

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding Application

[Print](#)

Submitted by:

Status: Open

Assigned To: Jonathan Storage

Priority: Normal

Due Date: Open

Attachments

- [WVSO BoardResolutionLettersofSupport.pdf](#) - 2021-12-15 10:50:54 am
- [WVSO BoardResolutionLettersofSupport.pdf](#) - 2021-12-15 10:44:10 am



American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

Funding Application

Non-Profit, Community Groups, Neighborhood Associations, and Businesses

APPLICATION DEADLINE: December 15th 2021

Application must be completed in full to be considered. Applications may be submitted online using this fillable form. But forms and attachments may also be submitted by email to ARPA@cityofcharleston.org or by U.S. Mail to City Manager's Office, 501 Virginia Street East Charleston, WV 25301.

All requests for funding **must be directly related to COVID-19 mitigation or recovery efforts** and must fall within the parameters of at least one of the goals set by the treasury department along with other requirements listed within this application.

GENERAL INFORMATION

*** Name of Project/Program:**

Community Vibrancy Through Orchestral Music: the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra 2022-2023 Season

*** Organization Name:**

West Virginia Symphony Orchestra, Inc.

*** Address:**

4700 MacCorkle Avenue SE, Suite 101, Charleston, WV 25304

*** Primary Contact Person:**

Jessica Westfall

Title:

Development Director

* Phone:

3049579879

* Email:

jwestfall@wvsymphony.org

Federal Tax ID:

55-0339426

If applicable: DUNS Number:

16286686

To obtain a DUNS number please visit <https://fedgov.dnb.com/webform> After obtaining, please register your organization with the System for Award Management at <https://sam.gov/SAM/>

List the organization’s owner(s), Board of Directors, senior staff members, and other key members:

WVSO Board of Directors Chair: Cindy S. McGhee (Wealth Advisor, Buckingham Strategic Wealth) Secretary: The Honorable Jim Douglas (Family Court Judge, Eleventh Family Court Circuit, West Virginia) Treasurer: Tim Quinlan (Executive Vice President, Retail Banking, City National Bank) Members: Gene Bailey (Attorney, Hendrickson & Long PLLC), Thomas Bailey, Patrick A. Bond, Julie Chinchek (Partner, Bowles Rice), Jack Dever (Chief Technology Officer, MATRIC), Stephen P. Dexter(retired, CEO, Thomas Health), Ryan Donovan (Attorney, Hissam Forman Donovan Ritchie, PLLC), John Elliot (CEO & President, American Medical Facilities Management), Laura D. Ellis (retired, United Bank), A.L. Emch (Counsel, Jackson Kelly PLLC), Sharon O. Flanery (Member, Chair, Energy & Natural Resources Dept., Steptoe & Johnson, PLLC), Dr. Daniel S. Foster, Dr. John L. Fuller, Skip Gebhart, Craig Glover (President/CEO, FamilyCare Health Centers), Priscilla Haden, Emily Hopta (WVDHHR, Office of Communications), Stephen M. Hopta, Esq.; Keith Jackson (Dean of the College of Creative Arts, West Virginia University), Ruth Joseck, Dr. Steven J. Jubelirer (MD, Hematology/Oncology, Charleston Area Medical Center), Michael L. Klausing (President, West Virginia Symphony Chorus), Adam Krason (Principal, ZMM Architects & Engineers), Richard Lewis, II (Member, Steptoe & Johnson, PLLC); Charles M. Love, III (Counsel, Bowles Rice); Emilie Love (Vice President, Executive Banking Officer, United Bank), Sallie McClaugherty, Callen McJunkin, Rebecca R. McPhail (President, West Virginia Manufacturers Association), Pat Moyers, Shelia Neal, Mary Ann Osbourne (Chairman, West Virginia Symphony Orchestra – Parkersburg), Randall Reid-Smith (Curator, West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture & History), Melissa Ruddle (Chair, Clay Center Board of Directors), Dr. Francis Saldanha (MD, Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Francis M. Saldanha Clinic), Patricia Schumann (Vice President for University Advancement, West Virginia State University), Yolanda Tam (Managing Member, Executive Benefits & Estates), Andrew Teeter (Senior Vice President, USI Insurance Services), N. Andrew Vaughan (MD, Cardiology, Associate Professor, Marshall Health), Phil Washington (spokesperson, West Virginia Lottery, adjunct faculty, West Virginia State University) Senior Staff Members President: Joe Tackett Music Director: Lawrence Loh Vice President of Operations: Betty King

