

On behalf of the members of the Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra and the officers of the Musicians' Association of Hawai'i, AFM Local 677, it is our pleasure to welcome you to Honolulu for the 2026 ICSOM Conference. Aloha mai kākou! (Greetings everyone!)

One of the top vacation destinations in the world, Honolulu boasts stunning beaches, lush mountain views, incredible food, and rich culture. Mahalo (thank you) for making the journey across the Pacific to bring the ICSOM 'ohana (family) to the islands! There are 8 islands that make up the State of Hawai'i and you will be on the island of O'ahu, The Gathering Place. The conference will be held at Waikīkī Beach Marriott Resort & Spa, which is located on the makai side (ocean side) of Waikīkī.

The mixer will be held at the Kuhio Beach Grill (on the second floor of the hotel) on Wednesday, August 19th from 6-8pm.

While you're attending all of the incredible sessions that the conference has in store, don't forget to hit the beach and take in the views of Diamond Head (Lē'ahi)! Grab a snorkel and see if you can find a humuhumunukunukuāpua'a (the state fish of Hawai'i). Rent a surfboard and catch a wave! Find some pūpū (snacks) — you can't beat the fresh poke at Maguro Spot or a spam musubi from an ABC store (our board chair owns this chain!) or 7-Eleven (yes, the 7-Elevens are better here). Did you know that Hawai'i consumes the most spam per capita in the US?

Looking to learn more about Hawai'i? Catch the Royal Hawaiian Band, founded in 1836 by King Kamehameha III, at the Kapi'olani Park Bandstand on Sunday from 1-2pm. Take TheBus to 'Iolani Palace, the King Kamehameha I statue, the Bishop Museum, or Aloha Tower. Visit Queen Lili'uokalani's statue by the State Capitol. Lili'uokalani was the last Queen of Hawai'i and also a prolific composer. You probably know her most popular work, Aloha 'Oe (Until We Meet Again).

We'll send along more food and attraction recommendations closer to the conference, but get ready for some incredible Hawaiian food and some of the best Japanese food you can get without flying to Japan.

E huaka'i me ka palekana (travel safely on your journey)!

A hui hou (until we meet again),

Lisa Stoneham
Conference Coordinator and
HSO Orchestra Committee Chair

Rebecca Matayoshi
HSO ICSOM Delegate

Judy Barrett
HSO Orchestra Committee Vice Chair

Jim Moffitt
President of AFM Local 677

Musicians of the Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra