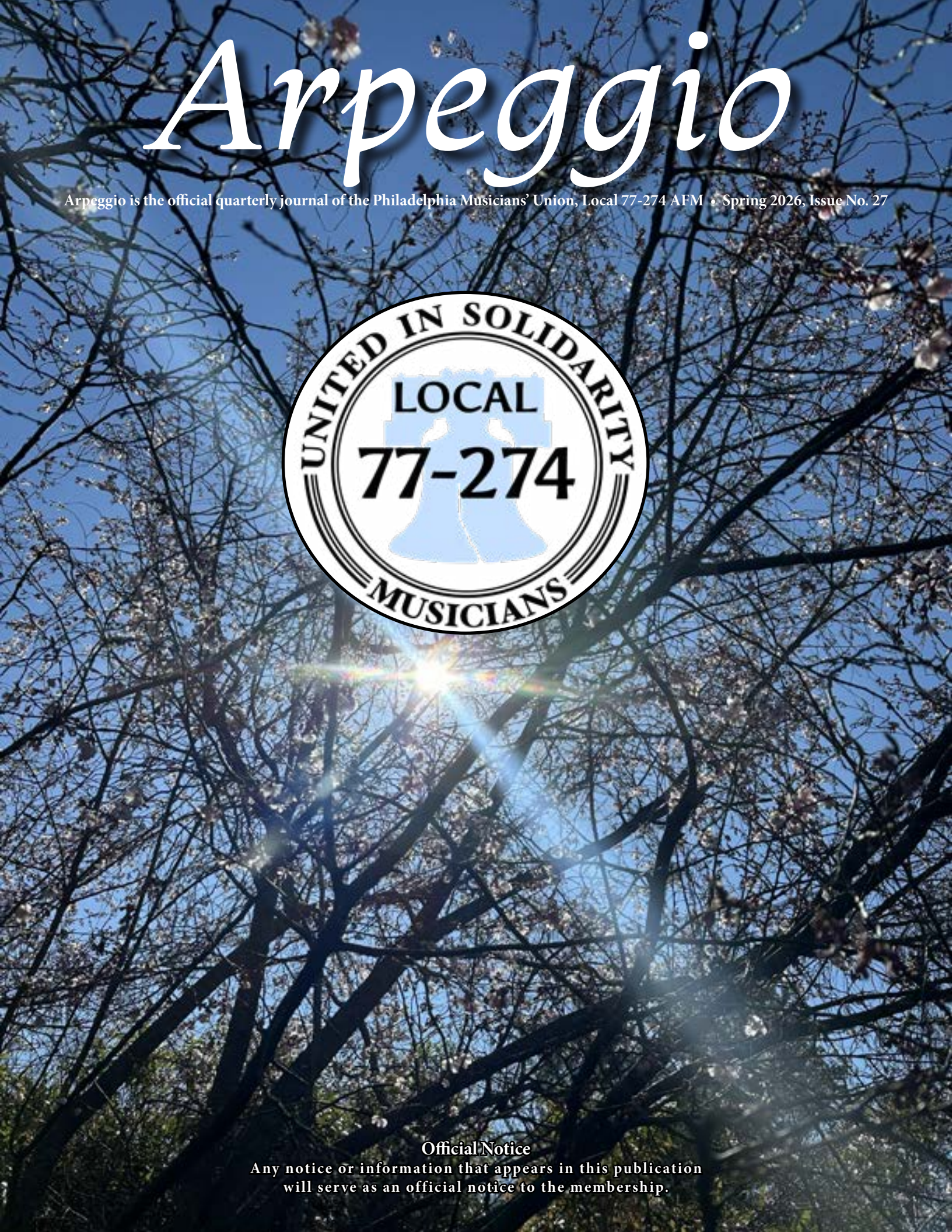
Arpeggio

Arpeggio is the official quarterly journal of the Philadelphia Musicians' Union, Local 77-274 AFM • Spring 2026, Issue No. 27



Official Notice
Any notice or information that appears in this publication will serve as an official notice to the membership.

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Have you changed your address, phone number, or email lately? If so, please let the office of Local 77-274 know immediately.

Arpeggio is the official quarterly journal of the Philadelphia Musicians' Union Local 77-274, AFM

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Arpeggio Editor
Jarred Antonacci

President's Report

Building Our Voice: Why a Political Action Committee Fund Matters Now

By: Ellen Trainer, Local 77-274 President

As working musicians, we understand something fundamental: if you're not heard, you're overlooked. Every rehearsal, every performance, every contract negotiation depends on making sure our voices carry. The same is true beyond the stage—especially when it comes to the policies and decisions that shape our livelihoods.

That's why I'm writing to you today about an important step forward for our union: establishing a Political Action Committee (PAC) fund.

A PAC fund gives us a collective voice in the decisions that affect our profession—funding for the arts, fair labor standards, public performance opportunities, education programs, and more. These aren't abstract issues. They directly impact our ability to earn a living, sustain our careers, and ensure the next generation of musicians has a path forward.

***What can a PAC fund actually do?* Here's what that looks like right now in Philadelphia and Pennsylvania:**

- **Influence the Philadelphia city budget—before decisions are finalized.**
  - This year, City Council is weighing funding priorities that directly affect musicians. For example, Mural Arts Philadelphia is facing a proposed cut of about $1.4 million in the upcoming budget. A PAC allows us to support councilmembers who prioritize arts funding—and push back when cuts are on the table.
- **Protect and grow funding through the Philadelphia Cultural Fund.**
  - The Philadelphia Cultural Fund distributes millions each year to arts organizations across the city, supporting jobs, performances, and programming. These allocations are decided through the city budget process. A PAC gives us leverage to advocate for increases—not just defend against cuts.
- **Shape state funding decisions in Harrisburg.**
  - Arts advocates are currently pushing the Pennsylvania General Assembly to increase arts funding to at least $12.6 million, plus additional support for creative placemaking programs. Key legislators—on appropriations and cultural caucuses—decide whether that happens. A PAC allows us to support candidates who back those increases.
- **Respond to major restructuring of state arts funding.**
  - Pennsylvania is overhauling its grant system, eliminating long-standing regional partnerships and changing who qualifies for funding. These decisions are being made now. Without organized political engagement, musicians risk losing access to funding streams that have supported our work for decades.
- **Push back on funding criteria that leave artists behind.**
  - New state guidelines are shifting toward economic

development models that may exclude smaller arts organizations and individual artists. A PAC gives us a way to advocate for policies that recognize the real structure of our profession—not just large institutions.

- **Engage directly with elected officials who control these outcomes.**
  - State leaders like Governor Josh Shapiro and members of the General Assembly ultimately shape the arts budget and policy priorities. Recent state budgets have already directed tens of millions toward large-scale development and cultural projects. A PAC ensures musicians are part of those conversations—not an afterthought.

- **Prepare for future fights we know are coming.**
  - From transit funding (which affects audiences and gigs), to downtown development like the Avenue of the Arts, to labor protections for gig workers—these are all political decisions that impact our daily work.

These are not theoretical issues. They are happening right now—in City Hall, in Harrisburg, and at every level where decisions about our livelihoods are made. And here's the reality: other industries are organized politically. They have PACs. They contribute. They show up. That's why they get heard.

If musicians want the same level of influence, we have to build it.

To make this possible, we are proposing a voluntary contribution of 0.5% of pay to be earmarked specifically for the PAC fund. This is not a mandate—participation is entirely your choice. But even a small contribution, when combined across 800 members, becomes a powerful tool.

Transparency and accountability will be central to this effort. Members will be informed about how funds are used, which candidates and issues we support, and what results we're achieving together.

We all chose this profession because we believe in the power of music. Now we have an opportunity to strengthen the power of our collective voice as well.

If we don't show up in these decisions, others will—and they already are.

AFM TEMPO Fund Is Our Voice in Washington

All musicians, from new bands to experienced performers, deserve fair wages, good working conditions, health care, and retirement security.

TEMPO contributions allow the AFM to support lawmakers and candidates who advocate for issues important to musicians. These issues include:

- Protecting artists from AI exploitation
- Ensuring fair compensation for artists when their music is streamed or played on the radio
- Improving travel regulations to facilitate travel with instruments
- Creating stricter copyright and performance rights laws to guarantee that musicians receive fair compensation for their work

Join fellow members across the US by contributing to the TEMPO Fund.
AFM.org/what-we-are-doing/legislative/tempo
Every Donation Makes a Difference!