Describe any partner organizations, their roles, and your relationship with them:

- The Charleston Ballet: annual co-production of The Nutcracker.
- International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, Local 136: contracted stagehand and technical support for full WVSO season and add-on events.
- West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History: helps provide a direct link between the WVSO and West Virginia artists who provide programmatic support for Symphony Sunday. Partner in presenting annual Young People's Concerts at The Culture Center.
- The Clay Center for Arts & Sciences of WV: official performance hall of the WVSO. The WVSO contracts a minimum of 10 concerts within the Maier Foundation Performance Hall every season as well as payment for the use of the Grand Lobby, Walker Theater, use of the Founder's Lounge, and other areas of the Clay Center for WVSO events.
- West Virginia Public Broadcasting: close partner of the WVSO providing general marketing support, contracting commercial time, airing monthly rebroadcasts of Symphony concerts, and most recently, producing aired television concerts of the WVSO (during the pandemic).
- Fund for the Arts (FFA): service organization providing financial and operational support to member arts organizations. FFA also provides marketing support throughout the WVSO season.
- West Virginia Youth Symphony (WVYS): official youth orchestra partner to the WVSO. Partnership includes gifted office space from the WVSO to the WVYS, several WVYS performances with the WVSO annually, and a close relationship with the WVSO String Partnership Program in Kanawha County.
- Ticket Town: ticket partner of the WVSO, Ticket Town provides tickets to children and youth groups to experience Symphony concerts with an emphasis on serving underserved and/or underrepresented groups.
- WCHS, WSAZ, WOWK, Charleston Gazette-Mail: media partners of the WVSO providing marketing and feature story support allowing the WVSO to reach a wider audience.
- Kanawha County String Education Partnership: with assistance from Kanawha County Schools, the WVSO administers its String Education Program in elementary, middle, and high schools in Kanawha County. Students can loan an instrument (bass, cello, viola, or violin) and necessary equipment for the school year while receiving free instrument instruction at their school from musicians in the community including WVSO musicians.
- Andrew & Amy Vaughan Fellowship: competitive annual learning fellowship for selected high school student offering a season of intensive music study with a WVSO musician.
- Symphony Sunday partners, the following community groups assist with the annual free event:
- University of Charleston: official grounds partner
- West Virginia Symphony League Committee: volunteer committee dedicated to providing logistical, financial, programmatic, and volunteer support
- The Tamarack Foundation for the Arts: programmatic support
- Sound Rental Service: logistical support
- FestivALL: logistical and marketing support

Kanawha Valley Community Band: Symphony Sunday performing ensemble • The Brass Band of the Tri-State: Symphony Sunday performing ensemble • The Kanawha Kordsmen: Symphony Sunday performing ensemble • Charleston Metro-Band: Symphony Sunday performing ensemble • St. George's Orthodox Church: Symphony Sunday concession vendor • Ellen's Homemade Ice Cream: Symphony Sunday concession vendor • Mountain State Beverage: Symphony Sunday concession vendor • The Shape Shop: Symphony Sunday concession vendor • Cat-a’s Jewelry: Symphony Sunday artisan vendor • Purple Ferret Photos: Symphony Sunday artisan vendor • Hep Catz Design: Symphony Sunday artisan vendor • Cleanse Crafters: Symphony Sunday artisan vendor • Notorious Notions: Symphony Sunday artisan vendor • Bead Girl: Symphony Sunday artisan vendor

BUDGETARY OVERVIEW - Must match Budget Worksheet

* Funds Requested	* Total Program/Project Cost	Annual Organization Budget
200,000.00	892,272.00	2,453,759.00

Request Summary

1. Provide a narrative overview/summary of the request.

Topics that may be included but not limited to:

- a. Purpose and anticipated outcomes
- b. Individuals, entities, or communities served
- c. How the pandemic has necessitated this request
- d. Amount of any estimates and bids received to date
- e. Timeline for project completion

Attach any additional information such as bids, concepts, designs, letters of support, etc. If submitting electronically the documents must be in PDF, Excel, or Word format and total file size must not exceed 10 megabytes.

Program/Project Details

* 1. The funding will be used to:

- ☐ Start a new program/project
- ☐ Maintain an existing program/project
- ☒ Expand an existing program/project

* 2. If funded, will the program/project be completed within FY 2022?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

If no, when is expected completion year?

