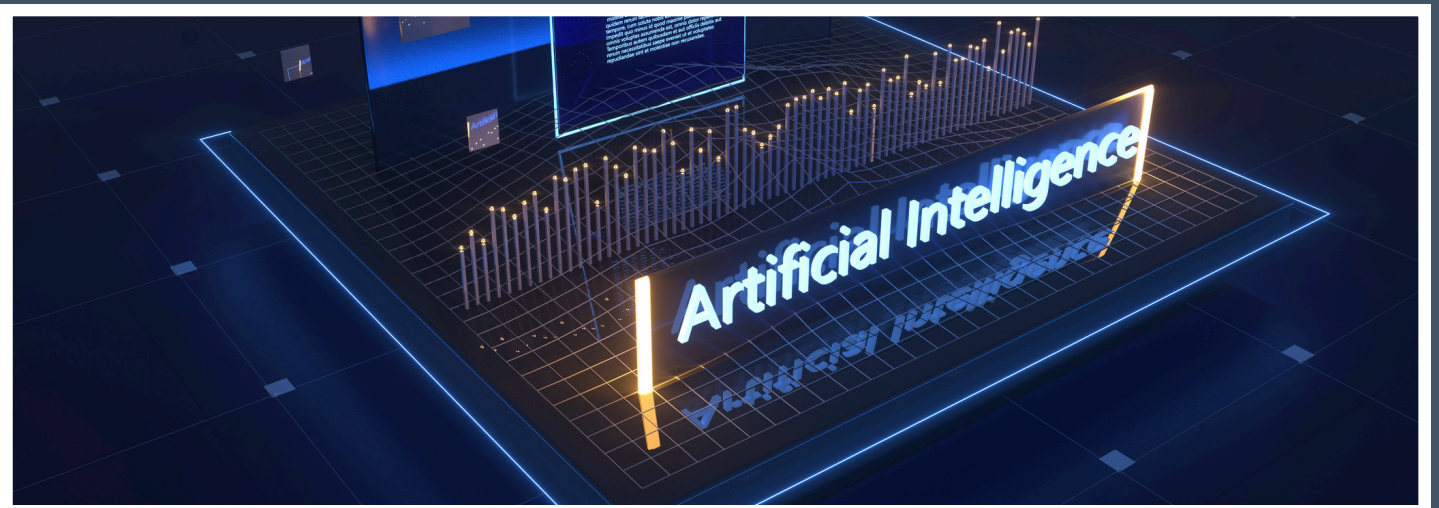


NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2024

INSIDE THIS EDITION:

NATIONAL MUSIC COUNCIL ISSUES STATEMENT ON GENERATIVE AI



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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members and Friends of the National Music Council,

As we bask in the warmth of summer, I hope this season finds you in good health and high spirits. It is my pleasure to share with you some exciting updates and accomplishments of the National Music Council (NMC) over the past few months.

First and foremost, I am thrilled to announce the resounding success of Make Music Day 2024. This global celebration of music saw unprecedented participation, with events taking place in communities large and small across the nation. From spontaneous street performances to organized concerts, the sheer diversity and enthusiasm of participants showcased the

unifying power of music. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the organizers, volunteers, and performers who made this day truly special.

In an era where technology is rapidly transforming the creative landscape, the NMC has been proactive in addressing the implications of artificial intelligence (AI) on music creation and rights. We are in the process of finalizing an AI statement aimed at protecting the rights of creators while embracing technological advancements. This statement will provide a framework to ensure that AI tools are used ethically and that the contributions of human creators are recognized and fairly compensated. Our commitment to safeguarding the integrity and rights of music creators remains unwavering as we navigate these evolving challenges.

Moreover, our efforts to protect and enhance the Five Music Rights continue to be a cornerstone of our mission. These rights – the right for all children and adults to express themselves musically, the right to learn musical languages and skills, the right to access musical involvement through participation, listening, creation, and information, the right for musical artists to develop their artistry and communicate through all media, with appropriate facilities, and the right for musical artists to obtain just recognition and remuneration for their work – are fundamental to fostering a vibrant and inclusive musical culture. We are actively engaging with policymakers, educators, and industry leaders to ensure these rights are upheld and promoted at every level.

As we look ahead, I am excited about the many opportunities and initiatives on the horizon. The NMC remains dedicated to advocating for the music community, supporting educational programs, and championing the value of music in our society. Your continued support and

involvement are crucial to our success, and I encourage you to stay connected with us through our various platforms.

Thank you for being an integral part of the National Music Council. Together, we will continue to amplify the voice of music and ensure its place in our world.

Wishing you a harmonious and joyful summer,
Dr. James Weaver
President, National Music Council

National Music Council Issues Statement on Generative AI

THE NATIONAL MUSIC COUNCIL OF THE UNITED STATES ISSUES A STATEMENT EXPRESSING THE CONSENSUS VIEWS OF ITS MUSIC CREATOR, COPYRIGHT OWNER, AND EDUCATOR MEMBERS REGARDING GENERATIVE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

The National Music Council of the United States (NMC) has issued an educational, legislative-based statement outlining the general consensus views of the American music creators, copyright owners and educators that constitute its broad membership, concerning both the opportunities and the existential dangers posed by the rapid introduction of generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) systems throughout the U.S. and global music communities.

With billions of dollars and the future of American musical culture at stake, NMC states that it is seeking to provide the basis through the attached statement for a more informed and far-reaching dialogue among creators,

copyright owners, business leaders, technologists, legislators, students, educators and members of the public regarding the need for measured legislative action and governmental oversight to ensure fairness and equity in the GenAI marketplace.

According to NMC Chair Charles J. Sanders, “GenAI has the capacity -using pre-existing copyrighted works to produce new derivatives- to enhance human musical expression and public enjoyment of the musical arts through fairness in voluntary licensing, or to cause longstanding, crushing and potentially irreparable damage to musical creativity, commerce and culture. Our goal is to support the best possible legislative outcomes for our organizational members and their constituencies, leading to ever-increasing advancement of human-centric musical excellence, progress, equity and cultural preservation around the world.” NMC President Dr. James Weaver adds “the issues covered in the document include the general principles of consent, credit, fair compensation, disclosure, record keeping, and a necessarily narrow application of any exceptions to infringement, limited to only certain, non-commercial exemptions in the area of education.”