Contributions to TEMPO, PCC, the AFM's separate segregated political fund, are used to help members of Congress who support AFM issues remain in public office. Contributions to TEMPO are NOT tax deductible. Your decision to give is strictly voluntary and is NOT a requirement of membership in the union.

For more information, please contact AFM TEMPO Coordinator Sandra Grier, 212-869-1330 ext. 215 or sgrier@afm.org

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Secretary-Treasurer's Report

A Financial Overview: June 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026

By: Jarred Antonacci, Local 77-274 Secretary-Treasurer

Local 77-274 reported a strong financial performance for the current fiscal year, which began in June of 2025. This report details all financial activity from June 2025 through March 2026, which reflected a net income of $133,456.48. This report showcases stable operating revenue, disciplined spending, and positive investment returns that collectively strengthened the Union's financial position.

As of March 31, 2026 the Union generated total operating revenue of $745,050.01. The largest source of income came from work dues, which totaled $623,854.01, demonstrating continued employment activity and strong member engagement across all represented bargaining units. Membership dues contributed an additional $116,241.50, while grant income from the Freelance Services Division of the AFM added $4,954.50 to the Local's overall revenue. This grant funding helped offset costs associated with the launch of the Local's new website, philamusicians.org.

Operating expenses for the reporting period totaled $677,010.30. Personnel-related costs represented the largest category of expenditures, with salaries for officers, the executive board, clerical and office staff accounting for approximately 32% of all operational expenses. Payroll taxes added an additional $20,989.11 in related costs.

This fiscal year also reflected the Local's continued investment in representation, organizing, and professional development. Conference participation expenses totaled $16,435.24 and included local representation at the International Conference of Symphony and Opera Musicians (ICSOM), the Regional Orchestra Players Association (ROPA) Conference, the AFL-CIO Leadership Conference, and the Theatre Musicians Association (TMA) Conference. Work dues and fees paid to affiliated labor organizations and the American Federation of Musicians totaled $140,227.70.

Additional operational expenses included legal fees, which totaled $57,995.67, pension costs for Officers, Executive Board members, and staff totaling $30,156.08, website maintenance expenses of $10,176.25, and advertising expenditures of $23,826.67. The increase in advertising expenses is directly related to the Local's rebranding from Local 77 to Local 77-274 and included the production of updated merchandise and branding materials. Our Union also dedicated resources to labor and community engagement activities, including rally entertainment and participation in the Philadelphia AFL-CIO Labor Day Parade, underscoring the Local's commitment to member engagement and active involvement within the broader labor movement.

Despite significant operating expenses, Local 77-274 closed this reporting period with a positive net operating income of $68,039.71.

Beyond operations, investment and other miscellaneous income further strengthened the Local's overall financial position. Other income sources totaled $72,000.75 and included the annual Playcheck77 management fee (the payroll service of Local 77-274), realized investment gains, dividends, and interest income from various banking and investment accounts. Realized gains from investments totaled $35,975.79, while investment income and dividends collectively exceeded $23,000.

After accounting for investment-related expenses of $6,583.98, the Union reported a net "other income" of $65,416.77. When combined with operating income, this resulted in a total net income of $133,456.48 for the current fiscal year.

Overall, this fiscal year reflects a financially stable Union with strong membership and work dues revenue, prudent fiscal management, and diversified income streams. Local 77-274's ability to maintain positive operating performance while continuing to invest in member services, labor advocacy, conference participation, and organizational infrastructure demonstrates a solid financial foundation moving into the remainder of 2026 and beyond.

Arpeggio Pricing Information

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Half Page (7 ½ x 4 ½). . . .$150.00
Full Page (10 x 7 ½). $250.00

Non-Member Pricing

Business Card (2 x 3). . . $100.00
Qtr. Page (4 x 4 ½). $175.00
Half Page (7 ½ x 4 ½). . . .$300.00
Full Page (10 x 7 ½). $500.00

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All advertisements must be submitted in PDF format.
We will not publish the following types of advertisements:

- Travel
- Insurance
- Credit Cards

Your payment can be made via PayPal or, by check made payable to Local 77-274, AFM to the following address:

The Philadelphia Musicians' Union Local 77-274 AFM
1420 Locust Street, Suite 300
Philadelphia, PA 19102

All advertisement requests are subject to the approval of the Local 77-274 Executive Board

Unable to Work Due to Illness or Disability?

Started in 1951 with a $10,000 personal contribution from then AFM President James C. Petrillo in memory of his late son, the Lester Petrillo Memorial Fund for Disabled Musicians is a charitable trust fund that provides financial aid to disabled members. This fund is not intended to replace health insurance or provide general loans, but does supply modest amounts of assistance to qualified applicants on an emergency basis.

The Trustees have complete discretion in determining eligibility and amount of the benefit, except that no benefits shall be paid to or on behalf of a person who is not physically or mentally disabled (as that term is defined by the Trustees) and who is not a member in good standing of the AFM.

Locals are asked to forward applications, Local recommendations, and supportive medical documentation to the Office of the International Secretary-Treasurer for consideration. Members will receive only one benefit check in any calendar year. However, Local Secretaries may submit applications for assistance on behalf of members in subsequent years if needed.

If you are unable to work due to illness or disability, or know a member of Local 77-274 who fits this description, please contact this Local or call the Federation directly at (212) 869-1330, ext.236.

Local 77-274 Balance Sheet

March 31, 2026

Cash in Bank

PNC Money Market. $152,771.04

PNC Checking Account. $5,100.00

TD Bank Money Market. $3,536.05

Sun Federal Checking Account. $1,056.06

Sun Federal Savings Account. $10.00

Sun Federal Cert of Deposit. $312,860.41

TD Bank Checking. $309,055.69

Total Cash in Bank. $784,389.25

Investments at Fair Value

NY Life Securities LLC. $630,739.10

Total Current Assets. $1,416,633.04

Fixed Assets- Property & Equipment

Office (Academy House). $540,650.32

Furniture and Fixtures $12,973.31

Equipment $37,373.75

Accumulated Depreciation . . . . . ($110,640.41)

Total Fixed Assets

Property & Equipment. $480,356.97

Equity

Fund Balance. $1,762,498.10

Net Income Fiscal Year To Date. $133,456.48

Total Equity. $1,895,954.58

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Membership

New Members

1. Allaband, Dana • 254 Big Springs Rd, West Grove, PA 19390 • (570) 617-2774
   dana@dewstrings.com • Violin

2. Cross, Mary • 322 Lincoln Ave., Lawnside, NJ 08045 • (856) 701-0204
   marycrossmusic@gmail.com • Vocals

3. D'Annibale, Benjamin • 4817 Springfield Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19143 • (610) 812-5838
   bendaviddannibale@gmail.com • Harpsichord, Piano

4. Gibbs, Mika • 1963 University Blvd, Houston, TX 77030 • (913) 549-0894
   megibbs827@icloud.com • Violin

5. Goodner, Audrey • 11063 Tottenham Lane, Reston, VA 20194 • (571) 685-5148
   audreygviolin@icloud.com • Violin

6. Haskins, Daniel • 41 New Valley Road, New City, NY 10956 • (914) 522-6404
   haskinsmd@gmail.com • Percussion, Timpani

7. Huss, Samuel • 411 W. Cuthbert Bld., Haddon Township, NJ 08108 • (989) 600-4167
   sam.j.huss@gmail.com • Trumpet

8. Little, John • 194 St. Margaret Drive, Lexington, KY • (502) 445-2200
   jplittle2@aol.com • French Horn, Hand Horn

9. McCain, Daniel • 1924 N. Front Street, #406, Philadelphia, PA 19122 • (215) 800-4995
   bassmccain@gmail.com • Double Bass, Electric Bass

10. O'Mara, Jason M. • 4301 Washington Blvd, Wilmington, DE 19802 • (267) 679-4245
    jasonmomara@gmail.com • Saxophon (Alto, Tenor, Bari, Sopr), Clarinet (B-Flat, Bass, Eb), Flute, Piccolo,Oboe, English Horn

11. Pintoff, Madeleine • 15 West 72 St. Apt. 12J, New York, NY 10023 • (646) 707-1478
    mpintoff@aol.com • Viola

12. Solomon, Jordan • 310 Donna Drive, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462 • (267) 896-0566
    jordansolomon0509@gmail.com • Tenor Trombone, Bass Trombone

2026 Member Dues Price List

Annual Regular Member Dues: $200

Student Members: $100
Must be registered in an accredited school, college or university. When no longer a student, they convert to Regular Member without additional fees. Student Members have the same rights and obligations as Regular members, subject to all AFM and Local rules, regulations and Bylaws (Local/AFM fee waived).