FY2023 (June 30, 2023)

3. Which eligible ARPA Expenditure Category does this program/project represent (See <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRF-Compliance-and-Reporting-Guidance.pdf> for further details)? Please check all that apply:

*

- ☐ Public Health
- ☒ Negative Economic Impacts
- ☒ Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities
- ☐ Premium Pay
- ☐ Infrastructure
- ☐ Other

4. Briefly describe the program/project funds are being requested for:

The West Virginia Symphony Orchestra respectfully requests \$200,000 in support of its 2022-2023 season. Use of the funds will be applied to expenses of 6 symphonic and 4 pops concerts that occur in Charleston, WV, the annual co-production of The Nutcracker, as well as the annual free community event, Symphony Sunday. With ARP funding from the City of Charleston, the WVSO will not only maintain its existing programs, but will schedule special outreach ensemble performances serving the West Side of Charleston. We recognize this geographic area represents a population often overlooked or with limited access to orchestral programming and strongly desire to reach them through

concerted effort. Through ARP granted money, the City of Charleston would serve as the primary sponsor in making this effort possible and would be acknowledged as such.

5. Describe the need for this program/project:

The WVSO is the only professional orchestra within Charleston and Kanawha County and is widely considered the state's orchestra. Serving all West Virginians, the WVSO is the only large-scale organization providing professional orchestral music through its entertaining concert and enriching educational programming. The largest employer of artists in the state, the WVSO enriches not only the lives of West Virginians but also makes a tremendous impact to the local economy. The WVSO symphonic and pops concert series alone provide more than \$51,000 to Charleston hotels and \$22,000 to Charleston restaurants from WVSO musicians coming to town during the season. On average, every concert puts \$30,000 each into the coffers of local restaurants and local hotels with WVSO patrons enjoying a night in Charleston. For a season, this equals an estimated \$673,000 generated for Charleston's economy by patrons attending and musicians playing in a WVSO concert. This conservative estimate represents only the symphonic and pops concerts. Support from the City of Charleston through its American Rescue Plan funding will provide the WVSO with financial security originally limited by the setbacks of the pandemic so that programming is ensured for the community. This support will not only ensure success of the WVSO but continue generating much-needed economy in Charleston. Beyond the economic impact the WVSO provides to Charleston, the organization strongly believes in reaching underserved communities. With ARP funding provided by the City of Charleston, the WVSO will take small ensembles to the West Side community for music experiences. This geographic area represents some of Charleston's most marginalized citizens. Knowing that music has a strong ability to uplift, foster creativity, and can lead to the broadening of opportunities and horizons, the WVSO desires to positively impact this community with the assistance of the City of Charleston. Ultimately, when all citizens are served, our community becomes an infinitely richer and more diverse one.

6. List other Charleston organizations in Charleston that address this need:

The WVSO is the only professional orchestral organization in Charleston and is considered the region's premier performing arts organization.

7. Describe the level of collaboration with other organizations on this program/project:

The WVSO works closely with other arts organizations in the area. A full listing of partner organizations is included previously in the application. The WVSO works with a number of organizations to better reach and serve the community, including FestivALL, Ticket Town, and Fund for the Arts. Marketing partners help spread the message of the organization including all local news stations and the Charleston Gazette-Mail. A number of organizations help us with logistical and operational support including the Clay Center, IATSE Local 136, and the West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History. Partnerships with local institutions of higher learning, including Fairmont State University, Marshall University, West Virginia State University, and West Virginia University, lead to student performance collaborations and a reduced or free student price for entry to concerts. The WVSO also values collaboration between other arts organizations in order to foster a more diverse community. Recent collaborations include: The Charleston Ballet, The Academy of Arts at January's, FOOTMAD, Kanawha Valley Metro Band, The Brass Band of the Tri-State, The Kanawha Kordsmen, Charleston Metro-Band, and the West Virginia Youth Orchestra.

8. How will duplication of services be prevented?

The WVSO's programming cannot currently be duplicated by any organization in the area. With an 83-year history, dedicated and professional staff, a diverse board of community leaders, highly skilled musicians, and a devoted patron base, the WVSO provides the area with an unsurpassed orchestral music experience creating vibrancy within the community.

Program Requirements and Objectives

1. Identify the target recipients of proposed services. Specify the number of City residents the program will serve during the fiscal year and explain the basis upon which this number is calculated.

