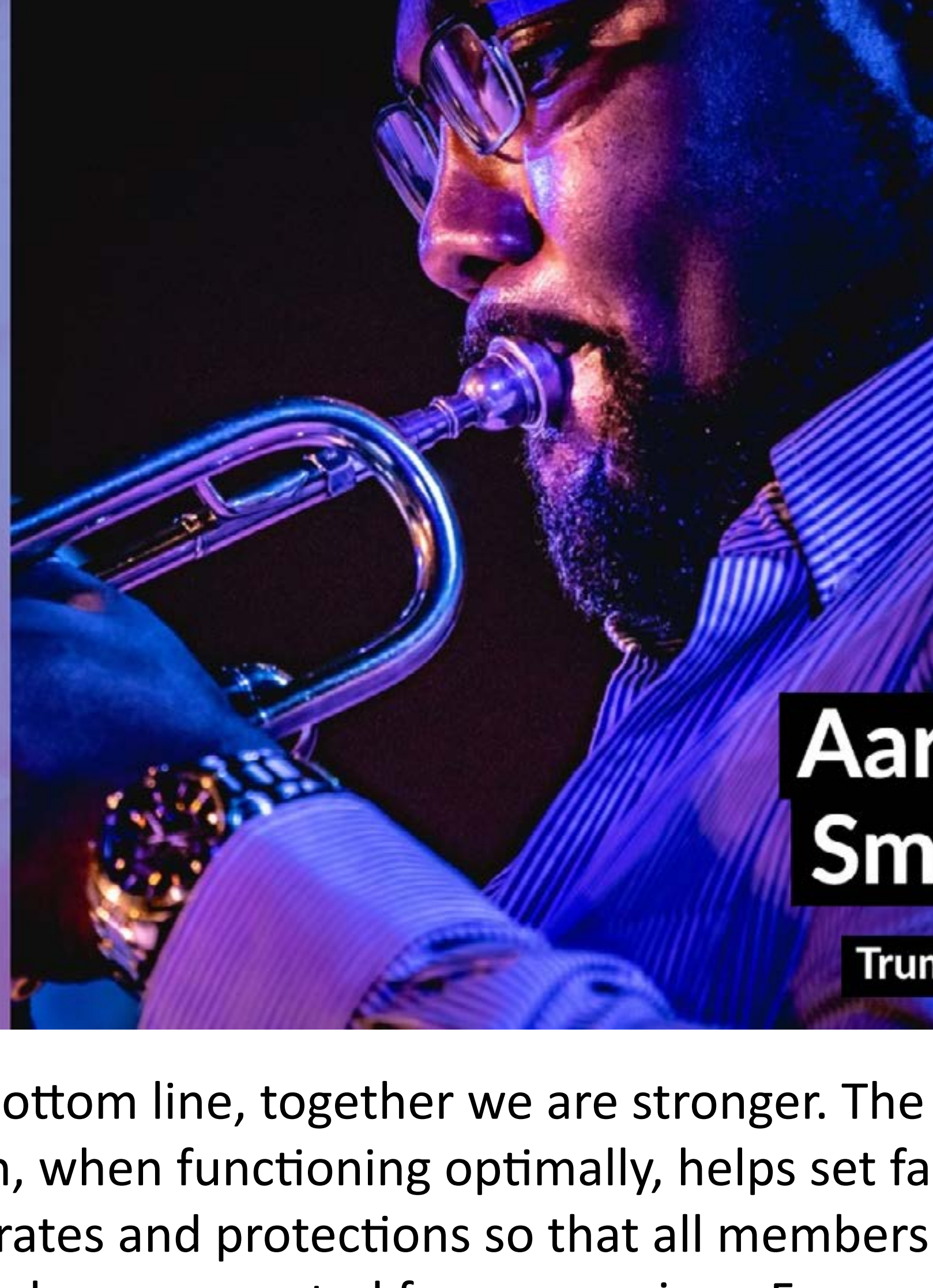
## **VIRTUAL BRANCH**

Internet Banking:  
[www.sagaftcu.org](http://www.sagaftcu.org)  
Telephone Banking: 818.260.0609  
or 800.392.9321 (toll-free)





