



# DETROIT FEDERATION OF MUSICIANS

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## 2011 ICSOM Conference, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Dearborn, Michigan

The Musicians of the Detroit Symphony and Local 5 welcome the ICSOM delegates, board and guests to the 2011 ICSOM Conference at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Dearborn, Michigan.

Located near Ford Motor Company World Headquarters and Fairlane Town Center, and 20 minutes from downtown Detroit, the Hyatt Regency provides a variety of options for meetings and dining. Fairlane Town Center, a short walk from the hotel, has numerous restaurants for casual dining, as well as all the major department stores.

Other nearby attractions include the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village, the location for the Detroit Symphony's acclaimed 'Salute to America' concerts during the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend, as well as Fair Lane, the Henry Ford Estate.

Also, as befits the Motor City, the 17<sup>th</sup> annual Woodward Dream Cruise takes place on August 20. First held in August 1996 as a fundraiser, today, the Woodward Dream Cruise is the world's largest one-day automotive event, drawing 1.5 million people and 40,000 classic and muscle cars each year from around the globe.

The DSO Musicians and Local 5 will be your hosts for the Mixer, to be held at historic Orchestra Hall. Built in four months and 23 days in the summer of 1919, Orchestra Hall is recognized as one of the finest concert halls in the world. With the addition of the Max M. Fisher Center facilities in 2003, the hall now boasts the impressive Atrium Lobby, the Music Box, a full catering kitchen, educational facilities, office space for the DSO administration, and, most importantly to the musicians, spacious dressing rooms, instrument storage next to the stage, and a comfortable musicians' lounge. There will be a tour of the hall, followed by a buffet dinner and cash bar.

After the difficult six-month strike, the musicians of the Detroit Symphony are back to work performing concerts for our devoted audience. The unprecedented support from our colleagues in the U.S. and Canada helped to give us the strength to reach a settlement.

However, musicians across the country are dismayed with the continued attack on many orchestras: Philadelphia, Syracuse, New Mexico, and Louisville. Managements now openly invoke Chapter 7 or Chapter 11 bankruptcies, threatening to impose radical changes in pay and pensions, or simply shutting down orchestras and leaving musicians and their audiences without jobs and



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music. Many orchestras are in negotiations as well, and are facing potentially difficult bargaining. And yet, there are many more orchestras that are setting attendance records, performing exciting programs to full concert halls, and reaching out to underserved areas with live opera and symphonies in movie theaters nationwide.

It is our hope that the 2011 ICSOM Conference will help to promote the best practices for our industry, and bolster the efforts to preserve the many hard-won gains that allow us to do our best to inspire the love and appreciation of classical music for audiences now and for generations to come.

With best wishes on behalf of the Detroit Symphony Musicians and Local 5,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Ventura".

Brian Ventura, 2011 ICSOM Conference Coordinator