While the WVSO strives to serve all West Virginians, it recognizes the special relationship with the immediate community. We provide unique experiences for local citizens through a variety of events and cater to the proximity of Charleston residents. The WVSO offers experiences for all age groups with diverse and widely appealing programming. While exact demographics are not available, a conservative estimate places City of Charleston residents within 40% of all WVSO patrons based upon known patron addresses available in the WVSO patron database. The WVSO recognizes the further significant impact to Charleston's economy by bringing patrons to the city and estimates 70% of WVSO patrons to be living within the Metro Valley.

2. List any eligibility requirements the program has with respect to age, gender, income, or residence.

The WVSO symphonic and pops concert series, co-production of The Nutcracker, and Symphony Sunday are presented without eligibility requirements. Orchestral concerts are open to all, and partnerships exist to present tickets for those in underserved neighborhoods or organizations. The WVSO specifically programs and markets its concerts and events to a variety of patrons from differing ages, genders,

incomes, and residences. Through recent introspection by our newly formed Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee, the organization has strategized ways to reach underserved audiences and is taking steps to ensure inclusion.

3. If this is a continuing activity, describe a measurable outcome of the previous year's work regardless of funding source.

The WVSO has hopes that the 2022-2023 season will represent a return to pre-COVID audience numbers. At the beginning of the 2021-2022 season, the WVSO, with consideration to national trending figures, budgeted for a reduced audience reluctant to return to public performances. Initial national estimates indicated a loss of 30-50% of ticket sales. Recently, amid COVID variants and public concern for safety, many orchestras have seen a decline in audience attendance including the Philadelphia Orchestra who reported a 50% average loss in concert hall attendance. The WVSO has enjoyed happier rates with a community eager to enjoy concerts. As of early December 2021, the WVSO experienced a return of 75% of the previous patron base. Should audience participation rates continue to rise, the 2022-2023 season could show a return to full hall capacity and assist with generating precious lost income caused by the pandemic. Still, with recent unknowns and caution being the model, the WVSO considers maintaining 75% of its regular concert attendance in the 2022-2023 season to be an indicator of success.

4. If this is a new program describe two anticipated measurable outcomes for the proposed program.

The expansion of current programming to specially serve the West Side of Charleston is an important program for the WVSO. Having identified a lack of diversity within our organization in early 2020, we took immediate steps to foster inclusion. Board members of color were immediately appointed, we formed partnerships with diverse organizations within the community, and we prioritized programming diverse composers and guest artists. These steps serve not only the internal organization but the external audience as well. Charleston's West Side largely represents the most diverse group of citizens in the community. It also represents an area met with hardship, lack of opportunity, and an underserved population. In keeping with the WVSO's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion initiatives, programming within the West Side community will create a bridge for the citizens to access professional music. Our hope is to increase our audience diversity to a 75/25% ratio. This figure represents a race makeup closer to the latest US Census findings for Charleston where 77% of the population identified as white alone while 23% of the population identified as being another race. Outreach to the West Side will hopefully build a friendship allowing its citizens the comfort to attend WVSO events while feeling welcome and included. Another measurable outcome we hope to achieve through providing programming within the West Side of Charleston is a greater connection to its schools. During the 2021-2022 season the WVSO held an event at Mary C. Snow West Side Elementary School and specifically invited the same students to a concert at the Culture Center as a follow-up. These events were successful in introducing a diverse group of students to orchestral music. Through community programming and strategized programming for students located on Charleston's West Side, the WVSO hopes to foster inclusion within its organization and community.

Budget

* 1. Has the organization received funding from the City of Charleston in the past for a similar program/project?

☒ Yes ☐ No

* 2. Has the organization requested funding from other Federal, State, or Local government entities for any program/project support related to COVID-19?

☒ Yes ☐ No

3. If yes, explain from which entities and the amounts requested for each program/project.

The City of Charleston has historically supported the annual event Symphony Sunday with the WVSO. This support has remained steady at \$10,000 for the event with recent renewals during 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2021. Note, the 2020 event was cancelled due to the pandemic and previously awarded funding was held until the 2021 event. In August of 2020 the WVSO received CARES Act support through the Division of Culture & History totaling \$20,590. Additional CARES Act funding was received in January 2021 totaling \$50,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts and \$10,295.00 from the State of West Virginia. Additionally, the WVSO received Paycheck Protection Program support through the CARES Act totaling \$166,000 in March 2021 and \$75,300 in April 2021, both of these loans were forgiven. Lastly, during quarters three and four, the WVSO received an Employee Retention Credit totaling \$87,513. These funds received through the CARES Act total \$409,698 in support of the WVSO's annual \$2.4 million dollar budget.