# AFM LOCAL 47 #WhyUnion?



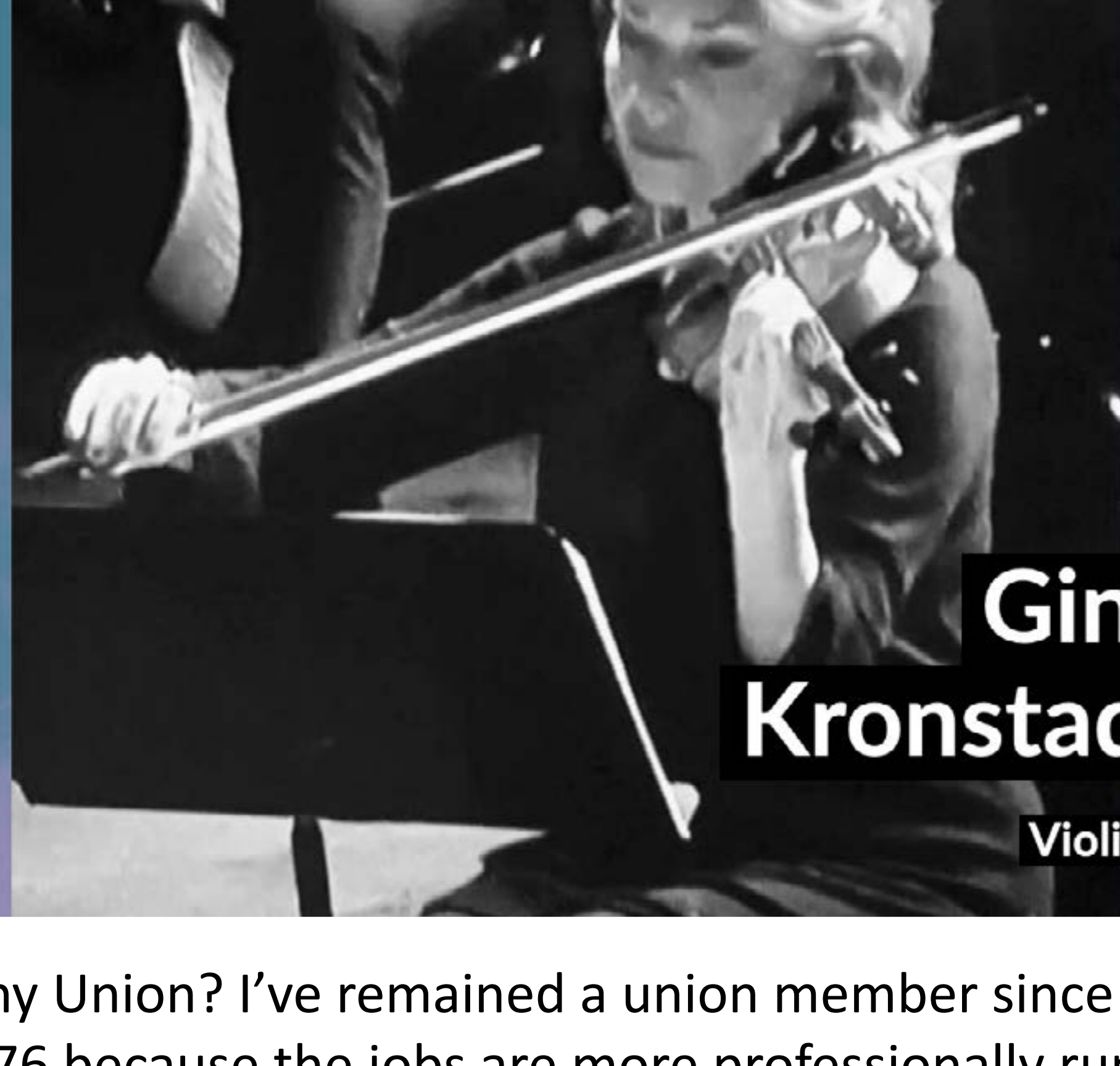
**Aaron Smith**

Trumpeter

The bottom line, together we are stronger. The Union, when functioning optimally, helps set fair base rates and protections so that all members are properly compensated for our services. For peace of mind, I'm a fan.

**- Aaron Smith, Trumpeter**

**Member since 2013**



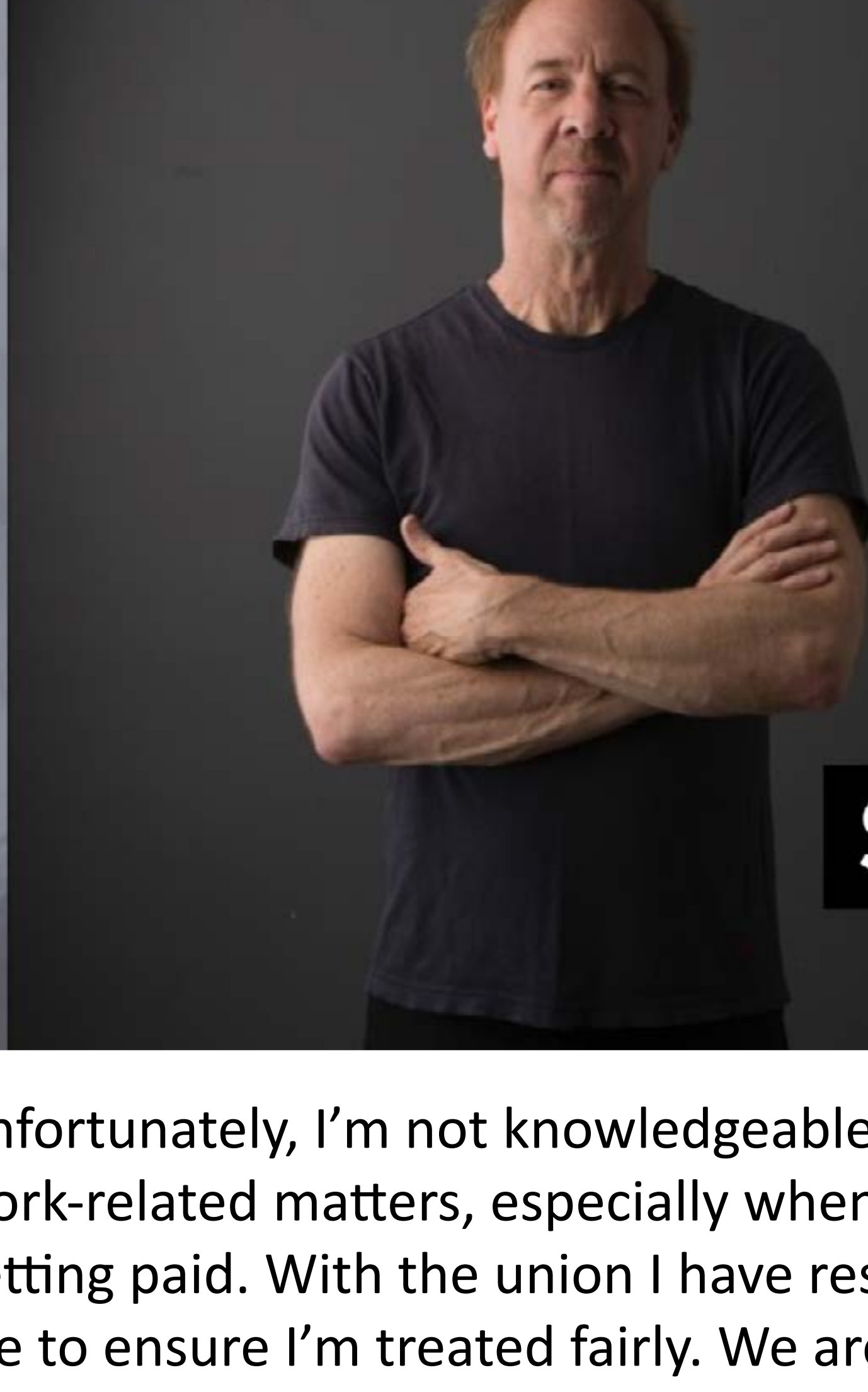
**Gina Kronstadt**

Violinist

Why Union? I've remained a union member since 1976 because the jobs are more professionally run, musicians are shown more respect (proper breaks and environment), access to rehearsal rooms, and we receive our benefits and back-end payments. No brainer. #winwinwinwinwin

**- Gina Kronstadt, Violinist**

**Member since 1976**



**Billy Sullivan**

Drums

Unfortunately, I'm not knowledgeable in legal or work-related matters, especially when it comes to getting paid. With the union I have resources behind me to ensure I'm treated fairly. We are in a business that, for me, is so lonely and isolated that the comfort to know I'm not alone makes the difference.