Dr. David Sanders, NMC’s Executive Director, expressed his hope that the statement will help facilitate rapid, legislative progress toward protecting the rights of creators, copyright administrators and educators through cooperative discussion. “Our paper is intended as an educational primer designed to demonstrate both support of our membership for AI technology in general, but insistence in the context of GenAI on respect for the legal rights of the creative community- and for the principles of diversity, equity and inclusiveness which our community considers very high priorities.”

NMC is the Congressionally-chartered, educational umbrella organization for the broad spectrum of U.S. music community advocacy groups. Founded in 1940, NMC’s membership is today comprised of almost fifty leading American trade organizations representing four distinct categories of music community interests: those of music creators; musical artists & performers; music copyright owners & administrators; and, music educators. In all cases and on every issue, each member organization explicitly retains the authority to speak independently on its own behalf, regardless of whether the views it expresses differ from those of NMC and/or other NMC members. For more information on NMC, please visit musiccouncil.org.

TO ACCESS THE COMPLETE STATEMENT, [CLICK HERE](#) OR VISIT [MUSICCOUNCIL.ORG](https://musiccouncil.org).

National Music Council Launches Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee

The National Music Council (NMC) is excited to introduce our newly formed Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee. This committee was established to champion the values of diversity, equity, and inclusion within the music community, ensuring that all voices are heard and represented. The committee is led by Tinisha Burgess, Sr. Director of Product Development at HFA/Rumblefish, who the NMC membership elected as the organization's first DEI officer earlier this year.

Our Mission

The NMC DEI Committee is dedicated to creating a welcoming and inclusive music

community. We strive to promote diversity, ensure equal opportunities, and celebrate the unique contributions of everyone. By building partnerships and offering educational initiatives, we aim to inspire positive change in the music industry and make sure our member organizations reflect the diversity of the world around us.

Key Initiatives for 2024/2025

To achieve our mission, we have outlined several key initiatives for the upcoming year:

- **NMC Member Recruitment** We aim to expand our membership by actively recruiting individuals from diverse backgrounds. This effort will bring a variety of perspectives and experiences to our council, enhancing our collective strength and reach.
- **Education Initiatives** We are establishing partnerships with other music organizations to develop educational programs focused on DEI. These programs will provide valuable resources and training to promote understanding and implementation of DEI principles in music.
- **Website Enhancements** Our website will feature a new section dedicated to DEI initiatives. This enhancement will make it easier for our members and visitors to access information about our efforts, upcoming events, and resources related to diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- **NMC Newsletter Enhancements** Starting with the next issue, the NMC Newsletter will include a dedicated DEI section. This section will introduce the DEI Committee, outline our goals, and highlight DEI initiatives from our member organizations. We believe that sharing these stories and practices will inspire and inform our community.

We are excited about the formation of the DEI Committee and the positive impact it will have on the NMC and the music industry. Together, we can create a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive musical landscape. Stay tuned for more updates and opportunities to engage with our DEI efforts!

For more information or to get involved, please visit the NMC website.

National Music Council Honors David Amram at 40th Annual American Eagle Awards



David Amram at the 2024 American Eagle Awards

The National Music Council of the United States honored composer, multi-instrumentalist, and music ambassador David Amram with the prestigious [American Eagle Award](#) at the organization's 40th annual ceremony held on Friday, June 15 in New York City at the Music Publishers Association annual meeting and awards luncheon. The Council's honors are presented each year in recognition of those who have made long-term contributions to American musical culture, to showcase the ideal of music education for all children, and to support the protection of creators' rights both locally and internationally.

Dr. David Sanders, director of the National Music Council, noted that the individual recipients are honored, “not just for the incredible gifts they have given generations of music lovers throughout the world with their creative output, but also for their dedication to encouraging young musicians and composers through their commitment to music education.”

A genuine polymath, David Amram is regarded as an expert in more musical genres than any other artist in the world, perhaps in history. He plays more than 35 instruments, has composed more than 100 well-received classical works, conducted 75 of the world’s great orchestras, and has been a soloist with more than 40 orchestras. Amram introduced the French Horn to jazz, was Jack Kerouac’s musical collaborator for twelve years, composed two operas, scored twenty-five films, composed music for twenty-five Broadway shows, and worked with artists as diverse as Leonard Bernstein, Bob Dylan, Lionel Hampton, Odetta, Woody Guthrie, Pete Seeger, and Eugene Ormandy.

The award to Amram was presented by Grammy, Emmy, and Peabody award-winning singer-songwriter Tom Chapin, “in recognition of his longstanding, unique, and global contributions to the creation, performance, and appreciation of the musical arts, and in celebration of his pioneering work as an American musical ambassador for peace and culture throughout the world.” Chapin charmed the crowd with a song he penned in tribute to Amram, a funny and touching tribute that the awardee adored.

This year’s honoree joins a “Who’s – Who” of musical giants whose careers and works have been previously awarded the American Eagle Awards, including Stephen Sondheim, Quincy Jones, Patti Smith, Herbie Hancock, Benny Goodman, Harry Shearer, Lionel Hampton,

Dizzy Gillespie, Morton Gould, Dave Brubeck, Marian Anderson, Max Roach, Lena Horne, Roy Clark, Crystal Gale, George Clinton, Ervin Drake, Theo Bikel, Vince Guaraldi, Roberta Peters, Odetta, Sesame Street, Hard Rock Café, and VHI’s Save the Music Foundation.



David Amram at the 2024 American Eagle Awards



Tom Chapin at the 2024 American Eagle Awards



Tom Chapin and David Amram at the 2024 American Eagle Awards

The award presentation was preceded by the Music Publishers Association’s Annual Legal & Legislative Review, presented this year by NMC Chair and Songwriters Guild of America’s outside legal counsel Charles Sanders. Among the topics covered were the challenges of protecting creators’ rights in the age of generative artificial intelligence, the difficulties produced by the recently implemented royalty avoidance strategy of certain digital music distributors, the potential positive effects of the Supreme Court’s curtailing of the “transformative” fair use defense, and the need to better protect creators around the world from political censorship and violence.

Proceeds from the event support the National Music Council’s music education and creator’s rights advocacy efforts.



