

## Kennett Symphony – UPDATE

### EDI Grant Proposal to the CCCF

- The League of American Orchestras confirmed the Kennett Symphony's grant award.
  - We are honored to be one of 25 orchestras across the nation to receive this grant. Page 3 of the release includes the full list of the other orchestras that have received this grant funding. We are in the company of venerable orchestras like the Los Angeles Philharmonic, New York Philharmonic, Pittsburgh Symphony and St. Louis Symphony. Those orchestras range in budget from \$50million to \$190million. With our budget of \$350,000, we're the smallest budget, fully professional orchestra on the list.
  - We are looking forward to learning from and sharing with the other orchestras on the list via the four convening sessions over the course of our one-year projects. Having access to the EDI learnings and projects of the 24 fellow grantee orchestras will further grow our understanding and training.
- We have hired EDI consultant Daria Torres of the Walls Torres Group. Ms. Torres will help us create a short and long-term plan for EDI for the Kennett Symphony. Information on Ms. Torres is below. The Catalyst Grant provides funds for 80% of the cost of an EDI consultant (we need to raise the remaining 20%, hence our application to CCCF).
  - <https://wallstorresgroup.com/about/>
  - <https://wallstorresgroup.com/interview-on-successful-nonprofits-podcast/> (This podcast describes the type of work we will be doing with Ms. Torres)
  - <https://equitymaturity.com/> (More details about the type of work we will be doing with Ms. Torres)
- We have created a new committee that will work with our consultant and lead the KS as a whole through this training and strategy. Members include:
  - Tim Murnane, Board President (IT Director, Exelon)
  - Veronica Mikitka Reed, Incoming Board President, Current Secretary (Vice President, Maven Communications)
  - Timothy Blair, Development Committee Chair; Governance Committee Member
  - Kathy Knox, Governance Committee Chair
  - Rhonda Cook, Incoming Board Secretary (Global Chief Risk Officer, SEI)
  - Michael Hall, Music Director
  - Ann Fontanella, Personnel Manager for Musicians of the Kennett Symphony
  - Monica Buffington, Executive Director
- We are hopeful that our current grant proposal and request for \$4,000 via the CCCF will be successful. The \$16,000 grant from the League represents 80% of the total \$20,000 consultant fee for this project. We are required by the grant guidelines to raise the remaining 20% of the consultant's fee, which is \$4,000.
- Please let me know if I can provide additional information on the status of our grant with the League of American Orchestras/Mellon Foundation

## **UPDATE for Neil Joines Fund of the CCCF**

- We are currently planning a return to the stage in October or November 2021! And we cannot wait!
- The planned program is:
  - Copland: Fanfare for the Common Man
  - Saint Saens: Piano Concerto No. 2 featuring piano soloist
  - Beethoven: Symphony No. 3 "Heroic"
- This program is to be held at the state-of-the-art Unionville High School Auditorium in Kennett Square, PA.
- We have also created a new program: a competition for emerging composers. Details on the competition are here: <https://kennettsymphony.org/composition-competition/>
- Both of these projects connect with the purposes of Mr. Joines' charitable trust
- Please let me know if I can provide additional information on our annual gift from the Neil Joines Fund of the CCCF