4. List any other Federal, State, Local, or private funding or grant awards received in the last three years and the amount and status of each award.

Audits are available upon request (could not attach due to file size limitations). Please call primary contact if further information is needed.

5. Briefly summarize project revenues and expenses related to this request. This should coincide with the budget worksheet.

The WVSO requests \$200,000 in support from the City of Charleston’s ARPA funding to aid in meeting its \$892,272 budget for symphonic and pops concerts and events in Charleston. We request this support only for events in Charleston and not in consideration of the WVSO total \$2,453,759 season budget. The entirety of the requested \$200,000 will be directed to musician salaries thus directly tied to the return of dollars to Charleston from working, and spending money, in town for WVSO events.

6. If this request is not fully funded, what adjustments to the program/project is the organization prepared to make?

The WVSO entered the 2021-2022 season with a reduced budget anticipating financial setbacks caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Should requested funding not be fully funded the organization is prepared to scale back its budget for the 2022-2023 season appropriately but does not have plans to reduce any of its current programming. One such cut could be to reduce the size of the orchestra thereby reducing payroll, incurring less travel, per diem, and other costs associated with employing musicians. This cut would have an immediate negative impact on Charleston’s local hotel and restaurant economy as less employed musicians equals less dollars spent in town. Without ARP funding through the City of Charleston, the WVSO would be unable to provide special programming for Charleston’s West Side. Special marketing and offers would continue for the area but the WVSO would financially be unable to justify the cost of programming without support.

7. Describe the plan for sustainability of the program/project or initiative after the requested award has been exhausted.

The WVSO’s dedicated staff maintains relationships with area businesses, organizations, and individuals to build its sponsorship and fundraising base. Our organization is blessed to have generous patrons, but we recognize the importance of continually adding patrons to the umbrella of the organization. The WVSO has worked diligently to diversify its programming to appeal to a wider audience to be a relevant and inclusive organization. Changes include more music by composers of color, diversifying pops programing, such as movie concerts like “Jurassic Park” and a concert of music from Harry Potter vs. Star Wars. Beyond being the moral thing to do, this initiative is business savvy in helping to bring on patrons new to orchestral music through new experiences. In addition to our fundraising efforts, we continue to stay abreast of all available grant and foundation support. The organization is also benefitted by its diverse Board of Directors made up of influential and dedicated community leaders representing various fields of business. These volunteer members work tirelessly to ensure success of the WVSO in all ways.

8. Briefly describe the organization’s fiscal oversight / internal controls to minimize opportunities for fraud, waste, and mismanagement.

The Finance Committee of the WVSO Board of Directors meets monthly to review financials. Further, the WVSO submits to an annual independent audit by an outside accounting firm.

9. How does your agency plan to separate ARPA funds from other agency funds for purposes of identification, tracking, reporting and auditing?

Income and expenses are separated by “class” for tracking and reporting purposes. Each concert/event is a separate class.

REQUESTED BUDGET WORKSHEET
Revenue Source Projections

List all Estimated Funding for this Program/Project

* Proposed City ARPA Funding	Internal/Self-Funding
200,000	364,584
Donations/Other Fundraising	Government Grants/Other
268,630	59,058
* TOTAL REVENUE	
892,272	

Expenses Projections

List all Estimated Expenses for this Program/Project

Salaries/Wages

Amount Requested from City	Amount from Other Sources	Total Estimated Expenses
200,000	173,826	373,826

Benefits & Matchings

Amount Requested from City	Amount from Other Sources	Total Estimated Expenses
0	225,547	225,547

Contracted Services

Amount Requested from City	Amount from Other Sources	Total Estimated Expenses
0	226,442	226,442

Program Materials

Amount Requested from City	Amount from Other Sources	Total Estimated Expenses
0	33,344	33,344

Marketing

Amount Requested from City	Amount from Other Sources	Total Estimated Expenses
0	33,113	33,113

Supplies

Amount Requested from City	Amount from Other Sources	Total Estimated Expenses
0	0	0

Other

Amount Requested from City	Amount from Other Sources	Total Estimated Expenses
0	0	0

Total Expenses

* Amount Requested from City	* Amount from Other Sources	* Total Estimated Expenses
200,000	692,272	892,272

NOTE: Revenues and Expenses must balance, and the use of requested funds must be directly related to COVID-19 recovery efforts.