David Amram, and Tom Chapin at the 2024 American Eagle Awards



Paquito D’Rivera, David Amram, and Tom Chapin at the 2024 American Eagle Awards

NMC Applauds U.S. Department of State Global Music Diplomacy Initiative

The National Music Council applauds U.S. Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken and YouTube’s Global Head of Music Lyor Cohen’s announcement of a new Department of State-YouTube partnership in support of the Department’s Global Music Diplomacy Initiative, a worldwide effort to elevate music as a diplomatic platform to promote peace and democracy in support of the United States’ broader foreign policy goals. At the core of the partnership is a roster of U.S. Global Music Ambassadors, which builds on the legacy of the iconic Jazz Ambassadors of the 1950s and 1960s and promotes peace across generations of people worldwide. Secretary Blinken, during a June 24 press conference, remarked that “music has a unique power in diplomacy: introducing others to our history, to our culture – creating ties that cross borders – strengthening relationships between our people, and even our governments.”

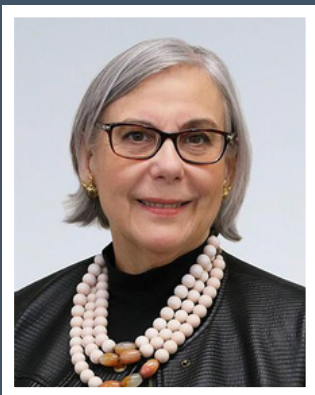
The U.S. Global Music Ambassadors represent a new generation of American music artists, ranging from emerging artists to established icons and everyone in-between, who promote peace through their work and engagement. The NMC is proud that past American Eagle honoree Herbis Hancock is among the American music artists who have demonstrated excellence in their field and a commitment to promoting peace, and will serve as U.S. Global Music Ambassadors. Click here to view the [Department of State Web Site](#) and [Press Release](#).

Thank You for Your Service!



Long time NMC board member Dr. Gary Ingle retired last month as CEO of Music Teachers National Association, and President and CEO of the American Classical Hall of Fame. Gary has served on the executive board of the

International Music Council, as president of the Music Council of the Three Americas (COMTA), and was the longest serving president of the National Music Council of the United States in the history of the organization. Gary has been an international leader in advocating for lifelong learning in music, and an incredible support to music teachers around the globe. The National Music Council thanks Gary for his decades of leadership, service and dedication to the organization and the entire music community. We wish him a happy and fulfilling retirement!



Mary Luehrsen, director of public affairs and government relations for NAMM, and Executive Director of the NAMM Foundation, also announced her retirement. Mary directed NAMM's government relations

and advocacy efforts and guided the organization as an international leader for music education. She directed the organization in policy and advocacy issues that impact global music product businesses. Mary was the NAMM

Foundation's inaugural executive director, focusing on supporting music research, and philanthropic and public service programs that advance music making opportunities for people of all ages and abilities. We thank Mary for her leadership, support and advocacy to the entire music community, and for her decades of service to the International Music Council and the National Music Council of the United States.

National Music Council Music Industry Education Series: An Interview with David Amram

The NMC has released a video interview with American Eagle Award honoree [David Amram](#), taped in the television studios at Montclair State University before a student audience. NMC Chair Charles Sanders conducted the interview, which focused on Amram's career and philosophy, and covered issues such as music diplomacy, music and social change, the need to create, and AI technology. The conversation was followed by a Q&A session with Montclair's music business students. The interview is the second in the online series created by the NMC. It follows a discussion on [Copyright & Fair Use](#) with James Weaver and Charles Sanders, recorded earlier this year. Both interviews are available for viewing on the [NMC website](#).



MEMBER REPORTS

American Academy of Teachers of Singing



Serving the Profession-Serving the Art
americanacademyofteachersofsinging.org

The American Academy of Teachers of Singing (AATS) is a select group of internationally recognized voice teachers and singing voice experts founded in 1922 with the express purpose of contributing to the singing profession in an advisory capacity

The Academy will present an interactive session entitled "Pedagogy-Informed Voice Science: An essential partner to science-informed voice pedagogy" at the 58th Conference of The National Association of Teachers of Singing in Knoxville, Tennessee. This will be followed by a position paper to be presented at the 2025 International Congress of Voice Teachers in Toronto, Canada.

The rationale: Pedagogy-informed voice science is centered around a mutual professional acknowledgement of different ways of knowing. It can be appreciated as a type of voice science which recognizes the value of the *experience-gleaned* perspective of voice practitioners in its study design and operates within a spirit of true interdisciplinarity.

2024 AATS Academy Awards

The AATS Awards were created to recognize, honor, and nurture outstanding accomplishment in the teaching of singing and in allied professions.

The following recipients are honored this year:

Lori Laitman and Tom Cipullo - AATS Award for Mentorship of Art Song Composers

Established composers mentoring emerging composers is something to be celebrated. We commend Lori Laitman and Tom Cipullo for their generous work in encouraging the flourishing of new art song composition through the National Association of Teachers of Singing Mentoring Program for Composers and the Cincinnati Song Initiative. The NATS Art Song Composition Awards, generously funded by Laitman, also promotes the creation of new art song.

Erin Guinup - AATS Award for Inclusion and Inspiration

Erin responded to the rising number of refugees in the Seattle area and welcomed them through the medium of music, giving them a sense of home and community. She founded the Tacoma Refugee Choir by combining expertise in music, arts administration, a compassionate soul, and community activism. The Tacoma Refugee Choir creates space for authentic expression, interconnection, and healing through song and music.

Started as a pilot project in partnership with Tacoma Community House, since 2016 the non-auditioned choir has had over 700 participants from 65 nations along with diverse U.S. members. What started as a simple choir has become a deeply connected group of people committed to supporting one another and offering a beacon of hope to the community. The impact extends beyond the public concerts and videos, as members have supported one

other through births, weddings, and citizenship, to evictions, house fires, deaths, and immigration challenges. The weekly gatherings are designed to help people overcome barriers and engage in a communal experience of music, food, and dance.

Eli Yamin - AATS Award for Leadership in Youth Jazz Education

Eli Yamin is a brilliant jazz and blues pianist, composer, arranger, conductor, author, and vocalist, who makes teaching and learning jazz as joyful and creative as playing it.