It's in the sense of belonging that matters!

**- Billy Sullivan, Drummer**

**Member since 2004**



**John Lofton**

Bass Trombonist

Regardless of background or socio-economics, or diversity of the genres music performed, the Union strives through our contracts to create a working environment for all musicians to thrive.

**- John Lofton, Bass Trombonist**

**Member since 2008**



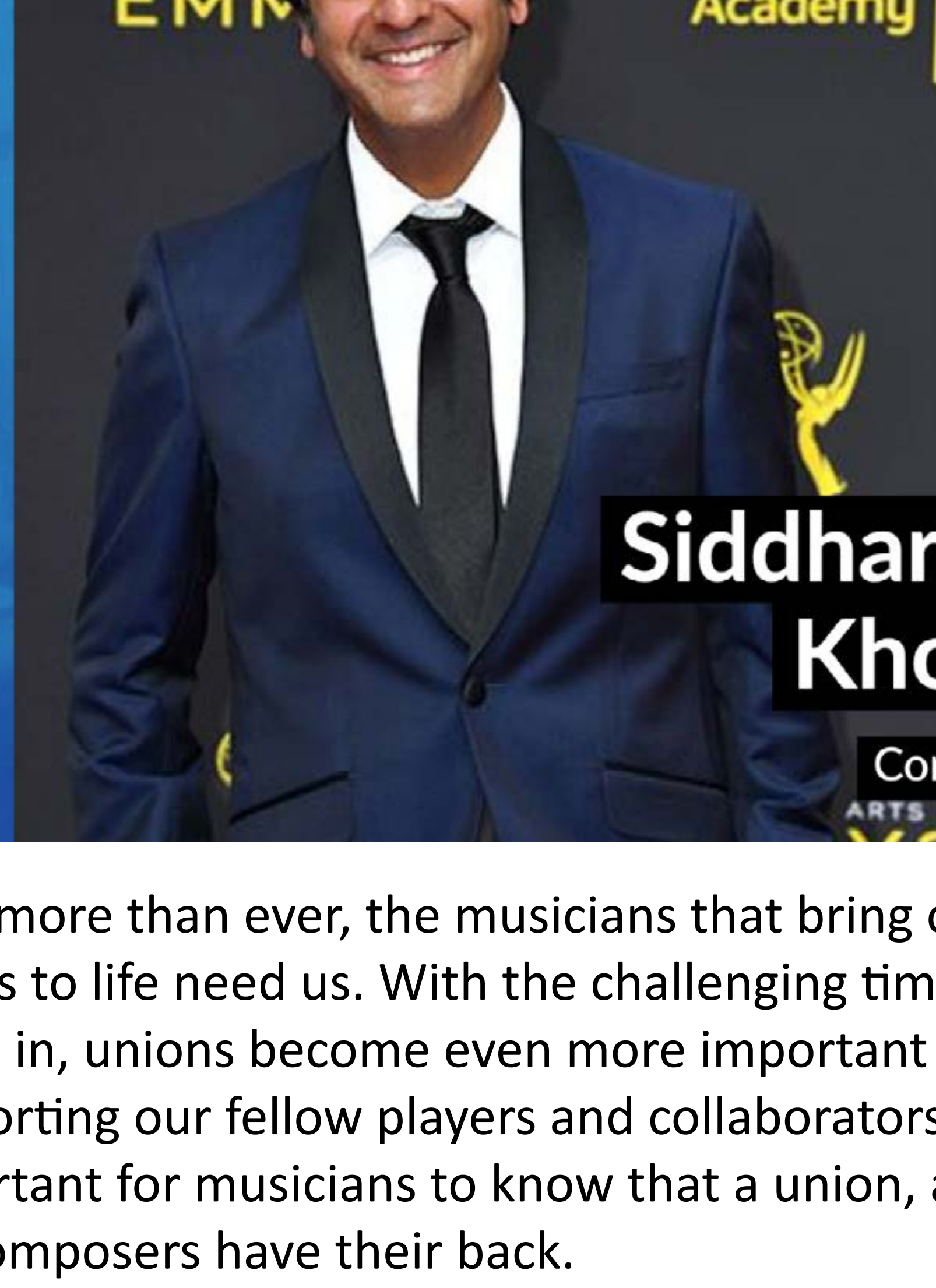
**Kathleen Robertson**

Violinist

The Musicians Union protects its members in that it sets the standard of pay and allows for the benefit of health care and pension. History has shown that without these standards it is extremely difficult if not impossible to maintain a safe working environment and a fair working wage.

**- Kathleen Robertson, Violinist**

**Member since 1991**



**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, Composer**

**Member since 2013**

## What's your answer?

Submit your **#WhyUnion?** photo and answer [here](#).





**MUSICIANS & MUSICIANS' BENEFICIARIES**



**FREE WEBINAR**

**ARE YOU READY FOR THE JULY 1st  
SECONDARY MARKETS FUND DISTRIBUTION?**

**MONDAY MAY 16 6:30PM PST (9:30PM EST)**

JOIN US FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION & GET YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

HOSTED BY KIM ROBERTS HEDGPETH, FMSMF



**ALL AFM MEMBERS WELCOME**

**EVENT WILL BE RECORDED**

**RSVP**

**filmfundsocal@gmail.com**



## Office Closures

Monday, May 30 - Memorial Day

## Next General Membership Meeting

Monday, July 25, 7:30 p.m.

Location: TBA

Open to all members in good standing

## Executive Board Meetings

Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

Members welcome as observers

## New Member Orientation

Third Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Required of all new members.