Youth Members: $100
Applicants must be age 20 or younger. Youth Members have the same rights and obligations as Regular Members, subject to all AFM and Local rules, regulations and Bylaws (Local/AFM fee waived).

Life Members: $100
Minimum age requirement is 65 years old. Must have 35 cumulative years of AFM membership.

Activity

Reinstated

1. Bagala, Samuel
2. Brazoban, Jasyn
3. Cooper, Warren
4. DeVries, Douglas
5. Ertelt, Christopher
6. Grimm, John
7. He, Jiayin
8. Herz, Allison
9. King, Sybil
10. Loudis, Bradley Adam
11. Lyon, Steven C.
12. Marsalis, Rodney
13. Massey, Rachel
14. McNeill Jr., Karl
15. Numagami, Linda
16. Rosen, Joshua
17. Sheets, David
18. Tanenbaum, Jerry
19. Wenik, Nolan

Resigned

1. Battallan Cons, Esteban
2. Bilger, Angela Cordell
3. Chen, Yen Yu
4. Gullett, Derek
5. Harrison, Griffin
6. Hobbs Gardner, Cecelia
7. Holmes, Curtis
8. Krelove, Karl David
9. Kurtz, Lesa Hornaday
10. Law, Jonathan
11. Mele, Christopher
12. Neale, Joshua
13. Ritchie, Christopher
14. Rozanski, Tara
15. Saxton, Judith

Suspended

1. Allen, Ralph
2. Bracey, Floyd W.
3. Davol, Sarah R.
4. Desotelle, Joseph
5. Edwards, Renard
6. Haas, Jennifer C.
7. Hoegg, Jonathan
8. Joselin, Vilme
9. Kelberman, Jacob
10. Lorenzo, Jennie
11. Martinez, Omar
12. Oshima, Yumi
13. Posmontier, David J.
14. Preston, Gabriel
15. Reichert, Edward
16. Rice, Geraldine E.
17. Rose, Jonathan
18. Sadler, Madalyn
19. Shaw, Jonathan E.
20. Thymius, Gregory
21. Weatherspoon, Isaiah
22. Wilson, Lyndsie E.

Expelled

1. Atkinson, Dennis
2. Moran, Matthew
3. O'Reilly, Luke
4. Powell, James

Union History Fun Fact

In recent years the union sentiment has changed and the 2022 Gallup poll reported that 71% of the public supports the right to form a union.

New Member Spotlight

Mary Cross, Vocalist

Singer-songwriter, arranger, and producer **Mary Cross** has captivated audiences for more than 15 years with her rich contralto voice and heartfelt delivery. Drawing from gospel, jazz, classic soul, folk, and R&B traditions, she brings a timeless yet refreshing sound to every performance.

She is the founder of the Mary Cross Jazz Quartet/Quintet (MCJQ) and the Mary Cross 2NspireU 10-piece band, creating curated concert experiences while providing mentorship and performance opportunities for emerging artists in underserved communities.

Mary is a recipient of the NJPAC North2Shore Community Arts Award, which supports her self-produced Atlantic City concert series. Her artistry includes celebrated tribute performances honoring Phyllis Hyman, Nancy Wilson, Nina Simone, and Sarah Vaughan. She has released the jazz EP Sentimental Journey and the project Stepping 2Gether, with new music scheduled for release in May 2026.

On April 10, 2026, Mary will present *An Intimate Evening of Song* at the Edelman Fossil Park & Museum. She performs regularly at premier venues, including Eddie V's, and is available for concerts, private events, festivals, and special engagements.

Elisa Gibbs, Violin

Violinist **Mika Elisa Gibbs** is a rising senior at the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University, where she studies with Professor Kathleen Winkler and serves as her teaching assistant. In January 2026, Mika won the Philadelphia Orchestra's Section Second Violin Audition, marking a major milestone in her emerging professional career.

A distinguished orchestral and chamber musician, Mika has held multiple titled chairs in the Shepherd Chamber and Symphony Orchestras. She was also appointed concertmaster for the first official concert led by Resident Director of Orchestras Miguel Harth-Bedoya. Her collaborative artistry has been featured in chamber performances alongside renowned Shepherd School faculty members Kathleen Winkler and Timothy Pitts.

Mika made her solo debut with the Kansas City Symphony at the age of 17 and has since earned numerous honors and fellowships, including the Center for Orchestra Leadership Fellowship at the Aspen Music Festival and School (2025) and the Dorothy Richard Starling Foundation Fellowship at the Aspen Music Festival and School (2024).

Madeline Pintoff, Viola

Violist **Madeleine Pintoff** is currently pursuing her Master's Degree at The Juilliard School, where she studies with acclaimed violist Paul Neubauer and is expected to graduate in May 2026. She earned her Bachelor's Degree from Juilliard in 2024.

Madeleine has performed with both the Juilliard Orchestra and the Juilliard Lab Orchestra, demonstrating a strong commitment to orchestral and contemporary performance. Her festival appearances include the Lake George Music Festival, Music Academy of the West, the Music@Menlo Young Performers Program, and the Sarasota Music Festival.

In the coming weeks, Madeleine looks forward to performing as a substitute violist with the Philadelphia Ballet Orchestra and with the National Arts Centre Orchestra through its Mentorship Program.

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Committee Reports

Philadelphia Orchestra Update

By: Nate West, Members' Committee Co-Chair

The Philadelphia Orchestra enters the spring season following a dynamic and demanding winter period, which included domestic tours to Florida and the Midwest, as well as major performances of large-scale works such as Mahler's Symphony No. 2, Shostakovich's Symphony No. 6, Amy Beach's "Gaelic" Symphony, and Stravinsky's The Rite of Spring, among others. These performances serve as strong reminders of the value of the Orchestra's traditionally large complement of musicians, enabling it to present such expansive repertoire at the highest level.

In addition, the Orchestra has formally commenced collective bargaining agreement (CBA) negotiations in advance of the September 2026 expiration of the musicians' current contract. These negotiations represent the first under the leadership of Philadelphia Orchestra and Ensemble Arts' Chief Executive Officer, Ryan Fleur. The Orchestra has worked diligently to establish a collaborative and productive relationship with his leadership team. Although discussions remain in the early stages, the Members' Committee remains both optimistic and steadfast in its commitment to securing an agreement that supports the long-term future of this 125-year-old institution and its musicians.

Opera Philadelphia Update

By: Brooke Beazley, Orchestra Committee Chair

Opera Philadelphia's 2025–2026 season has continued to build strong momentum, with productions consistently selling out, receiving enthusiastic audience response, and earning critical acclaim both nationally and internationally.
December proved especially active, highlighted by the holiday concert Home for the Holidays, presented at the Wanamaker Building. The performance reached an expanded audience through its broadcast on WHYY, with simultaneous radio coverage on WHYY-FM and streaming availability via WHYY's Passport platform. Also in December, The Seasons by Vivaldi was performed to sold-out audiences. Both productions featured Opera Philadelphia's General Director, Anthony Roth Costanzo, in leading roles, further enhancing their artistic impact.

The season continued in January with the world premiere of Complications in Sue, underscoring Opera Philadelphia's ongoing commitment to the development of new works. This production also inaugurated a new partnership with Temple University, which will rAecord Complications in Sue alongside Sleepers Awake this spring for potential commercial release on Temple's BCM&D Records label.

In April, Opera Philadelphia presented the world premiere of Sleepers Awake, composed by Gregory Spears and distinguished by its prominent use of the Opera Philadelphia Chorus in a leading role. Performances were held at the Academy of Music on April 22, 24, and 26.