Through Jazz Power Initiative, which he directs and co-founded, Dr. Eli works with kids, teens, and young adults along with the top jazz musicians in New York City and dance and theatre artists. His love of blues and jazz and his understanding of singing inspire youth to experience both throughout their lives. His enthusiasm about sharing jazz in all its expressions, particularly with youth, is unmistakable, and is truly a force for good in his community and the world.

Jazz Power Initiative was founded in 2003 to ignite the power of jazz arts education and transform lives by fostering self-expression, leadership, collaboration, and diversity. JPI currently serves over 3100 New Yorkers and visitors annually—students, teachers, artists, seniors, and general audiences, ages 8-80+, to promote youth development, and build more creative and inclusive communities through jazz music, theater and dance education and performance.

American Federation of Musicians



AFM Appoints Allistair Elliott as New Vice President from Canada

The International Executive Board is pleased to announce the appointment of Allistair Elliott to the position of AFM Vice President from Canada to complete the unexpired term of his predecessor, Alan Willaert, who passed away unexpectedly in April. For activities within Canada and its Territories, the Vice President from Canada is known as the Vice President from Canada, and Director, Canadian Affairs.



AFM Vice President from Canada Allistair Elliott

In his most recent position, Elliott has served as the AFM International Representative (IR) from Canada. As an IR for ten years, Elliott is familiar with all Canadian locals, has assisted all new officers in learning to navigate AFM/CFM protocols and

practices, has represented the CFM and musicians at conferences and panels, and has represented the CFM in lobbying the Canadian government in various matters, most predominantly regarding the ease of musicians traveling on airlines with their instruments.

Allistair is a highly respected figure in the Canadian music scene and a strong advocate for our members. His extensive experience and deep understanding of the issues facing Canadian musicians will lead us forward,” says AFM International President Tino Gagliardi. “I am confident that Allistair will provide strong leadership and representation for our Canadian members.”

Please join us in welcoming Allistair Elliott to his new role. We look forward to his contributions as director of Canadian affairs, as we continue to fight for fair contracts, strong intellectual property protections, and a thriving music industry for all musicians.

**American Federation of Musicians
International President Tino Gagliardi’s
Statement in Reaction to Scarlett
Johansson’s Misuse of AI Claim**

“The use of AI in the arts is of great concern to the American Federation of Musicians, and we sincerely appreciate Scarlett Johansson speaking up. In our most recent round of negotiations with the AMPTP, AI protection was a top concern for musicians. After bargaining, we were able to establish critical guardrails against the misuse of AI.

“However, the news about the misuse of Scarlett Johansson’s voice by OpenAI raises a very important point: if someone can try and do this to one of the most famous actors in the world, they can absolutely do it to anyone.

“At the very least, we need Congress to pass legislation to protect all professional performers. This includes Oscar, Tony, and Grammy-winning actors and musicians, as well as performers working at small clubs, from the misappropriation of their voice, sound, image, or likeness by AI.

“Every working performer deserves this —

period. Now is the time to make an industry-wide push to protect against AI before it is too late.”

ASCAP



**ASCAP Premieres Documentary Short
"Prelude in AI Major: Crafting a Creator-
First Future for Music & AI"**

ASCAP recently released *Prelude in AI Major: Crafting a Creator-First Future for Music & AI*, a documentary short on their 2023 ASCAP Lab Music and AI Challenge. A joint effort between the ASCAP Lab (ASCAP's innovation initiative) and the NYC Media Lab, led by the NYU Tandon School of Engineering, the Challenge focused on cutting-edge concepts at the intersection of music and artificial intelligence. Five teams were selected to receive mentorship and grants to develop their emerging technologies during the 12-week challenge.

Prelude in AI Major explores how the teams are leveraging AI to build innovative tools for making and experiencing music, informed by their own backgrounds as composers and musicians. The film features ASCAP mentors, including songwriter and composer members, sharing their experiences guiding the teams in developing their technologies and exploring the copyright implications of their work. These music industry professionals also offer their perspectives on how AI is impacting music creators and the value of forging relationships across the music tech landscape.

Watch the documentary [HERE](#).

6 ASCAP AI PRINCIPLES TO PROTECT MUSIC CREATORS' RIGHTS



To learn how ASCAP is helping music creators navigate AI, visit www.ascap.com/ai

About the ASCAP Lab 2023 Challenge Teams

DAACI is a comprehensive AI system that composes, arranges, orchestrates and produces authentic, high-quality and original music with emotional and narrative awareness, especially for composers for video games, the metaverse, digital worlds and dynamic virtual experiences.

<https://daaci.com/>

Infinite Album uses AI to generate continuous copyright-safe video game music that can react to game play in real time and can be customized by gamers and viewers in collaborative, interactive and monetizable ways. www.infinitealbum.io

Never Before Heard Sounds' Sounds.Studio is a browser-based music production platform that leverages AI to make producing music faster and more accessible with assistive tools like stem splitting, vocal conversion, timbre transfer and automatic song alignment.

www.sounds.studio

Overture Games builds video games for beginner musicians designed to make practicing more fun and reduce burnout/quitting by using AI-based pitch detection to provide responsive visual feedback based on the musician's playing.

www.overture.games

Samplifi is making the sonic world easier to navigate for hearing-impaired musicians by combining classical digital signal processing techniques with the latest advances in AI to isolate and enhance the auditory information needed to harmonically orient oneself within a piece of music. www.samplifi.net

About ASCAP

The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) is a membership association of more than 990,000 songwriters, composers and music publishers, and represents some of the world's most talented music creators. In 2023, ASCAP reported record-high financial results of \$1.737 billion in revenues and \$1.592 billion available in royalty distribution monies to its members. Over the last eight years, ASCAP has delivered a 7% compound annual growth rate for total revenues, and an 8% compound annual growth rate for total royalty distributions to members. Founded and governed by songwriters, composers and publishers, it is the only performing rights organization in the U.S. that operates on a not-for-profit basis. ASCAP licenses a repertory of over 20 million musical works to hundreds of thousands of businesses that use music, including

streaming services, cable television, radio and satellite radio and brick and mortar businesses such as retail stores, hotels, clubs, restaurants and bars. ASCAP collects the licensing fees; identifies, matches and processes trillions of performances every year; and returns nearly 90 cents of every dollar back to its members as royalties. The ASCAP blanket license offers an efficient solution for businesses to legally perform ASCAP music while respecting the right of songwriters and composers to be paid fairly. ASCAP puts music creators first, advocating for their rights and the value of music on Capitol Hill, driving innovation that moves the industry forward, building community and providing the resources and support that creators need to succeed in their careers. Learn more and stay in touch at www.ascap.com, on [X](#) and [Instagram](#) @ASCAP and on [Facebook](#).