For details please visit [afm47.org/orientation](http://afm47.org/orientation)

*Please Note: While our offices remain closed due to Covid, meetings are currently held via Zoom unless otherwise noted. View our full calender @ [afm47.org/calendar](http://afm47.org/calendar)*



# ORCHESTRATION CLASSES

WITH DR. NORMAN LUDWIN

*Free classes exclusively for  
AFM Local 47 members!*

AFM Local 47 members are invited to gain a unique hands-on learning experience using real film scores with an industry professional. Both classes focus on film music using contemporary scores and classics of the genre.

Prerequisite: Basic knowledge of music fundamentals; e.g. notes, keys, scales, meter, etc.



Classes held 7-10pm Thursday evenings  
via Zoom

## **Beginning Orchestration**

June 2, 9, 16, 23 - 2022

## **Advanced Orchestration**

August 4, 11, 18, 25 - 2022

**REGISTER: [AFM47.ORG/ORCHESTRATION](https://afm47.org/orchestration)**

## **About the Instructor:**

Dr. Norman Ludwin is a pioneer in the field of orchestration and in the study of film composition. He is a working orchestrator in Hollywood, an in-demand session bassist, an instructor in the UCLA Extension Film Scoring Department, the Film Scoring Academy of Europe, ThinkSpace Education, as well as holding a Doctorate in Composition.

His recent orchestration credits include: "Jurassic World," "Inside Out," "Star Trek: Into Darkness," "Super-8," "John Carter," and "Priest."

Dr. Ludwin has delivered presentations to AFM Locals 6, 9-535, 10-208, 47, 76-493, 149, 161-710, 325, 571, and 802. He has lectured to enthusiastic audiences in Los Angeles, New York City, Washington D.C., Boston, Chicago, San Francisco, Bloomington, Seattle, Toronto, Montreal, Halifax, Munich, Zurich, Rome, Bologna, Sofia, Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Beijing, Shanghai, Nanking, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok, and Ho Chi Minh City.

## **What Students are Saying:**

"I just wanted to tell you what a great experience it was to attend Norman Ludwin's orchestration courses. I have attended his most recent classes in both Beginning Orchestration and Advanced Orchestration. Norman covers a lot of material in quite a bit of depth. He also is able to explain the material very well and his conversational manner is congenial as well as entertaining... These courses are a great benefit to Local 47 members; I know that I got a lot out of these courses." - Mike Saul

"I took the online orchestration seminar with Norman Ludwin, and just wanted to thank you and the entire Local 47 staff for organizing and presenting the class. It was an enjoyable time, with a lot of good discussion and ideas, and was well organized and presented by Norman. Thank you!" - Chris Rinaman

"Thanks Norman for a great eye-opening class. I now know what areas I need to further explore and develop. The class gave an overwhelming amount of information organized in a kind of a road map."

- Itzhak Yaron

"Dr. Ludwin is a terrific teacher... very organized, personable, and knowledgeable. His stories about working in the business were very interesting and insightful. This class has inspired me, it has expanded my horizons of understanding orchestration, AND!: I got to listen to and analyze a lot of fantastic music with a wonderful teacher. Wow! Thank you, thank you Local 47 for giving this gift of Orchestration classes with Dr. Ludwin." - Jeffrey Silverman.

"My name is Stephen Davies. I'm a local 47 member and just recently attended Dr. Norman Ludwin's Beginning & Advanced Orchestration Course. They were both fantastic courses! Dr. Ludwin is a really great teacher and both were very informative courses."

- Stephen Davies

"Thank you and everyone at Local 47 for offering such a wonderful class! We all learned tremendously - and had fun too - with you Norman, much appreciated. I hope I'll be able to attend your future classes as well." - Roberto Montero

"Just wanted to express my appreciation for the just completed online orchestration classes presented by Norman Ludwin to Local 47 members. Fantastic offering, Very much appreciated." - John David





## Results of Voting at April 25, 2022 General Membership Meeting

Thank you to all who attended our General  
Membership Meeting on April 25, 2022.  
The results of voting are as follows:

### **Resolution to Amend the Bylaws (Triennial Election Cycle), as amended:**

**Yes: 54 (passed)**  
No: 11

The full text of the amended Resolution, and the  
updated Local 47 Bylaws, may be accessed by [logging  
in to your member account](#) (once logged in, click the  
“Scales and Documents” tab). Hard copies are  
available upon request from the Secretary/  
Treasurer’s Office: 323.993.3159

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### **Salary Review Board (elect 5):**

**David Wheatley – 42 – elected**  
**Michele Forrest – 40 – elected**  
**Sidney Hopson – 35 – elected**  
**Nick Stone – 34 – elected**  
**Preston Shepard 27 – elected**  
Paul Sternhagen – 27 (declined)  
Kris Mettala – 25

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### **Election Board (elect 7):**

**Cary Belling – elected by acclamation**  
**Nancy Roth – elected by acclamation**  
**Kris Mettala – elected by acclamation**  
**Nick Stone – elected by acclamation**  
**Marcy Vaj – elected by acclamation**  
**David Wheatley – elected by acclamation**  
(1) position vacant (to be filled at July GMM)

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Please save the date for our next General  
Membership Meeting:  
Monday, July 25, 2022, 7:30pm.  
Open to all members in good standing.



# Rehearsals are Back!



*On April 14, 2022, longtime Local 47 Rehearsal Room staple David Angel and his ensemble were the first to rehearse in our facilities after two long years of Covid closures.*

## Rehearsals are Back!

After a two-year closure due to the pandemic, we are thrilled to announce the partial reopening of our rehearsal rooms.

We will be open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. To view our rental rates, please [click here](#). Rooms may be scheduled by contacting 323.993.3172 or [booking@afm47.org](mailto:booking@afm47.org).

Covid-19 protocols will be in place for your safety. Proof of vaccination is required, including a booster for those who are eligible. A negative rapid result antigen test will also be required. Tests will be administered on the premises by a Covid Safety Officer. No one will be allowed entry to the building until they have completed their test. Please allow extra time to accommodate the testing process. Masks are recommended, but not mandatory.



At the Local



AFM LOCAL 47

American Federation of Musicians Local 47

MEMBERSHIP  
DRIVE

Pay **ZERO** initiation fees  
through June 30!