The season will conclude with the Philadelphia premiere of The Black Clown, composed by Davóne Tines. This innovative work integrates elements of gospel, opera, jazz, and spiritual traditions into a compelling theatrical experience. Performances are scheduled at the Miller Theater from May 14 through 17.

Opera Philadelphia will announce its 2026–2027 season on April 28, with considerable anticipation surrounding what promises to be another dynamic and engaging lineup.

Committee Reports

Philadelphia Ballet & Walnut Street Theatre Update

By: Rebecca Ansel, Local 77-274 Executive Board

The Philadelphia Ballet will conclude its 2025–2026 season in May with the beloved classic Romeo and Juliet. This production is particularly noteworthy, as it marks a world premiere by the Ballet's resident choreographer, Juliano Nunes. Audiences may anticipate a distinctive interpretation that brings renewed depth and emotional resonance to this enduring story of love, passion, and tragedy.

Looking ahead, the 2026–2027 season promises to be equally compelling. Two additional performances have been added, bringing the total number of performances to sixty-six. The season will open in October with Stars and Stripes Forever, followed by Dance at Great Velocity. The holiday season will feature the return of The Nutcracker, and Cinderella scheduled for March.

The season will conclude with Don Quixote in April and May, offering musicians, dancers, and audiences alike a richly varied and engaging artistic experience.

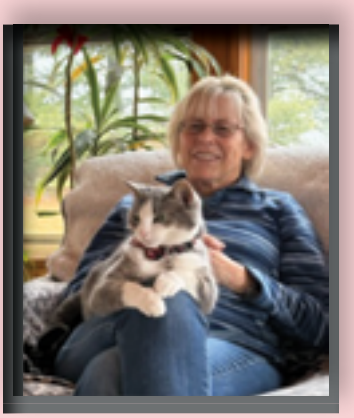
Shifting gears to musical theatre, the musicians of The Walnut Street Theatre are proud to conclude another successful and rewarding season, marked by artistic growth, meaningful collaboration, and a strong connection with audiences. Reflecting on the past year, they remain grateful for the opportunity to bring a diverse range of musical storytelling to life within one of the nation's most historic theatrical venues.

We are in production for 1776 The Musical, a production of particular significance in Philadelphia. The theatre is located just blocks from the site where the Constitution was signed nearly 250 years ago, lending a profound sense of historical context to this iconic work. Performing this piece in the city where these events unfolded carries unique resonance for both artists and audiences.

Looking ahead, the 2026–2027 season promises to be especially compelling, featuring a vibrant and varied musical lineup that balances beloved classics with contemporary favorites. The season will open in the fall with The Addams Family, followed by Frozen during the holiday season, offering a production rich in visual spectacle and broad audience appeal. The season will conclude with Come From Away, whose deeply moving and uplifting story highlights themes of humanity and connection.

With an exciting season on the horizon, the musicians look forward to continuing to share performances of the highest caliber with the community while building upon the rich tradition that defines The Walnut Street Theatre.

Committee Reports



Academy of Vocal Arts Update

By: Sunny Herz, Orchestra Committee Chair

The Academy of Vocal Arts (AVA) inaugurated its 2025–2026 season in November with The Marriage of Figaro, conducted by Joseph Colaneri. This lighthearted production featured distinguished double casts. AVA artists continue to achieve recognition in prominent national and international vocal competitions; most notably, Anna Thompson, who performed the role of Countess Almaviva in Figaro, was recently named a Grand Final winner in the Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition. Performances were presented at AVA's Helen Corning Warden Theater, as well as at Delaware Valley University, Lehigh University, and The Haverford School.

Bellini's infrequently performed I Capuleti e I Montecchi (Romeo and Juliet) was presented in February and March, marking the AVA debut of conductor Michelle Rofrano. All performances took place at AVA. The production featured prominent instrumental solos for horn (John Smith), oboe (Geoffrey Deemer), clarinet (John Diodati), cello (Vivian Barton), and harp (Maryanne Meyer), each rendered with exceptional artistry.

Rehearsals for Verdi's Falstaff, under the baton of Steven White, will commence shortly. Five performances are scheduled at AVA, with the final performance of the season to be held at The Haverford School's Centennial Hall.

AVA's traditional Jubilate concert of sacred music will not be presented this season. It is anticipated that conductor David Anthony Lofton will return in a future season to resume leadership of this valued tradition.

Union History Fun Fact

In 1894, 250,000 workers in the Pullman railroad line organized a strike to protest wages and treatment, but President Grover Cleveland responded with sending federal troops to prevent the strikers from obstructing the trains, and fights broke out between the soldiers and the strikers. After dozens of deaths, the army subdued the strikers and ended the strike, with the American Railway Union dissolving as its leaders were arrested for ignoring an anti-strike federal injunction.

General Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2025

President Trainer called the meeting to order at 4:35pm.

President Trainer read the meeting rules, protocols and voting rules aloud. Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci reported that a quorum was reached.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the meeting minutes from January 29, 2025 as submitted.

President Trainer delivered her address to the membership. Her address stressed the importance of the upcoming local election in Philadelphia, as well as the importance of local involvement. President Trainer stressed the importance of a Political Action Committee for Local 77, and reported that IATSE Local 8 has one of the largest PAC funds within their organization.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci presented the profit and loss report for February-April 2025. The total operational revenue was $214,138, which is divided between work dues ($174,688) and membership dues ($39,450). Expenses for Local 77 totaled $200,696, and the net income totaled $13,442. As of April 30, 2026 the total cash on hand was $675,137. He additionally reported that the investments with New York Life total $520,995. The assets of Local 77 total $1,196,132. Property and equipment, which include the Local 77 office total $504,258. The total net income for the current fiscal year (June '24–Apr '25) is $196,859. The equity of Local 77 totals $1,700,391.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci presented the membership status report as of May 15, 2026. Total membership of Local 77 is 780, which includes 23 suspended members and 757 active members. The membership activity summary from February 1, 2025–May 16, 2025 reflect the following: 18 new members; 23 reinstated members; 14 resigned members; 18 suspended members; 1 deceased member.

President Trainer welcomed guest speaker, and Local 77 member, Bob Coyle. Mr. Coyle is the former President of AFSCME District Council 47, Local 2187 which represents the professional employees in the City of Philadelphia. Mr. Coyle retired in 2020 and was appointed Director District Council 47's Employee Assistance Program. He spoke to the membership about the varying services he can offer, free of cost. He is a Pennsylvania notary public, a licensed public adjuster in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Maryland, and a licensed health insurance agent in the state of Pennsylvania. Mr. Coyle additionally spoke at length about his background, including his Doctorate in Psychology and his work as a licensed clinician specializing in substance abuse disorders since 1998. He offered his services to all members, and urged those who are interested to contact him directly, or the office of Local 77.

President Trainer reported on the Philadelphia Orchestra (POA). The POA recently welcomed Ryan Fleur as the new President and CEO of the Philadelphia Orchestra and Ensemble Arts. The Ensemble Arts Campus includes the Kimmel Center, Miller Theatre, and the Academy of Music. The POA will close out its season on June 8, 2026 with Wagner's Tristan und Isolde. Upcoming residencies include Vail, CO, Saratoga Springs, NY, and The Mann Music Center in Philadelphia. Musicians in the orchestra continue to work with management to fill vacancies in various sections. Currently there are vacancies in the Trumpet, Viola, Violin, and Keyboard sections. Next year, POA musicians will begin preparing for their next contract negotiation as the current agreement is set to expire in September, 2026.

Opera Philadelphia (OP) committee member Geoff Deemer presented the OP report. OP wrapped up its current season with Don Giovanni, which was completely sold out. He reported that the new OP "pick your price, pick your seat" initiative has been widely successful. This initiative offers all seats to any performance at the price of $11. This new program has been successful in bringing in patrons to see opera for the very first time. The current Collective Bargaining Agreement between Local 77 and OP is set to expire in August of 2025, and negotiations are currently underway. This negotiation will mark the first time that new Executive Director Anthony Roth Costanzo will be negotiating with the musicians of OP. Mr. Deemer reported that the '25–'26 season for OP will feature five productions, which is an increase from previous seasons.