About the NYC Media Lab

The NYC Media Lab connects media and technology companies with both NYU Tandon and industry affiliates to drive innovation, entrepreneurship and talent development. Our interdisciplinary community of innovators from industry and academia allows our network to gain valuable insights, explore the potential of emerging technology and address the challenges and opportunities created by the rapidly evolving digital media landscape. Learn more at engineering.nyu.edu/nyc-media-lab

ASCAP Delivers Record-Breaking Financial Results With \$1.737 Billion In Revenues, Up 14.1% From The Prior Year; Welcomes New Members Including Jack Antonoff, PinkPantheress, Jared Leto & Shannon Leto of 30 Seconds to Mars, and Tyla

The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP), the only U.S. Public Performance Rights Organization ("PRO") to

operate on a not-for-profit basis, today announces its 2023 financial results, with increases in every major revenue and distribution category. ASCAP delivered a record-breaking \$1.737 billion in revenue in the 2023 calendar year with \$1.592 billion available for royalty distributions to its songwriter, composer, lyricist and music publisher members, the highest revenue and royalty distributions reported by any U.S. PRO.

ASCAP's record-breaking revenues of \$1.737 billion in 2023 represent an increase of \$215 million or 14.1% over 2022. ASCAP increased the value and monetization of its members' music with domestic revenue from U.S.-licensed performances surpassing \$1.327 billion which is an increase of \$149 million or 12.6% over the prior year. In 2023, audio streaming revenue rose 21%, general licensing revenue rose 23%, radio revenue rose 10% and audio-visual revenue rose 3% as compared to 2022.

Total foreign revenues for performances of ASCAP members' work outside the U.S. were \$410 million, up \$66 million or 19.3% over the prior year due to the strength and success of more than 960,000 ASCAP members who have created the most valuable musical repertoire in the world. ASCAP represents and aggregates in cost-effective, efficient blanket licenses over 19 million copyrights which includes iconic music from **Beyoncé, Billy Joel, Cardi B, Dua Lipa, Garth Brooks, Jay-Z, Katy Perry, Lil Baby, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Mariah Carey, Olivia Rodrigo, Paul McCartney, Stevie Wonder, Usher** and more.

Since the launch of ASCAP's strategic growth plan in 2015, its compound annual growth rate (CAGR) for Total Revenue through 2023 has increased to 7%, and the CAGR for Total Distributions over the same time period rose to 8%.

ASCAP reported a record-breaking \$1.592 billion available for distribution to its members, an increase of \$204 million or 14.7% over the prior year. This is the highest amount in royalty distributions to creators and music publishers reported by any U.S. PRO, fueled by both revenue growth and the lowest overall cost allocation overhead rate in the U.S. at 10%. ASCAP does not charge a commission or take a profit. Instead, pursuant to its unique governance and operating principles, it must deduct all expenses subject to a reasonable reserve and then distribute all remaining dollars as royalty distributions to its members.

ASCAP's 10% overhead rate means that 90 cents of every dollar collected was paid to ASCAP members, resulting in the highest value exchange applied to the lowest overhead rate provided to creators and publishers of any U.S. PRO.

Total funds available for domestic distributions of ASCAP U.S.-licensed and administered performances were \$1.217 billion, an increase of \$169 million or 16.1%, based solely on U.S. performances of works by ASCAP-licensed songwriter, composer and publisher members. Of that total, \$53 million was distributed through Songwize, ASCAP's royalty administration service provided to ASCAP members who directly license their works, up 16.8% over 2022.

Royalty distributions to ASCAP members derived from ex-U.S. performances were \$375 million, up \$35 million, or 10.2% over the prior year driven by the strength of the ASCAP repertoire and its low overhead ratio.

Unlike its competitors, ASCAP has no debt, no shareholders, no private owners and no private equity investors, meaning ASCAP's music creator and publisher members are the sole beneficiaries of ASCAP's financial success.

A democratically elected Board of Directors composed of music publishers and music creators sets the royalty distribution rules and cost allocations based on follow-the-dollar principles. It is the only U.S. PRO that makes those distribution rules publicly available on its website providing transparency to its membership.

"We are delivering industry-leading technical innovation, legislative advocacy and revenue growth that solely benefits our members, not outside investors or shareholders," **said ASCAP Chief Executive Officer Elizabeth Matthews.** "As we like to say, private equity never wrote an iconic love song which is why we fight purely for songwriters, composers and publishers, not for those who use creators and their works of art for their own profits or to secure their own debt. ASCAP differs from others because our mission and purpose is clear and unique."

"ASCAP's mission and not-for-profit business model are more important now than ever before, as artificial intelligence transforms the music landscape, and the need for legislative advocacy to protect creators in DC has never been more important," **said ASCAP Chairman of the Board and President Paul Williams.** "ASCAP will always be a champion for the humans who create music and demand transparency and fair payment from those who exploit our work. ASCAP makes it possible for our songwriter and composer members to write the next song, to earn a living and to support their families. No one else in the industry has the backs of songwriters like ASCAP."

ASCAP, which marked its 110th year on February 13, also announced several top music creators joining the ASCAP family, including A-list songwriter and producer **Jack Antonoff**, viral pop star **PinkPantheress**, **Jared Leto** and

Shannon Leto of alternative rock chart-toppers **30 Seconds to Mars**, and South African singer-songwriter **Tyla**.

ASCAP Chief Executive Officer Elizabeth Matthews will share this news and more details this afternoon at the 2024 ASCAP Membership Meeting in New York City in front of a packed audience of ASCAP members.