[afm47.org/join](https://afm47.org/join)

Now is the perfect time to become a member of the American Federation of Musicians of Los Angeles.

Now through June 30, 2022, new and returning members pay ZERO initiation fees — a savings of \$140!

Spread the word! Tell your friends and colleagues about the great benefits of union membership and encourage them to join today.

[afm47.org/join](https://afm47.org/join)



## Work Dues Billings

Local 47 is currently processing work dues — previously unbilled — based on wages paid directly during the pandemic years 2020 and 2021.

The Local, faced with a severely reduced staff, chose to focus on making sure wages and benefits were paid, deferring work dues billing.

Thank you for your patience.

## 2022 Live/Prep Wage Scale Books Have Arrived

The AFM Local 47 Live Performance/Music Prep for Live Performance Wage Scales have been updated for 2022. Print copies are now available upon request from the Live Performance office: 323.993.3156, [live@afm47.org](mailto:live@afm47.org)

A digital copy of the book is now available in the [members-only section of our website](#) (login required).



# Go Paperless!

Sign up to receive work dues statements online @ [afm47.org/paperless](https://afm47.org/paperless)

## Members-Only Documents Online

Members may log in to the [members section at afm47.org](#) and navigate to the "Scales and Documents" page to view members-only documents including Executive Board minutes, CBAs, Local 47 Wage Scales, Bylaws, Suspended/Expelled member lists, Hearing Representative reports, and more.



# 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](https://afm47.org/directory)  
323.462.2161**

AFM LOCAL **47**

## Update Your Beneficiary Card

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 contact our Benefits Department for a new card:

(323) 993-3159 | [benefits@afm47.org](mailto:benefits@afm47.org)

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: The Local 47 Death Benefit is not payable to a beneficiary if the member was suspended, expelled or had resigned at the time of passing.*





*The orchestra of the 94<sup>th</sup> Oscars pre-record session at Capitol Records.*

## Oscars 2022 Orchestra Highlights Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

*by Susan Chatman, AFM Local 47 Diversity Committee*

Congratulations to the music production team of the 94<sup>th</sup> Academy Awards for their hard work and superb artistry.

The music production leaders should also be applauded for their diverse representation of musicians, music styles and performances.

There were close to 120 musicians who performed at the 94<sup>th</sup> Academy Awards. What is notable was the cultural diversity, blend of musical styles, ages and genders from all over the world.

- The Music Director was African-American (Adam Blackstone)
- The two Conductors/Orchestrators were African-American (Derrick Hodges, Dontae Winslow)
- The Musician Contractors were two women, one who is African-American (Deborah Chase, Kimberlee Wertz)
- The concertmasters of the orchestras were African-American and Asian women (Stephanie Matthews - Academy Awards BBE Orchestra; and Daphne Chen - Billie Eilish & Jessica McLunkins - Beyoncé)
- Original song and score "Encanto" featured a variety of Latinx performers and composers

Talent and musical skills can be very subjective. Each culture has their unique expression and interpretation of music and talent. This is why music producers, contractors and music directors must continue to embrace diversity, equity and inclusion.

If you value innovation, creativity and new ideas, then diversity matters.

### **BASSic Black Entertainment (BBE) 94<sup>th</sup> Oscars Orchestra\***

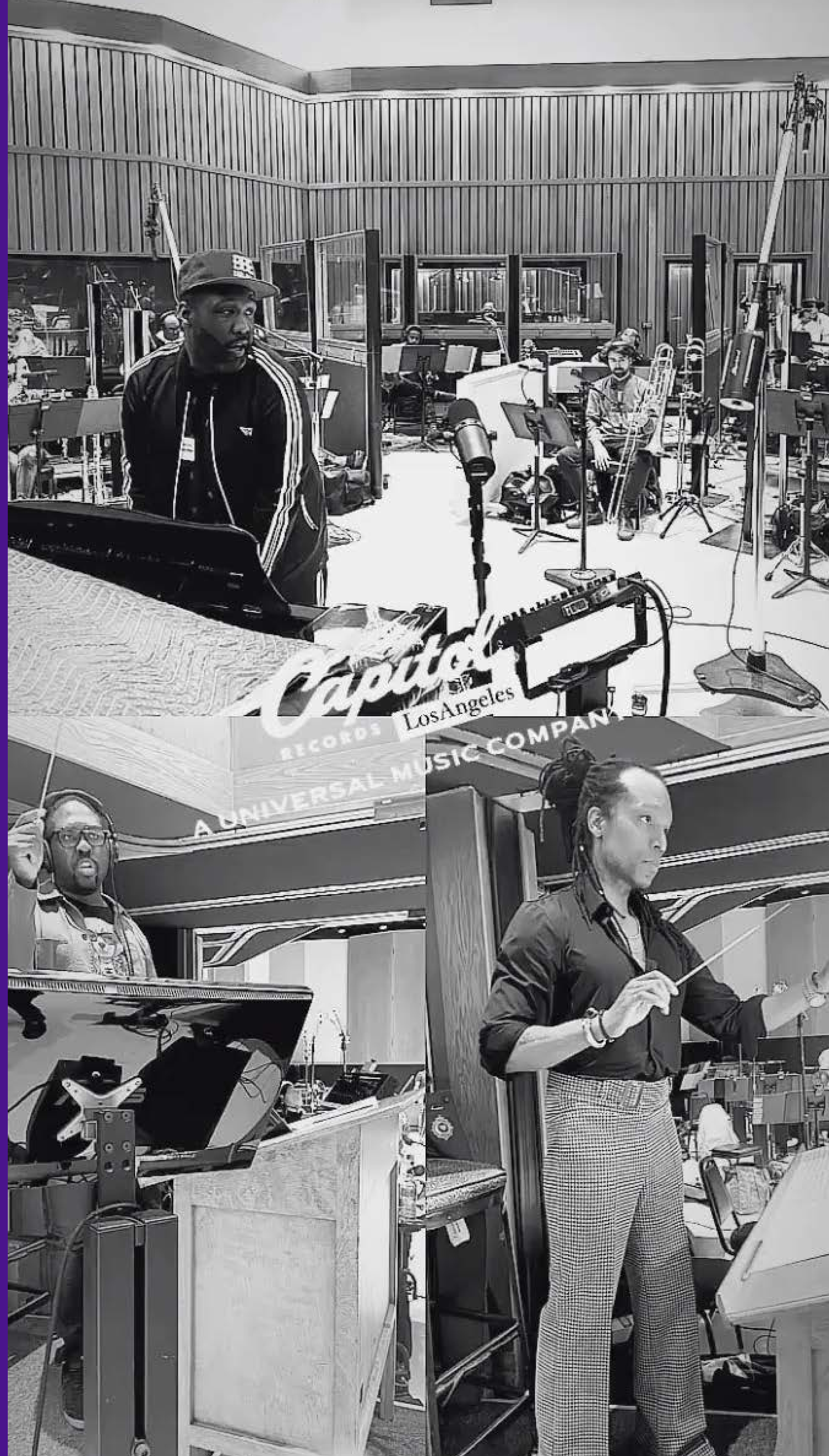
Nico Abondolo	Sidney Hopson
Steve Becknell	Max Karmazyn
Wayne Bergeron	Gina Kronstadt
Adam Blackstone	Rocio Marron
Jacqueline Brand	Andy Martin
Laura Brenes	Raymond Mason
Mark Cargill	Stephanie Matthews
Susan Chatman	Scott Mayo
Giovanna Moraga Clayton	Kerenza Peacock
Erroll Cooney	Lynne Richburg
Ryan Cross	Stefan Smith
Mario DeLeon	Cameron Stone
Lisa Dondlinger	Wesley Sumpter
Jeff Driskill	Kimberlee Wertz
Dan Fornero	Ben Williams
Matthew Franko	Dontae Winslow
Wynton Grant	Adrienne Woods
Erskine Hawkins	Chris Woods
Dan Higgins	Stephanie Yu