Organizational Details

1. Describe the history of the organization and its current programs and activities.

Founded in 1939, the WVSO is West Virginia’s premier source of professional orchestral music, typically serving a multi-generational audience of about 40,000 people a year. As the state's largest employing arts nonprofit, with a \$2.5 million-a-year budget and a 42-year-old statewide outreach program, the orchestra reaches rural, underserved, and low-income communities. The WVSO regular season includes six symphonic and four pops concerts, joint performances with The Charleston Ballet of The Nutcracker and West Virginia Youth Symphony with a side-by-side concert, Young People’s Concerts that include corresponding classroom materials, and a free public performance, Symphony Sunday, every June on the University of Charleston grounds that draws thousands of people. The WVSO’s educational programs include small ensembles, an experiential learning project for college students, and a partnership with a public-school system in which WVSO musicians teach free string lessons to about 350 students a year.

2. Provide the organization’s mission statement/purpose.

The WVSO's mission is to make great music to enrich and inspire everyone in our region in order to (vision) be the spark that ignites a love of music and sense of pride in every person in our region. We achieve this mission and support our vision through 5 fundamental objectives. The WVSO affirms, • F.O. 1 -We will be a high-quality orchestra, to which diverse audiences want to listen, and for which musicians of all backgrounds want to play. • F.O. 2 -Reaching out to our communities and education young musicians, including those from underrepresented groups, we will become a "go-to" resource for music in our region. • F.O. 3 -We will be seen as a welcoming and inclusive organization, making people in our region know and be proud of the WVSO as "their" orchestra. • F.O. 4 -Our structure, staffing, and policies will effectively support all our activities and plans. • F.O. 5 -We will be good stewards of our resources, ensuring enough funding to support our Mission and Vision.

3. List any third-party references that can verify the organizations qualification or prior grant experience.

The Charleston Ballet, Kim Pauley, Artistic Director, 304-342-6541 The Maier Foundation, Brad M. Rowe (President, General Corporation), 304-343-2201 City National Bank, Tim Quinlan, Executive Vice President, 304-769-1103

COVID-19 Impact

1. Explain the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and how it relates to your request. For example, reduction in services, closures, increased costs, community impact, etc.

The impact from the COVID-19 pandemic has been devastating to orchestral music and other performance-based organizations. From March 2020 until May 2021 all planned in-person performances of the WVSO were cancelled resulting in the significant financial loss of ticketing revenue in excess of \$575,000. Though the WVSO was able to produce internet streaming and televised concerts during the 2020-2021 season, the loss of earned revenue was substantial. Beyond the normal concert season, the WVSO was impacted by the loss of other community events. Symphony Sunday was cancelled entirely in 2020, a never-before-seen moment for the WVSO. In 2021, the event was able to return to the public as safety requirements loosened. The event, highly altered due to safety concerns, occurred June 6, 2021, at Appalachian Power Park at a financial loss to the WVSO. Beyond the significant financial loss due to the closure of the performance space and restrictions limiting social gatherings, the arts community in Charleston was negatively impacted. Though the WVSO worked hard to maintain and continue building relationships, the act of connecting with orchestral music in person cannot be replicated or replaced. It will take seasons for the WVSO to rebuild its patron base and help community members feel connected to the artform. This disconnect with individuals in the community immediately corresponds with a threat to Charleston’s sense of culture and vibrancy. It is imperative that the WVSO return to and maintain a full, regular season to foster connection and creativity within Charleston. Received funding from the City of Charleston will ensure financial success in the 2022-2023 season.

2. If funds are being requested to replace revenue lost due to COVID-19, provide details, and attach supportive documentation.

Not applicable. Funds will support the 2022-2023 season and special outreach to Charleston’s West Side, not replace revenue lost.

3. If awarded, how will ARPA funding aid in the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic?

The WVSO is proud to be a recognizable feature in the cultural and experiential landscape of Charleston. We have been an integral part of the city going on 84 years and, despite the extreme experience of the COVID-19 pandemic, look forward to many years of continued impact. With the financial loss caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent cautious return of patrons, orchestras are uniquely impacted though. Support from the City of Charleston through the ARPA funding aid will provide financial stability to continue all existing programming and create new programming to immediately impact the West Side of Charleston. To regrow its audience base and boost the cultural experience in Charleston, the WVSO must maintain its pre-pandemic standards of programming. This continuance assures the community that their city is thriving and will continue to do so.