Executive Board member and Philadelphia Ballet Orchestra committee chair Rebecca Ansel reported on the Philadelphia Ballet. The organization recently completed its '24-25 season. She reported that next season the ballet musicians will see an increase of 16% in the number of performances from the current season. The current agreement with ballet management is set to expire in August. Ballet management and Local 77 are currently in negotiations for a successor agreement.

Theatre Musicians' Association (TMA) Vice President Fred Weiss presented the TMA report. Mr. Weiss reported on the negotiations at the Walnut Street Theatre (WST). The current contract was ratified in December, 2024 and included a 15% increase in wages over three years, additional increases for

performing on stage, in costume, and additional increases for doubling. Among the larger contract achievements include the inclusion of language preventing the theatre from utilizing any musician replacement technology, doubling pay for guitarists utilizing modules, and the installation of a protective net over the orchestra pit. Mr. Weiss also reported on the ratification of a new contract with the Shubert Organization which included an 8% pay increase over three years, and a 4% retroactive increase payment for those who played the production prior to ratification.

Vice President Marjorie Goldberg reported on the No Name Pops (NNP). She reported that as of July 1, 2025, the NNP will officially be renamed the Philly Pops. Upcoming performances for the NNP will include July 3, 2025 in front of Independence Hall followed by a season of performances at the Kimmel Center and a number of performances in the surrounding suburbs. She reported that the organization has recently developed a relationship with the non-profit organization Artcinia, whos mission is to bring low cost programming to all.

Academy of Vocal Arts (AVA) Principal Oboist Geoff Deemer presented the AVA report. The AVA '24-'25 season concluded in May with L'amico Fritz. AVA is currently in the process of auditioning replacement Music Directors as their current and long time director Christofer Macatsoris is retiring. It was additionally reported that AVA is in the process of interviewing candidates for the contractor position, which has been held for many years by the concertmaster who is set to retire.

Orchestra Committee member Geoff Deemer reported on the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia (COP). He reported on two musicians who are set to retire from the COP at the end of the season and indicated that they will be celebrated both on and off the stage. Additionally, he reported that COP management has had difficulty with paying musicians on time. There have been numerous grievances filed against the employer by the Local. Mr. Deemer reported that next season will be the first season under the new leadership of Music Director David Hayes. The organization is additionally exploring opportunities to perform in spaces other than the Kimmel Center, in an effort to help defer operational costs.

Vice President Goldberg reported on the Music Performance Trust Fund (MPTF). To date, Local 77 utilized the entirety of its 2025 allotment of $46,000 and had been granted additional funding up to $104,000 which was utilized for free public performances by Local 77 members. She additionally reported the new fiscal year for MPTF began on May 1, 2025 and the allotment for Local 77 has increased by $10,000 to $56,000. VP Goldberg announced future dates that are funded at 100% by MPTF, and urged all interested members to apply.

Local 77 member and IDEAS Council Chairperson Laura Munich provided the IDEAS Council report. Ms. Munich additionally welcomed IDEAS Council members Jasyn Brazoban and Hiruy Tirfe to report on the recent organizing work that has been done regarding local freelance musicians in Philadelphia. Mr. Tife and Mr. Brazoban discussed the issues surrounding local jazz venues, as well as their work with fellow union and non-union musician colleagues as a part of the Philadelphia Musicians Coalition, an adhoc committee of freelance jazz and commercial artists working to improve labor standards for musicians.

Ms. Munich reported on the work that the IDEAS Council has done regarding the recognition of the former Black Musicians Protective Association, Local 274, AFM which had its charter revoked for failure to merge with Local 77 in 1971. Her report additionally included the history of local mergers that took place following the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Local 274's subsequent refusal to merge. Ms. Munich played several testimonial videos by current IDEAS Council members, and community stakeholders who are invested in the preservation of the legacy of Local 274 who are in favor of its recognition by petitioning the AFM International Executive Board for a merger of 77 and 274 (77-274). She outlined the next steps that the IDEAS Council will take to initiate the hyphenation process, which include a full membership vote and petition to the AFM International Executive Board.

President Trainer opened the meeting up for general questions and comments.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 6:41pm.

Union History Fun Fact

History repeated itself during the Colorado Coal Miners' Strike of 1913-1914. United Mine Workers (UMWA) miners struck against Rockefeller-owned companies over harsh conditions, low pay, and company control, culminating in the National Guard ending the strike by setting fire to the tents of the striking Colorado mine workers, killing dozens (including children). This horrified the nation and led to federal intervention and eventually ushered in progressive labor reforms.

Executive Board Minutes

January 12, 2026

President Trainer called the meeting to order at 10:20am.

Vice President Goldberg, Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci, Executive Board members Maria Dell'Orefice, and Nicole Jordan present.

The Executive Board minutes of December 22nd were reviewed, corrected, and approved.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci reported on the profit and loss statement as well as the balance sheet for December. A motion was made and seconded to approve the financial report.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci reported on the Local 77-274 membership status, and activity summary. To date, Local 77-274 has 803 members–797 active, and 6 suspended. There have been three new member applicants since the previous meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the three new member applicants.

A discussion was held regarding the union copy machine, which is no longer supported for repairs. The Executive Board decided that leasing a new machine, rather than purchasing one, was the more efficient move due to a variety of factors, including overall product lifespan. The union purchased the current machine in 2018 for $12,064, and in addition, has a monthly maintenance contract of $250 which includes all repairs as well as ink/toner replacements. This new lease agreement would be $341/mo, and would replace the current copier maintenance contract.

The Executive Board reviewed and approved all bylaw amendments that were presented as a result of the recent hyphenation from 77 to 77-274. This hyphenation allows for the addition of a Diversity and Alternate Diversity Delegate to the list of positions elected triannually.

A discussion ensued regarding the yearly membership dues to PhilaPOSH (Philadelphia Area Project for Occupational Health and Safety). A motion was made and seconded to pay $950, the same amount that was paid in 2025.

Executive Board member Nicole Jordan reported on the Philadelphia Orchestra (PO) media committee, and discussed current issues with media reporting to the Local.

A discussion was held regarding the engagement of a forensic accountant to do a financial analysis for the upcoming PO negotiation. A motion was made and seconded to approve an initial cap of $16,000. Fees beyond $16,000 will require Executive Board approval.

Executive Board member Nicole Jordan excused at 11:29am.

Vice President Goldberg presented a report compiled by Executive Board member Rebecca Ansel on the Philadelphia Ballet. The Ballet had recently completed its run of The Nutcracker. Next season, management will be adding another performance increasing the number to 35 for 2026.

Vice President Goldberg reported that management of the Philly Pops reached out to a recent partner who had posted an unsanctioned recording online without permission, and had the recording removed.

President Trainer reported on Opera Philadelphia (OP). OP recently finished their production of The Seasons. She additionally reported that there are ongoing meetings scheduled with the OP Joint Labor Committee.

Executive session entered from 11:36am–11:51am.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00pm.

January 30, 2026

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci called the meeting to order at 10:35am.

Vice President Goldberg, Executive Board members Maria Dell'Orefice, and Rebecca Ansel present.

A discussion was held regarding a request by the Philly Pops to utilize the Public Service section of the Local 77-274 Wage Scale Book for two engagements with Artcinia in the Spring of 2026.

Philly Pops Executive Director Matthew Koveal present at 10:43am.

Discussion regarding Articinia performances resumed.

ED Koveal excused at 11am.

It was determined that upon review by the Executive Board, of the proposed advertising language and its subsequent adherence to the guidelines in the Public Service section, a decision will be rendered.

The Executive Board minutes of January 12th were reviewed, corrected, and approved.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci reported on the Local 77-274 membership status, and activity summary. To date, Local 77-274 has 799 members–793 active, and 6 suspended. There have been

three new member applicants since the previous meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the three new member applicants.

The Executive Board reviewed the current list of members set to be suspended and expelled.

The Executive Board approved the waiving of any late fees assessed for member dues payments in transit, and postmarked by January 31, 2026.