*\* Please note: This musicians roster includes the names of AFM members in good standing at the time of performance.*



## BBE 94<sup>th</sup> Oscars Orchestra - Photo Gallery

*continued from previous page*



*Above, top photo: Musical Director Adam Blackstone. Above, bottom photo: Arrangers/Conductors Derrick Hodges and Dontae Winslow.*



*MD Adam Blackstone and concertmaster Stephanie Matthews*



*The BBE 94<sup>th</sup> Oscars Orchestra with Musical Director Adam Blackstone and Arrangers/Conductors Derrick Hodges and Dontae Winslow at the telecast*



*Principal cellist Giovanna Moraga Clayton, violinist Susan Chatman, and contractor Deborah Chase*



*Drummer Brian Frasier-Moore, percussionist Sidney Hopson, and timpanist Wesley Sumpter*



*Violas, cellos and bass at the telecast*



*Strings on break at rehearsal*



*Oscars onstage band: Travis Barker, Adam Blackstone, Sheila E, and Robert Glasper*





*Sidney Hopson (AFM 47 percussionist), former LAUSD Superintendent Austin Beutner, and Naomi Sato (AFM 47 music prep) at the kickoff event for the Vote Arts and Music campaign on April 26 at Hamilton High School.*

## Musicians, Artist Rally for Arts Education in California

At the campaign kickoff for the [Vote Arts and Music](#) California ballot measure at Hamilton High School in Los Angeles on April 26, 2022, former LAUSD superintendent Austin Beutner, AFM Local 47 member Will.i.am, parents, teachers, Hollywood trade unions, and long list of celebrities and supporters rallied together to raise awareness about increasing funding for arts and education in California public schools.

The initiative petition garnered more than 1 million signatures in three months with the support of volunteers from across the state, well in excess of the 623,200 valid signatures needed to qualify for the November 2022 California ballot.

The initiative has garnered support from top Hollywood entertainers including AFM Local 47 members Linda Ronstadt, David Crosby, Stephen Stills, Lili Haydn, Starr Parodi, and new-age ensemble Opium Moon. Several entertainment industry unions are also on board, including SAG-AFTRA, Actors Equity and the California branch of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees.

[Click here to join the movement!](#)



### [Variety reports:](#)

*"If approved by a majority of voters this fall, the measure would allocate \$800 million to \$1 billion per year to arts and music education in K-12 schools.*

*"One of the goals of the initiative is to help diversify the ranks of the entertainment industry, which remains disproportionately white. The funding formula for the money would be tilted toward low-income districts.*

*"The signature verification process is expected to be completed in July. To qualify for the ballot, the initiative must have 623,200 valid signatures. The money would be allocated out of the state's general fund, and would be on top of the minimum school funding thresholds set by Proposition 98. The measure would not raise taxes."*

Read the full text of the measure [here](#).



Musicians and radio performers should  
be paid fair wages for their work.

It's time for radio broadcasters  
to face the music.