THE APPLICANT UNDERSTANDS:

- *
☒ 1. This application and other materials submitted to the City may constitute public records which may be subject to disclosure under the West Virginia Freedom of Information Act. Documents containing sensitive information may be marked as “confidential.”
- *
☒ 2. Submitting false or misleading information in connection with an application may result in the applicant being found ineligible for financial assistance under the funding program, and the applicant or its representative may be subject to civil and/or criminal prosecution.

THE APPLICANT CERTIFIES THAT:

- *
☒ 1. I have reviewed the US Treasury guidelines regarding the eligible uses of American Rescue Plan State and Local recovery funds. <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-state-local-and-tribal-governments/state-and-local-fiscal-recovery-fund/request-funding>
- *
☒ 2. By submitting this request, I represent that I am an authorized officer, or member of the organization for which I am submitting, and the information contained in my submittal is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.
- *
☒ 3. The information submitted to the City of Charleston (“City”) in this application, and substantially in connection with this application, is true and correct.
- *
☒ 4. The applicant is in compliance with applicable laws, regulations, ordinances and orders applicable to it that could have an adverse material impact on the project. Adverse material impact includes lawsuits, criminal or civil actions, bankruptcy proceedings, regulatory action by a governmental entity or inadequate capital to complete the project.
- *
☒ 5. The applicant is not in default under the terms and conditions of any grant or loan agreements, leases or financing arrangements with its other creditors that could have an adverse material impact on the project.
- *
☒ 6. I understand and agree that I must disclose, and will continue to disclose, any occurrence or event that could have an adverse material impact on the project.
- *
☒ 7. I certify that the requested funding is needed to ensure this program/project will occur within the City limits of Charleston West Virginia.
- *
☒ 8. The Board of Directors or governing body of the organization has approved submission of this application. Please attach a copy of the authorizing resolution or meeting minutes using the file upload.

* **Signature**

Joe Tackett

Authorized representative of Applicant/Organization

* **Date**

12/15/2021

Format: MM/DD/YYYY

* **PRINTED NAME:**

Joe Tackett

* **TITLE OF APPLICANT:**

President

* **ORGANIZATION NAME:**

West Virginia Symphony Orchestra

Upload a File

Choose File

No file chosen



music director | Lawrence Loh

president | Joe Tackett

**West Virginia Symphony Orchestra
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)
Funding Application
Non-Profit, Community Groups, Neighborhood Associations, and Businesses
As administered by the City of Charleston
December 15, 2021**

The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra, on behalf of the Board, hereby authorize Joe Tackett, President, to apply for a grant, on behalf of the WVSO, to the City of Charleston for approval of American Rescue Plan Act funding to assist in the 2022-2023 season and special programming offered to the West Side of Charleston.

**Resolution passed by the Executive Committee
Wednesday, December 15, 2021 with the following motions and approvals:**

**Resolution brought to floor by: Jim Douglas
Resolution moved for committee vote by: Pat Bond
Votes in favor of passing resolution: 9
Votes opposed: 0
*Resolution passes***

Executive Committee Members: Cindy S. McGhee, Chair; Jim Douglas, Secretary; Tim Quinlan, Treasurer; John Elliot, Pat Bond, Dan Foster, Steve Dexter, Jack Dever, Skip Gebhart, Tommy Bailey

west virginia youth symphony

P.O. Box 4908
Charleston, WV 25364
(304) 957-9888

December 10, 2021

Dear City of Charleston,

I am pleased to write this letter in support of the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra (WVSO). Although the West Virginia Youth Symphony (WVYS) is a separate entity from the WVSO, for decades we have enjoyed a fruitful partnership. In addition to providing office space and equipment to the WVYS, the WVSO also fulfills an important role in arts education, establishing a musical foundation for young people that will enable them to advance to the WVYS. Both organizations share the role of providing high-quality musical education to youth, which ensures a thriving arts presence for the community in the future.

The WVSO's String Education program in Kanawha County Schools targets interested students and instruction at the school level, providing instruments and instruction to anyone who wants to learn despite financial ability. Without this String Education program in our public schools, the WVYS might not exist. Students who thrive in this program and want to continue musical development are encouraged to audition for the WVYS. The WVYS provides the next artistic level for these youngsters, offering new goals, aspirations, and experiences, paving the way to a successful future as a professional musician and enjoying a life enriched with artistic knowledge.

This growth and sustainability of the arts within our community relies on unique, high-quality education such as that offered by the professional musicians who can exist locally and earn additional income through teaching. Skilled musicians hired by the WVSO to teach in public schools also serve as sectional and chamber music coaches to the WVYS, and as mentors and private teachers to students throughout the community. Currently, the WVYS consists of four ensembles, each conducted by a professional musician, three of whom are long-time members of the WVSO.