Vice President Goldberg reported that she and Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci attended the 2026 Philadelphia AFL-CIO Conference that was held at Caesars in Atlantic City. The three-day event featured guest speakers, panel discussions, and breakout discussions involving a variety of aspects of the labor industry.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci reported that State Representative Gina Curry had reached out to the office inquiring about entertainment for her annual Black History Month fundraising event. In 2025, Rep. Curry had budgeted $350 while Local 77-274 sponsored the remaining funds totaling $503 for entertainment. The Executive Board discussed the possibility of contributing funds for their event this year, and inquired as to whether Rep. Curry can increase her budget to $500. Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci will report on this inquiry at the February 13th meeting.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci reported that the AFM-EPF has officially notified Local 77-274 of a routine audit. This audit is completed every five years. The AFM-EPF will examine the following from 2021-2025: W3 and W2 filings and supporting documentation; 941 filings, supporting documentation and relevant information; state unemployment filings; monthly payroll reports and check registers; 1096 and 1099 filings and supporting documentation; year end accounts payable and cash disbursement registers; monthly payroll reports and check registers.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci reported that the President of the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO, Angela Ferritto had inquired about entertainment for their upcoming state convention, which is slated to take place at the Sheraton Downtown Philadelphia. The Council has requested entertainment for their political action fundraising dinner on March 31, 2026 and their Honoree dinner on April 1, 2026. The Council is intent on filing a union contract and paying the appropriate rates per the Local Wage Scale Book.

The Executive Board reviewed a request from the International Conference of Symphony and Opera Musicians (ISCOM) governing board to endorse a resolution for the 2026 convention amending Section 4(c) of the AFM bylaws. Additional review and discussion is needed, and a decision will be voted on at the February 13, 2026 meeting.

Executive Board member Rebecca Ansel reported that Opera Philadelphia has begun rehearsals for their upcoming production, Complications in Sue, which runs through February 8, 2026 at the Academy of Music.

Executive session entered from 12:13pm–12:23pm.

A motion was made and seconded to approve Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci performing with the Philly Pops for an Artcinia engagement on March 15, 2026, and with Timberdale Brass for the University of Pennsylvania 2026 Commencement on May 17-18, 2026.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci reported that Local 77-274 had received official notice from the AFM that the 103rd Convention will commence on Saturday, June 20, 2026 at the Delta Hotels Ottawa City Centre, Ottawa, ON.

A discussion was held on the upcoming Diversity and Alternate Diversity Delegate Special Nomination Meeting, which is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, February 10, 2026.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 12:28pm.

February 13, 2026

President Trainer called the meeting to order at 10:02am.

Vice President Goldberg, Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci, Executive Board members Rebecca Ansel, Maria Dell'Orefice, and Nicole Jordan present.

The Executive Board minutes of January 30th were reviewed, corrected, and approved.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci reported on the profit and loss statement as well as the balance sheet from January. A motion was made and seconded to approve the financial report.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci reported on the Local 77-274 membership status, and activity summary. To date, Local 77-274 has 795 members–781 active, and 14 suspended. There has been one new member applicant since the previous meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the new member applicant.

The special nomination meeting held on Tuesday, February 10, 2026 for Local 77-274 Diversity and Alternate Diversity Delegate to the AFM Convention resulted in two elections by acclamation. The newly elected Diversity Delegate to the AFM Convention is Laura Munich, and the Alternate Diversity Delegate is Jasyn Brazoban.

A discussion was held on a resolution drafted by the International Conference of Symphony and Opera Musicians (ICSOM) regarding a bylaw amendment at the upcoming 103rd AFM Convention. The ICSOM governing board has asked locals to support their resolution that would amend the strike fund language in the AFM bylaws. It was determined that more information from the governing board was needed before Local 77-

274 could support the resolution in its current form.

The Executive Board discussed a resolution that had been drafted from the Eastern Conference of Locals regarding the Federation replacing and updating the current membership software that is used for local officers. The Executive Board approved supporting the resolution.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci presented a proposal from Open Tier Systems to replace the current phone system in the office. The current system is outdated and needs to be replaced. The current system costs $375 monthly and the new system will lower the cost to $169 per month.

The Executive Board discussed the advertising language sent by the Philly Pops for their requested performances utilizing the public service rate with Artcinia. Upon review of the language, the requested dates for which the public service rate would be used was approved.

Vice President Goldberg reported that the Philly Pops will be presenting a sensory-friendly program in March. She additionally reported that the pre-negotiation survey had been completed by the musicians and the negotiating committee is set to begin bargaining.

Executive Board member Rebecca Ansel reported that the Philadelphia Ballet is set to begin a two-week run of The Merry Widow which will take place at the Academy of Music from March 5-15, 2026. The next season was just announced, which will have an increase in the total amount of services for all musicians. On March 9, 2026 there will be auditions for section viola, and on March 10, 2026 there will be auditions for Principal 2nd and Assistant Principal 2nd violin.

Vice President Goldberg reported on Opera Philadelphia (OP). OP just concluded their run of Complications in Sue at the Academy of Music. The performances were well attended.

A discussion was held on the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia (COP). Local 77-274 recently filed another grievance for late payment. Since filing the grievance, all musicians have been paid.

Executive Board member Nicole Jordan reported on the Philadelphia Orchestra (POA). The POA are currently in rehearsals for their upcoming Florida tour. Local 77-274 and POA management are set to begin negotiations at the end of the month.

President Trainer reported that she has a meeting scheduled with representatives from the Shubert Organization as Local 77-274 prepares to enter negotiations.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci presented an analysis done by the accountants regarding the payroll service fee for Playcheck77, Inc. A discussion was held regarding the fee structure, and whether or not Local 77-274 could entertain the possibility of lowering the payroll fee which is currently set at 25%. Further discussion is required following the additional questions posed by the board regarding the payroll fee.

A motion was made and seconded to approve Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci performing with the Philly Pops on March 26, 2026.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30am.

February 25, 2026

President Trainer called the meeting to order at 3:33pm.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci, Executive Board members Rebecca Ansel, and Nicole Jordan present.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci reported on the Local 77-274 membership status, and activity summary. To date, Local 77-274 has 795 members–782 active, and 13 suspended.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci reported that the new website has launched with success. There are minor adjustments to be made as members begin to customize their profile pages.

The Executive Board held a discussion regarding a date for the Spring membership meeting. Three possible dates were chosen, and the final decision will be made at the March Executive Board meeting.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci reported that Local 77-274 is in need of new merchandise. A motion was made and seconded to approve $5500 for new long sleeve black shirts.

The new shirts will feature the Local 77-274 logo on the front breast pocket area, and the back will have printed "Philadelphia Musicians' Union, Local 77-274 AFM Art is Labor". A request for pricing will be sent to the union printer, and an order will be placed in the coming days.

The Executive Board discussed the upcoming Marian Anderson Museum Gala, which is scheduled to take place at the Crystal Tea Room on Sunday, March 1, 2026. The Marian Anderson Museum has engaged Local 77-274 musicians.

Executive Board member Rebecca Ansel reported that the Walnut Street Theatre management has reached out to the office of Local 77-274 regarding the upcoming production of 1776 where they are having both the musicians and stagehands in costume.

Executive Board member Ansel reported that the Philadelphia Ballet begins rehearsals for The Merry Widow on Tuesday, March 3, 2026. The program is scheduled to run from March 5-15, 2026 at the Academy of Music. She additionally reported on the upcoming auditions for violin and viola that are

scheduled to take place on March 9-10, 2026.

Executive Board member Ansel reported on the Philly Pops. The Pops recently performed an event at the Franklin Institute for their new Universal ™ exhibit. She additionally reported that the Pops are preparing for an upcoming performance at Rowan University on Saturday, March 14, 2026 which is titled Blockbusters in the'Burbs!

President Trainer reported on the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia (COP). The pension fund recently notified COP that they have ten days to pay their outstanding balance, or face expulsion from the fund. Currently, COP owes the pension fund more than $52K payments dating back to 2023. Local 77-274 and the COP Orchestra Committee met with the musicians in the orchestra to discuss the future of the organization, and to determine whether or not they would be willing to donate their services for a fundraising concert.

President Trainer reported on the Academy of Vocal Arts (AVA). AVA is currently in production of I Capuleti e i Montecchi, which runs February 28–March 7, 2026. She additionally reported that AVA management has recently inquired about using archival footage. AVA management is in conversation with the Federation regarding the appropriate processes in utilizing archival footage.