The event also features a keynote conversation with Songwriters Hall of Famer and forefather of the Atlanta music scene **Jermaine Dupri**; “We Create Music,” a superpanel of ASCAP songwriters and composers at the top of the pop, film music and theater spheres, with hit songwriter-producers **Sam Hollander** (Panic! At The Disco, Katy Perry) and **Gregg Wattenberg** (Five for Fighting, OAR), hit songwriter **Madison Love** (“Bad Things,” Machine Gun Kelly & Camila Cabello; “Turbulence,” P!nk), Oscar-nominated film composer **Carter Burwell** (Carol, Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri, The Banshees of Inisherin), playwright/lyricist and composer **Michael R. Jackson** (Pulitzer-Prize and Tony Best Musical-winning A Strange Loop); and performances from Grammy-nominated progressive jazz duo **DOMi & JD Beck** and singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist **Stacey Ryan**.

The program wraps with the “Writers Jam,” featuring some of today’s top writers telling the stories behind and performing their biggest hits live. Participants include **Liana Banks** (Bebe Rexha, Saweetie, Queen Naija), Grammy-winning songwriter **Claudia Brant** (Camila Cabello, Carlos Santana), pop-rock juggernaut **Maggie Lindemann** (“Pretty Girl,” “hostage”) and Dove Award-winning gospel singer-songwriter and composer **Blessing Offor** (“Believe,” “Brighter Days”).

ASCAP Year in Review

As a creator-first organization, ASCAP continued to educate, advocate and innovate on behalf of its members in 2023.

In addition to Jack Antonoff, PinkPantheress, Jared Leto & Shannon Leto of 30 Seconds to Mars, and Tyla, ASCAP welcomed more than 66,000 new members in 2023, including art-pop singer-songwriter **Caroline Polachek**, alt-rockers **d4vd**, Grammy-winning jazz vocalist **Samara Joy**, country genre bender **Jessie Murph**, dark balladeer **Chappell Roan**, post-punker **ThxSoMuch** and rising writer-producer **Alexander 23**, bringing the organization’s total membership to nearly one million.

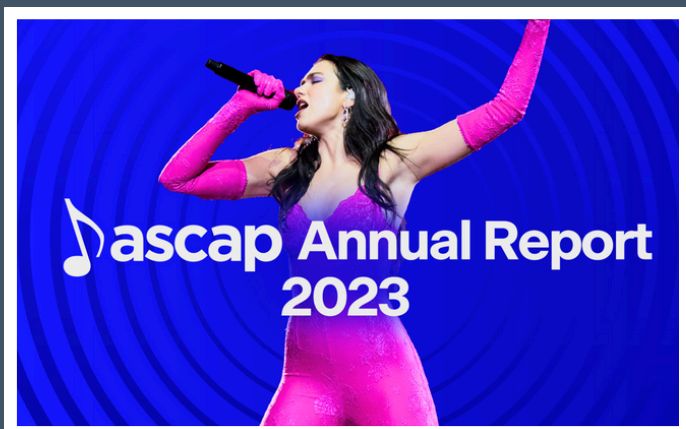
ASCAP leads the music industry in addressing the new challenges and opportunities that artificial intelligence presents for music creators. In 2023, the ASCAP Board of Directors adopted six principles to guide its response to the technology and later submitted them on behalf of members to a U.S. Copyright Office study on generative AI. The ASCAP Lab Music and AI Challenge identified creative, cutting-edge concepts at the intersection of music and AI. Throughout the year, ASCAP held AI Symposiums for members in New York and Nashville and dedicated an ASCAP Experience session to the topic.

In September, the day after The ASCAP Foundation’s “We Write the Songs” concert at the Library of Congress, ASCAP executives and top members including **Jimmy Jam & Terry Lewis, Madison Love, Cirkut, Benj Pasek & Justin Paul and Matthew West** met with 28 lawmakers on Capitol Hill to advocate for music creators and ask Congress to protect their rights in the age of AI. An ASCAP grassroots campaign generated 2600 messages to more than 400 members of Congress asking them to regulate AI.

The ASCAP Experience returned in person to Los Angeles as a reimagined one-day live edition. The creator summit featured a hitmaking lineup including legendary producer **Timbaland**, chart-topping songwriters **Sarah Hudson** (Dua Lipa, Camila Cabello) and **James Fauntleroy** (Bruno Mars, Beyoncé & Jay-Z), multi-platinum rapper and producer **Hitmaka** (Big Sean, Nicki Minaj), multi-genre writer, singer and vocal producer **Steph Jones** (Selena Gomez, Kelsea Ballerini), composer/songwriter **Anna Waronker** (Yellowjackets), hit songwriter and producer **Darrell Brown** (Keith Urban, LeAnn Rimes), Grammy-winning producer **Neff-U** (Justin Bieber, Sia) and a session celebrating 50 years of hip-hop with **Big Daddy Kane** and **Easy Mo Bee**.

Throughout the year, ASCAP celebrated the success of its members across all musical genres, including the presentation of the first ASCAP Hip-Hop Icon Award to multi-platinum-selling rapper, producer and music legend **Dr. Dre**, the ASCAP Golden Note Award to five-time ASCAP Christian Music Songwriter of the Year **Matthew West** and an ASCAP Women Behind the Music honor for R&B singer and songwriter **Summer Walker**.

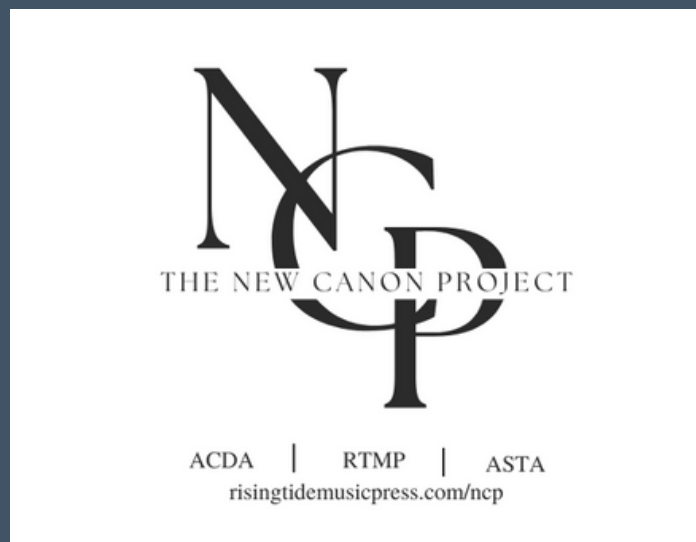
The ASCAP 2023 Annual Report can be viewed at: www.ascap.com/annualreport23.