Our collaborative efforts ensure that a complete musical education is accessible to all young people of our community while providing employment to professional musicians. This relationship builds audiences and professional musicians and ensures a strong arts community in West Virginia's future.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can assist in any other way.

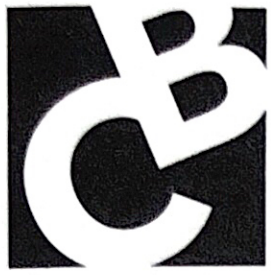
Sincerely,



Natalie Wehrle

WVYS General Manager

wvyouthsympony@gmail.com



Charleston Ballet

Official West Virginia
State Ballet • Since 1956

February 18, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to offer this letter of support on behalf of the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra. Offering only the highest quality in musical entertainment and educational programming, this organization is a great asset to our community. Their efforts in music education across the state are extensive. These past two seasons have been like no other. It has been very difficult for performing arts groups to continue without the ability to do live performances, but the WV Symphony has persevered.

The Charleston Ballet and the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra will continue our longstanding partnership in presenting our annual NUTCRACKER series successfully to the delight of many West Virginia and regional patrons. This performance series is a holiday treasure that is equal to any professional production and is a constant reminder what can be accomplished with the tremendous resources of talent and artistry available right here in West Virginia. On many other occasions, we have collaborated for operas like CARMEN, WEST SIDE STORY, and ballets like ON THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL, an original work composed by Maestro Grant Cooper. There have been many performances with the string quartet in past years and future collaborations are in the works.


When accompanied by the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra on the beautiful Clay Center stage, our dancers often forget that they are performing to live music. This fact references the quality of the music, tempos and speaks volumes to the professionalism of this organization. Our many guest artists concur with this as well and cherish this experience that they do not have at home. Visiting company directors are extremely envious of our opportunities to perform with live music.

This organization is proficient and prepared, accommodating and extremely professional. Our joint projects have worked well over the years. The Charleston Ballet would not think twice about collaborating for additional events in the future with this highly artistic orchestra. We look forward to the prospects of doing so.

It is always a great experience for the Charleston Ballet to partner with the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra. I strongly encourage your financial support of the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra. We are fortunate to have this valuable artistic force and consider it a state treasure.

Thank you for your consideration and please feel free to contact me if you would like any additional information.

Sincerely,


Kim R. Pauley
Artistic Director/ CEO

Jack Cavender
President

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Vice President

Julie M. Haymond
Secretary

Nicholas Oxley
Treasurer

Kim R. Pauley
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Vicki Shumate-Jackson
Dotsy Q. Klei
Melody Pendergrass
Jill Oliver-Thornton

Jim Strawn
Development Consultant

Melinda Miesner
*E-Marketing &
Promotions Manager*

Elaine Baldwin
Office Manager

Becky Turley
Production/Design



music director | Lawrence Loh

president | Joe Tackett

**West Virginia Symphony Orchestra
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)
Funding Application
Non-Profit, Community Groups, Neighborhood Associations, and Businesses
As administered by the City of Charleston
December 15, 2021**

The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra, on behalf of the Board, hereby authorize Joe Tackett, President, to apply for a grant, on behalf of the WVSO, to the City of Charleston for approval of American Rescue Plan Act funding to assist in the 2022-2023 season and special programming offered to the West Side of Charleston.

**Resolution passed by the Executive Committee
Wednesday, December 15, 2021 with the following motions and approvals:**

**Resolution brought to floor by: Jim Douglas
Resolution moved for committee vote by: Pat Bond
Votes in favor of passing resolution: 9
Votes opposed: 0
*Resolution passes***

Executive Committee Members: Cindy S. McGhee, Chair; Jim Douglas, Secretary; Tim Quinlan, Treasurer; John Elliot, Pat Bond, Dan Foster, Steve Dexter, Jack Dever, Skip Gebhart, Tommy Bailey

west virginia youth symphony

P.O. Box 4908
Charleston, WV 25364
(304) 957-9888

December 10, 2021

Dear City of Charleston,

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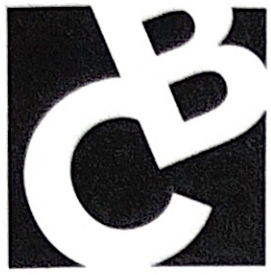
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