Executive Board member Nicole Jordan reported on the Philadelphia Orchestra (POA). The POA just returned from a Florida tour. Local 77-274 and POA management are set to begin negotiations on Friday, February 27, 2026. She additionally reported that they are preparing for first violin auditions which will be taking place in the coming week.

Executive session entered from 4:33pm–4:43pm.

A motion was made and seconded to approve spending $384.79 to help offset the cost of entertainment at Representative Gina Curry's annual Black History Month fundraiser.

A motion was made and seconded to approve President Trainer playing a production of Distant Worlds: music from FINAL FANTASY at the Academy of Music on Saturday, March 21, 2026.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 4:48pm.

March 13, 2026

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci called the meeting to order at 10:16am.

Vice President Goldberg, Executive Board members Rebecca Ansel, Maria Dell'Orefice and Nicole Jordan present.

The Executive Board minutes of February 13th and 25th were reviewed, corrected, and approved.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci reported on the profit and loss as well as the balance sheet from Local 77-274 for the month of February. He additionally reported on the profit and loss as well as the balance sheet for the payroll service, Playcheck77, for the calendar year 2025.

President Trainer present at 10:58am.

A motion was made and seconded to approve both financial reports.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci reported on the Local 77-274 membership status, and activity summary. To date, Local 77-274 has 799 members–790 active, and 9 suspended. There have been four new member applicants since the previous meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the four new member applicants.

The Executive Board discussed whether or not Local 77-274 should purchase an advertisement in the 103rd AFM Convention commemorative booklet. Upon discussion, the board voted against purchasing an advertisement for this year.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci presented a cyber security proposal from Open Tier Systems to protect the server and other sensitive data in the Local 77-274 offices. This managed IT proposal includes cybersecurity and remote monitoring and protection. Secretary-Treasurer urged the board to consider approving the proposal, which would incur a monthly fee of $172.80. The board will revisit and vote on the proposal at the next meeting.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci reported that the PhilaPOSH annual Workers' Memorial Breakfast is slated to be held in April. The Executive Board discussed whether or not to send a representative to attend as they have in the past. The Executive Board approved offering musical services for the event.

The Executive Board discussed possible times for the upcoming general membership meeting, which is scheduled for April 29, 2026. The meeting will take place in a hybrid style format at 5pm. The board will revisit refreshment options following the RSVP count.

The Executive Board discussed an informal poll regarding the acquisition of new short- sleeved shirts. A motion was made and seconded to approve spending up to $5300 for short-sleeved shirts.

Executive Board member Rebecca Ansel reported on the Walnut Street Theatre (WST). The WST is set to begin their upcoming production of 1776, which is expected to run from April 13 - May 31, 2026. WST management had originally planned to have the musicians ride the stage lift into the pit from the stage, but had decided not to move forward and instead opted to install protective netting over the orchestra pit.
Executive Board member Ansel reported on the Philadelphia Ballet. The Ballet recently held auditions and hired two new violists. A discussion was held

regarding the location of the auditions as well as the process and its efficiency. Auditions were held at Settlement Music School. The Ballet is currently in the middle of a run of The Merry Widow.

Vice President Goldberg reported on the Philly Pops. The Pops held a sold out performance titled Blockbusters in the 'Burbs at Rowan University on Saturday, March 14, 2026. The Pops Brass Ensemble had a second performance on Sunday, March 15, 2026 in northeast Philadelphia in partnership with Artcinia. The Pops will be performing in front of Independence Hall on July 3, 2026 with special guest Idina Menzel. She additionally reported that in the Fall, the Pops will perform with Boyz II Men at the Mann Center. The Pops recently held a successful fundraiser where Broadway star Mandy Gonzalez was the special guest. Ms. Gonzalez will be the featured artist at the April 25, 2026 performance at the Kimmel Center.

Executive session entered from 11:54pm–12:02pm.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci reported on the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia (COP). The COP have recently submitted their initial payment of $15K to the pension fund as they work to begin their payment plan. COP management will be responsible for paying six equal installments, without missing a payment in order to avoid being removed from the pension fund for failure to pay their balance.

Executive session entered from 12:04pm–12:09pm.

Vice President Goldberg reported on The Academy of Vocal Arts (AVA). AVA recently completed four sold out performances of I Capuleti e i Montecchi, which ran from February 28–March 7, 2026.

Vice President Goldberg reported on the Shubert Organization (Forrest Theatre). A discussion was held on the two non-union tours that were programmed at the theatre for this season- Hadestown and Chicago. The venue agreement in place between Local 77-274 and the Shubert Organization was honored for Hadestown and local musicians were paid to walk, rather than perform. Chicago is scheduled to take place May 12-17, 2026 and the Shubert Organization has agreed to hire five musicians to augment the touring orchestra.

Executive Board member Nicole Jordan reported on the Philadelphia Orchestra (POA). The POA just finished a two-week run with Yannick, which included very successful performances of Mahler Symphony No. 2. Recently, three new members were granted tenure–two musicians in the cello section and one musician in the horn section. The recent first violin audition concluded with a no-hire. There are viola auditions scheduled in the coming weeks. The POA management and Local 77-274 recently began negotiations.

Executive session entered from 12:16pm–12:31pm.

A motion was made and seconded to affirm the informal poll from Friday, March 13, 2026 granting permission for Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci to perform with the Philly Pops on Saturday, March 14, 2026.

A motion was made and seconded to approve Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci performing Chicago at the Forrest Theatre from May 12-17, 2026.

President Trainer reported on the current status of Weeknights Live, the partnership between Local 77-274 and the City of Philadelphia. The City of Philadelphia has recently chosen to disband the partnership moving forward for 2026, in an effort to save on administrative costs. They additionally would like to take over payroll internally, and classify everyone as sub-contractors without a pension contribution. Local 77-274 representatives and city representatives are still in discussions in an effort to find a pathway forward.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 12:54pm.

March 31, 2026

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci called the meeting to order at 10:21am.

President Trainer, Vice President Goldberg, Executive Board members Rebecca Ansel, Maria Dell'Orefice and Nicole Jordan present.

The Executive Board was the focus of a presentation by Rick Carpenter of Open Tier Systems regarding a new managed IT security proposal. Local 77-274 has recently consulted Open Tier Systems regarding cyber security and technological vulnerability. Open Tier Systems currently provides telephone service for Local 77-274 and is additionally responsible for the current configuration of the local server room.

The Executive Board discussed a recent performance at the Academy of Music of the video game Final Fantasy, which took place on Saturday, March 21, 2026. This performance featured over sixty musicians and vocalists on stage, and the performance was nearly sold out.

Executive session entered from 10:42am–11:03am.

The Executive Board minutes of March 13th were reviewed, corrected, and approved.

Executive Board member Dell'Orefice excused.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci reported on the Local 77-274 membership status, and activity summary. To date, Local 77-274 has 799 members–791 active, and 8 suspended. There have been two new member applicants since the

previous meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the two new member applicants.

Secretary-Treasurer reported on the upcoming edition of the Local 77-274 newsletter, which is set to go to print in April.

A discussion was held regarding the purchase of new merchandise for the local, as the name and logo have recently changed. Northern Liberty Press has provided quotes for buttons, lapel pins (both magnetic and traditional), a table cloth, parade banner, and high gloss stickers.

A motion was made and seconded to approve spending up to $5,000 for new merchandise.

Executive Board member Ansel reported that the Walnut Street Theatre is preparing to open their upcoming production of 1776 The Musical which is running through May 31, 2026.

Executive session entered from 11:26am–11:33am.

President Trainer reported on Weeknights Live (WNL), which is an expanded initiative of Tuesday Nights Live (TNL). This program, created by the City of Philadelphia, put live music in locations (hotel lobbies, restaurants, and bars) across the city on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday nights. The TNL initiative utilized a single engagement contract while the WNL initiative did not. President Trainer reported that Local 77-274 has been in contact with several members of City Council regarding the recent decision.

President Trainer reported that representatives from the International Executive Board contacted Local 77-274 and requested to visit the Local Executive Board in person ahead of the upcoming 103rd AFM Convention as a part of their 'Listening Tour'. The Executive Board discussed the benefits of such a visit, and agreed to accept the invitation.

