

## ICSOM Governing Board Call – 3/16/08

*Bruce Ridge, Brian Rood, Laura Ross, Michael Moore, Richard Levine, Paul Gunther, James Nickel, Cathy Payne, Meredith Snow, Len Leibowitz*

### **Orchestra updates:**

- a. Columbus – Len will be in Columbus on Tuesday to begin negotiations. The board and management appear to be refusing to raise money and force a financial problem. One effort the board/management seems to be pinning their hopes on is “Thrive in Five”, an initiative similar to the Charlotte Arts Council, however the money won’t even be available for a number of years to come. It also appears that management is making the initial move toward a shutdown (not a lockout) by sending the musicians a letter informing them of their rights under COBRA. Bruce would like to visit and the board wondered if there was any more we could do? Columbus’s paper appears to be unwilling to print any letters of support.
- b. Honolulu – This is the last week of the opera, what happens next is anyone’s guess though management does appear to be scrambling to raise money since the promised money (\$4M) has not been released yet. Bruce is very concerned about this situation but neither he nor ICSOM have been asked to participate in any writing campaigns, etc.

### ***Senza Sordino:***

- a. update – Bruce’s article has been posted on Orchestra-L and the rest are being currently being edited. Richard has asked for photos to accompany the NYP article by Ken Mirkin. Jaime Austria and Paul Gunther worked on an education article that will be posted on the website and reference made in *Senza*. (Paul will formulate his education committee article into a resolution for the conference.)
- b. Roger Ruggeri has written an article about the establishment of a review process for their executive director. There is not enough room in this issue so we will discuss it further.

### **Website:**

Health Care Data Base/website session at conference/meeting of web committee – the database was taken down for security reasons (there were data mining concerns) and may be returned if it is password protected. Bruce said there have been good ideas for updating the entire website, and he wondered how we approach this? Bruce will call Bruce Christensen to discuss some of these ideas and issues and will discuss his attendance at the conference in San Francisco.

### **Conference planning updates:**

Follow-ups from our mid-winter discussion – Cathy, Thalia and Leslie are still looking for a conference coordinator.

As the conference draws closer, player association bylaws we are requesting for the conference could be uploaded to the website once password protection is put into place. MALs will remind delegates to send this information.

Do we have any potential sites for the 2009 conference? So far there have not been any offers.

**Media Committee and A/V negotiation updates** – The AFM has proposed that the Audio-Visual Agreement be extended for 6 months (through July 1) and discussions include the possibility that A-V be incorporated into a comprehensive media agreement. The managers said it was an interesting idea and negotiations will proceed along this line.

**Jesse Rosen** (VP of The League, soon to be President) – Bruce recently met with Jesse Rosen and he reported that the first half of the meeting was a good discussion about what is going on in the orchestra industry. Then they spoke about the Flanagan report and the hiring of Michael Bronson & Joe Kluger as LOA electronic media consultants, as well as other mutual interest topics.

There are still a few orchestras that are now late paying their dues. There was a question about how to deal with orchestras whose locals pay their dues if they pay after the deadline.

**Next call - Monday, April 14 –10:30PM EDT/9:30PM CDT/7:30PM PDT**

*(Michael will not be available)*