American String Teacher Association



Join [ASTA](#) online for our 2nd [Virtual String Teachers Summit](#), featuring keynote speakers Anne Fennell (San Diego USD) and Grammy Music Educator of the Year, Annie Ray (Fairfax County Public Schools) July 15-16, 2024. Each day will feature sessions, an opening keynote, virtual music reading sessions, and roundtable discussions. To learn more and register, go [here](#).



Works from the [New Canon Project](#) are now available for purchase on the Rising Tide Music Press website. A partnership between the Press, ASTA, and ACDA, the [New Canon Project](#) commissions new works for the secondary orchestra and choral classrooms by Black and Latinx composers with distribution via Hal Leonard and ArrangeMe.com. This work is funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Sphinx Venture Fund. To learn more, go [here](#).



ASTA's next [in person conference](#) will take place March 19-22, 2025, in Atlanta, Georgia. Our keynote speakers will be Joseph Conyers and Yumi Kendall, from the Philadelphia Orchestra. We will also be joined by more than 1300 students participating in our National Orchestra Festival. ASTA will also be welcoming the Foundation for the Advancement of String Education's diversity fellows, who are helping us reimagine materials to encourage students to enter the field of music education. Supported by the National Endowment for the Arts, the new materials will be available for the 2025-2026 school year and will be showcased on the ASTA website as well as the Teach Music coalition.

Registration for the conference opens on July 18. For more information and to register, please go [here](#).

BMI



It's been a very productive time for BMI since our last update, as we further strengthened our commitment to delivering the best possible experience for our affiliates. We were pleased to launch the first phase of our dynamic new Royalty Dashboard for songwriters and composers, providing an interactive and more transparent way to view their statements and gain greater insights into their earnings than ever before. The Dashboard is accessed through BMI's newly upgraded Online Services platform, which serves as a foundation for further improvements and capabilities.

Additionally, we were excited to launch a new customer service call center staffed by a dedicated team of agents, along with a centralized toll-free number, 844-BMI-4255, both of which promise quicker response times and call routing for maximum efficiency. Moving forward, we'll be rolling out other new customer service enhancements to better assist our creators.

BMI has been highly engaged on the legislative front, as well. We recently endorsed and supported passage of the Ensuring Likeness Voice and Image Security (ELVIS) Act. Signed into law in Tennessee by Gov. Bill Lee, this important initiative leads the way in protecting artists and songwriters from misuses of AI voice-cloning technology. BMI also endorsed legislation introduced by U.S. Rep. Adam Schiff that seeks greater transparency and accountability from AI companies via the Generative AI Copyright Disclosure Act, which would require those

companies to disclose the copyrighted materials used to “train” their systems. While AI holds great promise for our industry, BMI believes these systems cannot be built at the expense of our creative community, and we’ll continue to fight on behalf of the rights of our affiliates.

Moreover, BMI was very proud to celebrate our talented songwriters, composers and publishers at our Latin Awards, Trailblazers of Gospel Music Awards, Composer Awards, Pop Awards, Film, TV & Visual Media Awards and our Christian Awards. BMI affiliates also saw incredible industry success with wins across GRAMMYS, Premio Lo Nuestro, BAFTA Awards, BRIT Awards, ACM Awards, Ivor Novellos, Drama Desk and Tony Awards. Many of our incredible singer/songwriters performed at SXSW, the Key West Songwriters Festival and the Ryman Block Party during CMA Fest, and we are looking forward to the return of the BMI Stage at Lollapalooza and ACL Music Fest in the coming months.

On the BMI Foundation side, the 2023 Charlie Feldman Award was granted to songwriter Averie Bielski, the BMI Future Jazz Masters Award was given to Kai Spatzier and singer/songwriter Madi Hendry received the Dolly Parton Songwriters Award. As always, BMI was proud to support these emerging music creators and our entire outstanding BMI family of songwriters, composers and publishers.

College Band Directors National Association

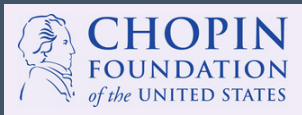


200+ college band directors gathered at the University of Montana May 29 - June 1 for the CBDNA (College Band Directors National Association) Athletic Band Symposium. On the agenda was a trip to Flathead Lake/KwaTaqNuk Resort where they heard a talk from a member of the indigenous tribe. This followed a busy spring of five successful division conferences held at Cornell University, University of Memphis, Ohio State University, Las Vegas School of the Arts, and Baylor University.



[View more photos of the event on Instagram @cbdna_national!](#)

Chopin Foundation of the United States



Chopin Foundation of the United States Celebrates a Remarkable Season and the 2025 National Chopin Piano Competition

The Chopin Foundation of the United States recently concluded a memorable concert season with an extraordinary finale featuring the brilliant Polish pianist Mateusz Krzyżowski, a finalist at the prestigious 2021 Chopin Competition in Warsaw. Krzyżowski's virtuosic performances were part of the 28th annual CHOPIN for ALL concert series, which took place at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts in Fort Lauderdale and the Granada Church in Coral Gables. We invite you to watch the edited live stream recording [HERE](#).



In addition to the two free concerts that drew capacity crowds (over 700 attended), Krzyżowski shared his expertise at a masterclass for piano students at the Dillard Center for the Arts, a Title 1 arts magnet public school in Broward County. The Chopin Foundation began this masterclass partnership with Dillard last season, and to

date, six of the featured guest pianists have worked with the students to improve their classical repertoire.



The Foundation's commitment to fostering young talent and promoting the music of Chopin was on full display during the successful presentation of the sixth Frost Chopin Festival and Academy held this year from June 9 – 16. This vital partnership with the Frost School of Music at the University of Miami is directed by acclaimed pianist and professor Kevin Kenner. It provides a platform for young pianists to showcase their skills and learn from the best in the field.