Vice President Goldberg reported on the Philly Pops. Recently, members of the Philly Pops traveled to Harrisburg, PA to perform inside the capital building for Arts Advocacy Day. Upcoming performances with the Pops include Mandy Gonzales at the Kimmel Center on April 25, 2026; Idina Menzel in front of Independence Hall on July 3rd; Performances at The Mann Center with Jerry Garcia, Boyz II Men, and Gregory Alan Isakov; one performance at the Met with St. Vincent.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci reported that Local 77-274 recently filed a grievance against the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia for late payment of work dues from their February series. This grievance follows a grievance that was sent in February for the late payment of work dues from the January series.

Executive Board member Dell'Orefice present at 12:22pm.

President Trainer reported on the Shubert Organization. Local 77-274 has sent the organization three communications that have gone unanswered regarding an upcoming production of Chicago at the Forrest Theatre in May, 2026. The theatre has engaged five local musicians and a contractor for the show, however, it is the position of Local 77-274 that the theatre be obligated to hire the full complement of musicians required to play the show rather than utilize the self-contained non-union touring musicians that are on tour with the production.

Executive Board member Nicole Jordan presented on the Philadelphia Orchestra (POA). The POA just concluded their midwest tour and are performing in Carnegie Hall today, March 31, 2026. Upcoming POA performances include the Great Stages Gala and the Mozart Requiem in April.

Executive session entered from 12:36pm–12:43pm.

Vice President Goldberg reported that the Federation has recently hired a new organizer, Alex Neiworth, and he is located in Philadelphia. Mr. Neiworth plans to visit the office and join Local 77-274.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci reported that the new charter for Local 77-274 had been taken to a local framing-store, along with the original charter from 1903. These two documents are being framed for display in the local office, and their anticipated completion date is April 13, 2026.

Secretary-Treasurer Antonacci reported that Local 77-274 has recently renewed its relationship with American Income Life (AAA), which provides an accidental death and dismemberment benefit of $3,000 to all active members in good standing. This notice of renewal has been sent to all members and is expected to arrive in mailboxes in the coming days.

He additionally reported that Local 77-274 members will be providing musical entertainment at two events for the upcoming Pennsylvania AFL-CIO Convention which is slated to take place at the Sheraton Downtown Philadelphia from March 30, 2026 to April 2, 2026.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 1:01pm.

UNFAIR

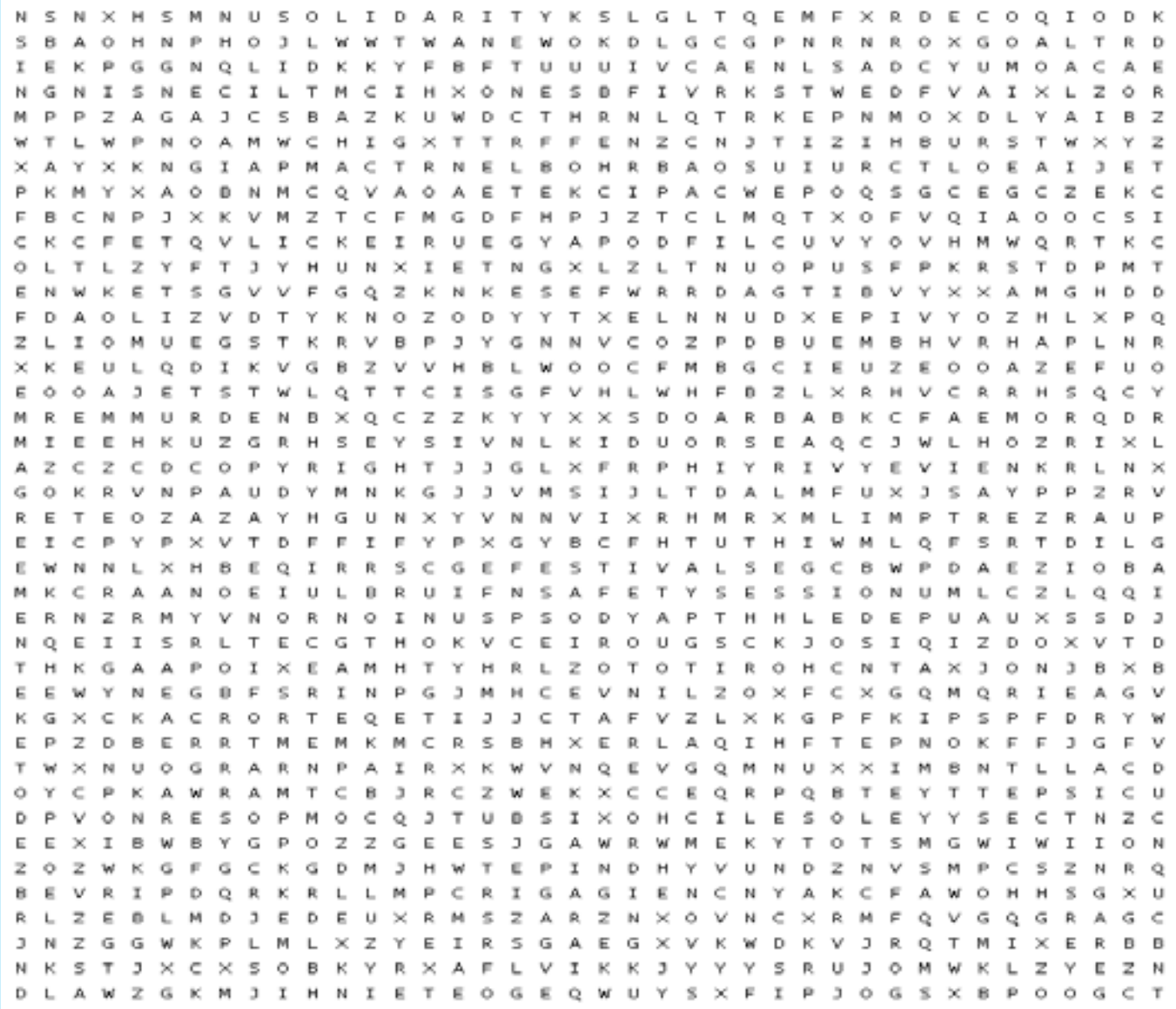
Karen Corbin, CEO; Encore Series, Inc.
Gina Coso, Jersey Gina Entertainment LLC

It is a violation of Article 8, Section 3 of the AFM Bylaws to work for an organization on the International Unfair List.

Article 8, Section 3: Members shall not render musical services for organizations, establishments, or people who are listed on the International Unfair List or for any other organization, establishment, or person who the member knew or reasonably should have known is owned or effectively controlled by an organization, establishment, or person listed on the International Unfair List. Any member who violates this Section shall be subject to penalties in accordance with Article 11, Section 13 [See Article 13, Section 4]

Please contact the Local 77-274 office if you are asked to play any engagement by an employer on the International Unfair List. Our strength is in our solidarity.

Labor Movement & Music Industry Word Search



Find the word in the puzzle

- *Words can go in any direction*
- *Words can share letters as they cross over each other.*

1. AGREEMENT
2. AMPLIFIER
3. ARRANGER
4. BALLOT
5. BARGAINING
6. BASSIST
7. BENEFITS
8. CAMPAIGN
9. COMPOSER
10. CONDUCTOR
11. CONTRACT
12. COPYRIGHT
13. DRUMMER
14. DUES
15. ENSEMBLE
16. EQUITY
17. FESTIVAL
18. GRIEVANCE
19. GUITAR
20. HARMONY
21. KEYBOARD
22. LICENSING
23. MELODY
24. MICROPHONE
25. MIXER
26. NEGOTIATION
27. ORCHESTRA
28. ORGANIZER
29. OVERTIME
30. PENSION
31. PERFORMANCE
32. PICKET
33. PLAYLIST
34. PRODUCER
35. RECORDING
36. REHEARSAL
37. RHYTHM
38. ROYALTIES
39. SAFETY
40. SESSION
41. SOLIDARITY
42. SOUNDTRACK
43. STEWARD
44. STREAMING
45. STRIKE
46. STUDIO
47. TOURING
48. UNION
49. VOCALIST
50. WAGES

The Philadelphia Musicians' Union, Local 77-274 AFM
is a proud member of the Philadelphia Council AFL-CIO