# AMERICAN MUSIC FAIRNESS ACT

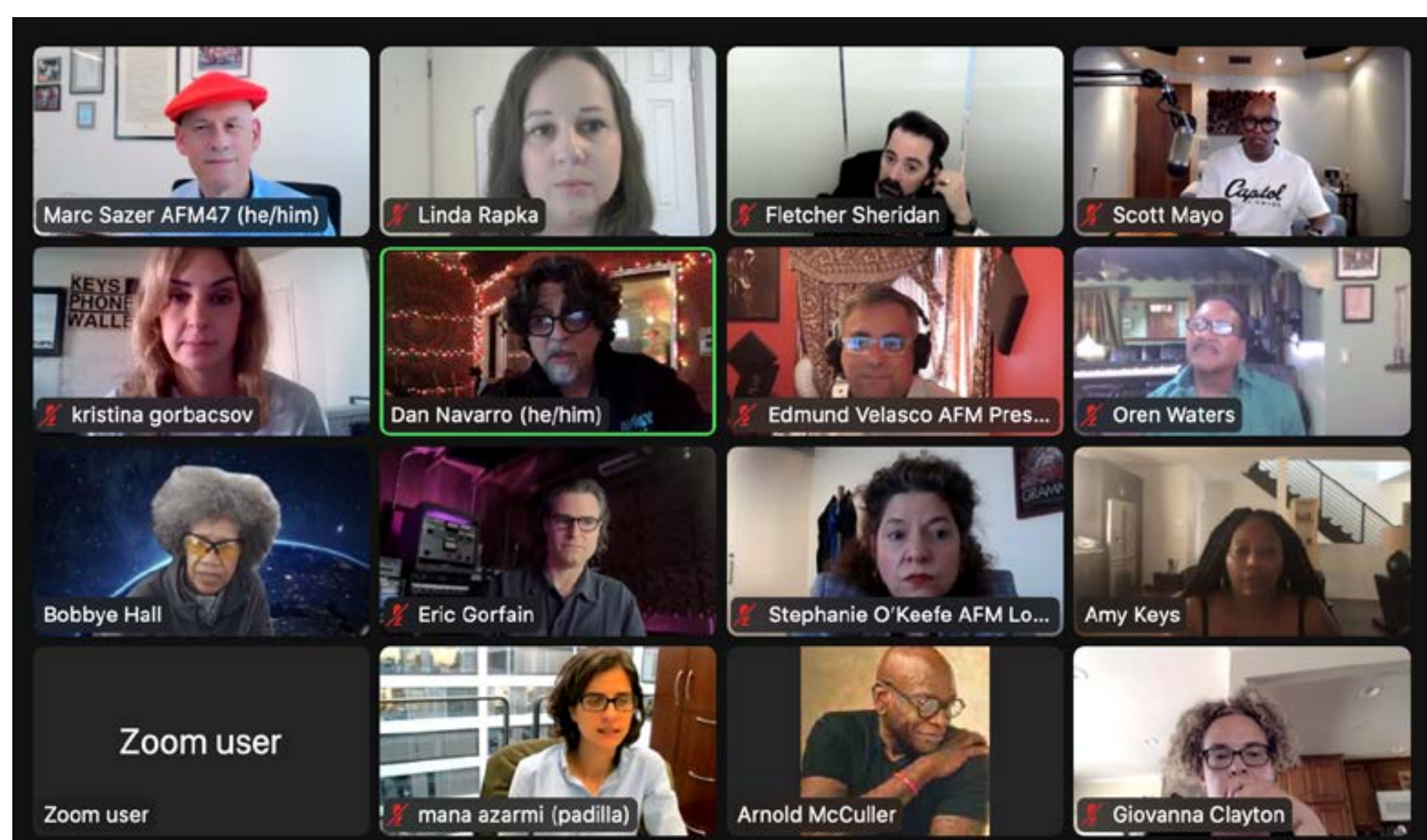
AFM LOCAL 47

Musicians for #MusicFairness

## Support the American Music Fairness Act

For every blockbuster artist, there are tens of thousands of musicians who aren't yet household names and who are struggling to make ends meet — especially with the added difficulties from COVID's impact on the music and touring industry.

The time is now to finally change the rules that are rigged in favor of big media corporations and ensure that these hardworking creators finally get paid when their work is played on the radio.



*On April 29, members and leadership of AFM Local 47 and SAG-AFTRA met with Mana Azarmi, counsel to Sen. Alex Padilla, via Zoom to discuss the importance of the American Music Fairness Act.*

### GET INVOLVED!

A coalition of AFM Local 47 titled officers and members, along with representatives and members from SAG-AFTRA, have begun meeting with local legislators calling on them to support the American Music Fairness Act. [Sign the #FairPay petition](#), and email [marc.sazer@afm47.org](mailto:marc.sazer@afm47.org) to join the movement.





*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.*

## Your Health Care & Pension Benefits at a Glance

### 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](mailto:musicians@pacfed.com).

Website: [pacfed-musicians.com](http://pacfed-musicians.com)

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#### 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](http://flexplan.com)

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#### 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](http://healthcare.gov). AFM Local 47 members may also contact Mark Cormany of French Cormany Insurance Services at 949.975.1155.





# BENEFITS CORNER

**AFM LOCAL  
47**

## **PENSION**

### **AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MUSICIANS & EMPLOYERS' PENSION FUND (AFM-EPF)**

One of the most important benefits your job provides you with is the ability to receive pension benefits when you retire. Even though you can collect Social Security at retirement, your retirement years will be more financially secure if you also receive pension benefits. The American Federation of Musicians and Employers' Pension Fund (AFM-EPF) is a defined benefit multi-employer pension plan for members of the American Federation of Musicians.

Under a collective bargaining agreement with the AFM and its Local unions, or other written agreement acceptable to the Board of Trustees, your employer has agreed to make contributions to a pension fund to provide pension benefits to you and other employees working as musicians. The Pension Fund is operated by the AFM-EPF Board of Trustees, which consists of an equal number of Federation Trustees and Employer Trustees.

You should keep in mind that you are not guaranteed a pension just because a pension fund has been established to which your employer contributes. The Pension Fund has rules about how you begin to participate, how can you earn a right to your pension, how much you might receive and when you can start getting payments, what happens to your pension if you die before or after retirement, and many other issues. For more information, please contact the Pension Fund office.

#### **Contact**

If you have any questions about your pension, contact the AFM-EPF Office at 800.833.8065.

Website: [afm-epf.org](http://afm-epf.org)



# BY THE PEOPLE



# FOR THE PEOPLE

## LA Fed Announces Ambitious New 'People's Project'

On Cesar Chavez Day, March 31, 2022, over 1,600 union members gathered together for the first time in over two years due to the pandemic at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel for the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor 2022 Workers Congress.

During the Congress, the LA Fed announced an ambitious new initiative to make mutual aid a permanent part of L.A.'s labor movement. [The People's Project](#), a mutual aid program funded with a \$20 million grant from the state of California whose mission is to establish an organizing platform for reciprocal aid and cooperation in Los Angeles that scales with the community needs. By empowering communities, block by block, the People's Project aims to provide needed resources to the people of Los Angeles County and match people to the services they need.



*AFM Local 47 Representatives to the LA Fed House of Labor at the 2022 Workers Congress: Trustee Bonnie Janofsky, President Stephanie O'Keefe, Vice President Marc Sazer, and Communications Director Linda Rapka.*

In addition to the People's Project launch, the 2022 Workers Congress also featured organizing workshops and an engaging plenary session. Highlights of the Workers Congress included hearing from the keynote speakers: incoming CA Labor Federation President Lorena Gonzalez; esteemed educator, activist and author Dr. Angela Davis; and LA Fed President Ron Herrera. Attendees also heard from special guests: AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler, UNITE HERE Local 11 Co-President Susan Minato; LA Fed VP Yvonne Wheeler; and International Association of Fire Fighters General Secretary-Treasurer Frank V. Lima.

During the morning session AFM Local 47 President Stephanie O'Keefe was sworn in by representatives from the House of Labor to serve as a vice president on the LA Fed Executive Board, a diverse body of experienced leaders from throughout the Los Angeles labor movement.





**- AFM NOTICE -**

**Ella: Live at the Hollywood Bowl -  
The Irving Berlin Songbook**

*A Message from Patrick M. Varriale, Director,  
Electronic Media Services Division, American  
Federation of Musicians:*

We have been advised that there is the possibility that a performance of Ella Fitzgerald from the Hollywood Bowl from August 1958 may be released in the sound recording format. This would generate additional payments for the musicians that accompanied Ms. Fitzgerald and Paul Weston who was the conductor of the live performance. However, at this juncture we have been unable to access a copy of the live performance contract.

If you can provide information on any of the musicians that participated on this live performance please contact ether Jamie Vespa at Local 47, at 323.993.3170 or via email: [jamie.vespa@afm47.org](mailto:jamie.vespa@afm47.org); or Pat Varriale at the American Federation of Musicians, at 646.269.0827 or via email: [pvarriale@afm.org](mailto:pvarriale@afm.org).

This live recording should not be confused with the studio recording that was released under the same name that took place earlier in 1958.



## THE HOLLYWOOD ARTS COLLECTIVE



# Hollywood Arts Collective

## The Actors Fund announces an expanded mission for creative outreach in LA

The Actors Fund, a national human services organization that fosters stability and resiliency and provides a safety net for performing arts and entertainment professionals over their lifespan, prides itself on a long history of support for the entertainment community in Los Angeles and Hollywood.

The brand new Hollywood Arts Collective, a pair of two new buildings located in the heart of Hollywood on Hollywood Boulevard between Wilcox and Schrader, share the embodiment of The Actors Fund vision: a world in which individuals contributing to cultural vibrancy are supported, valued, and economically secure. The buildings together will provide affordable space for arts and entertainment professionals to live, work and create in the heart of Hollywood; open new opportunities in creative careers for under-served youth in the neighborhood; and host the new Western Region Headquarters for The Actors Fund.

This project is an important stake in the ground for lower income arts and entertainment workers and small nonprofit performing arts organizations being gentrified out of Hollywood. It allows them to continue to live, work and perform in the spiritual center of creativity in Los Angeles. An arts building with a state-of-the-art theater for community based performing arts companies and arts focused youth development organizations, an art gallery, a space for film organizations that focus on engaging with young filmmakers, The Actors Fund training center, allowing the Fund to deliver its group based career and other educational support services.

Partnerships with performance and arts-based youth development organizations will provide arts education and experiences to under-served youth in Hollywood. Two days per week the theater will be made available free of charge to these organizations for education, rehearsal and performances.

Artists and performers who are living in the Residential Building will be engaged to work with these youth organizations, providing a rich experience for the youth involved and fulfill the vision of the Hollywood Arts Collective as a true “arts community.”

The theater will also be available for local performing arts organizations for a modest rental fee. This fills a critical need the local arts community identified: quality, state of the art space for rehearsals and performances.

One of the two “store front” spaces will be used by a collective of youth based film education organizations for classes and production offices. These organizations will be able use the theater for screenings.



The Actors Fund will name the two buildings of the Hollywood Arts Collective after two trailblazing women in the entertainment industry: Cicely Tyson and Rita Moreno. Their legacies embody The Actors Fund values of creativity, equity, resiliency and respect and their careers stand as a reminder of the beauty and necessity of diverse voices in American arts.

## The Actors Fund Western Council

The Western Council of The Actors Fund works to increase outreach and develop fundraising efforts in the western region. For more information about their free services offered to everyone in entertainment, please visit [actorsfund.org/western-council](https://actorsfund.org/western-council) or call 888.825.0911.





## **In Memoriam**

### **H. Ray Evans**

Life Member. Drum Set

4/25/1926 - 2/27/2022

Member Since: 10/10/1946

### **Allan S. Lasky**

Life Member. Alto/Tenor Saxophone

6/15/1937 - 2/18/2022

Member Since: 2/11/1955

### **Joe Siracusa**

Life Member. Drum Set

2/3/1922 - 11/13/2021

Member since: 1/21/1947

### **Kenneth Wannberg**

Life Member. Piano

6/28/1930 - 1/27/2022

Member Since: 7/20/1956

### **Mark Zimoski**

Life Member. Timpani

5/21/1953 - 4/15/2022

Member since: 10/11/1977

Send your Final Notes remembrances using our online submission form at: [afm47.org/overture](https://afm47.org/overture)

or you may send to:

[overture@afm47.org](mailto:overture@afm47.org)

Local 47 Overture Online

3220 Winona Ave.

Burbank CA 91504



share YOUR story  
*with*  
the Overture

**OPEN MIC!**



## Got a Story to Tell?

Let us know! Overture welcomes submissions from our members. 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](http://afm47.org/overture).



# Letters



*We want to hear from you!*

*Send in your Letters to the Editor:*

*[overture@afm47.org](mailto: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](http://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.*

## Work Dues Notices

At its Dec. 9, 2014 meeting, the Local 47 Executive Board passed the following motion:

“As a matter of policy, Local 47 will no longer mail checks to members or non-members whose delinquent work dues liability is in excess of \$1,000. When the Local receives a payroll check for anyone who has such a delinquency, the member or non-member shall be contacted by the Secretary/Treasurer’s office. Checks within 14 days of expiration will be deposited in the Escrow Fund.”

If you fall into that category, you will receive a postcard informing you that your check is in the office. You can call the Secretary/Treasurer’s office at (323) 993-3159 to discuss your work dues delinquency and to make arrangements to pick up your check.

### 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](mailto: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](http://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.



Advertise

# ADVERTISE

WITH AFM LOCAL 47!

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