This year, the Academy featured an outstanding faculty, including Kenner, Dmitry Ablogin, Dina Yoffe, Edward Auer, and Tian Ying. Among the promising 36 student participants were many recipients of the Chopin Foundation Scholarship program, including 17-year-old William Ge, who won second place and the special Chopin Prize at

the 2023 MTNA National Senior Piano Competition, and won the Concerto Competition at the Frost Academy. His stunning performance with orchestra at the final concert of the Frost Chopin Festival was a fitting end to our programs this fiscal year. Please enjoy the livestream recordings from the Frost Chopin Festival [HERE](#).

The Chopin Foundation has seen a record number of scholarship applicants this year – 59 submissions as of the May 15 deadline. While limited funds will not permit us to grant all applicants an award, the enthusiastic response clearly indicates the increasing interest in Chopin's music among young pianists. The Chopin Foundation's Scholarship Program for Young Pianists has been a pivotal steppingstone for many aspiring young pianists for 26 years, and music teachers across the country have come to recognize the value of this prestigious and competitive educational opportunity. Learn more about the Chopin Foundation's Scholarship Program and its past scholarship recipients [HERE](#).

Looking ahead to 2025, the Chopin Foundation is thrilled to announce the dates for the next National Chopin Piano Competition, a significant event on the classical music calendar. From January 3 – 12, the 2025 competition promises to uphold its legacy of excellence, with young pianists from across the United States vying for the top prize of \$100,000. Celebrating 50 years since the first Competition was held in 1975, the Competition has embraced many distinguished pianists. Once again, the top two winners will go on to compete at the International Chopin Piano Competition in Warsaw. Everyone is invited to Miami to witness the exceptional talent of these young pianists and enjoy the beauty of Chopin's music.

Get to know more about the next National Chopin Piano Competition [HERE](#).



For more information on upcoming events and to stay updated on the latest news, we invite you to visit the Chopin Foundation's official website and follow our social media pages [HERE](#). Please save the dates for the 2025 National Chopin Piano Competition and join us in celebrating the enduring legacy of Frederic Chopin. As a cultural icon in the State of Florida, the Chopin Foundation has provided the community with world-class musical performances for 50 years. We, along with so many other arts organizations in Florida, were horrified to learn that Governor DeSantis vetoed ALL arts funding this fiscal year – a year when we will be celebrating 50 years since the first National Chopin Piano Competition. If you have ever considered supporting Florida arts organizations, this would be the year to make a difference.

Music Performance Trust Fund



The Recording Industry's Music Performance Trust Fund Invests \$1.1 Million in Grants to Communities to Celebrate Jazz Appreciation Month

The recording industry's Music Performance Trust Fund (MPTF), a leading non-profit organization enriching lives and uniting communities through the power of music, wrapped up its annual initiative to present admission-free live musical performances celebrating Jazz Appreciation Month (JAM) in April.

Nearly 5,000 professional musicians in 78 markets across North America performed for appreciative audiences from Honolulu to Saskatoon to New Orleans and beyond. Events were held in parks, libraries, schools, art galleries, assisted living residences, community centers, churches, and other venues where communities gather. This includes 66 live-streamed events available on the MPTF Facebook page to anyone in the United States and Canada.

MPTF Trustee Dan Beck commented, "Our JAM initiative continues to grow, particularly coming out of the pandemic. We appreciate the enormous efforts of the American Federation of Musicians for organizing these admission-free performances across North America."

Primarily funded by four major record companies, including Sony Music, Universal

Music Group, Warner Music Group, and Walt Disney Records, the MPTF has also played a vital role in support of the music industry's gig economy. The independently run organization has distributed millions of dollars in financial resources and grants, engaging professional musicians who are members of the American Federation of Musicians (AFM) to perform live in admission-free events across North America. Since its founding in 1948, the MPTF has distributed approximately \$624.8 million (USD) in sponsorship money.

In 2019 the initiative provided 125 fully funded performances throughout the U.S. and Canada; that grew to 270 events in 2022. In 2023, MPTF's JAM events grew again to 575 performances and in 2024, the number of events increased by nearly 30% to 770 admission-free performances featuring the rich and varied legacy of the history of jazz music.

Awareness for the 2024 campaign benefitted from the addition of media partners [Allaboutjazz.com](https://www.allaboutjazz.com) and [Jazznearyou.com](https://www.jazznearyou.com), websites which boast the world's largest jazz events calendar and reach a combined 240,000 viewers per month.

"We were thrilled to work with the Music Performance Trust Fund and support union locals of the American Federation of Musicians throughout the U.S. and Canada," stated Michael Ricci, founder and publisher of [AllAboutJazz.com](https://www.AllAboutJazz.com) and [JazzNearYou.com](https://www.JazzNearYou.com). "By posting dates for these performances on our website, we gave presenters and performers a wider audience while helping more jazz enthusiasts locate and attend live jazz events in their communities."

Events were organized by American Federation of Musicians locals to ensure fair compensation for all performers.

About the MPTF: The recording industry's Music Performance Trust Fund is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit public service organization whose mission is to support admission-free, live events performed by professional musicians throughout the United States and Canada. We seek to enrich the lives of the public, young and old, through music, and to contribute to the public's knowledge and appreciation of music. We also seek to make music and music education an exciting experience, and to expand it to every child's life experience. The MPTF was established more than 75 years ago by recording companies including Sony Music, Universal Music Group, and Warner Music Group. Interested parties may contact Natty Hepburn-Beaty, Manager of Marketing Services, at nhepburnbeaty@musicpf.org or visit www.musicpf.org.

About the AAJ: All About Jazz has been a pillar of the jazz community since 1995, championing the music as an art form and, more importantly, supporting the musicians who create it. Their enduring commitment has made "AAJ" one of the most culturally important websites of its kind, read by hundreds of thousands of enthusiasts, musicians and industry figures every month. For more information, contact Michael Ricci at mricci.aaj@gmail.com.

Music Teachers National Association



MTNA Announces Brian Shepard as CEO

Music Teachers National Association announces Brian Shepard as the organization's new Chief Executive Officer, effective July 1, 2024.

Shepard first began his career at MTNA in 2003 as the Director of Marketing and Public Relations. In 2008, he was promoted to Chief Operating Officer. During his tenure as COO, Shepard has increased the association's operational efficiencies, overseen the expansion of MTNA's in-person national events, grown current revenue streams and introduced new ones to further the organization's mission.

The search for CEO was launched after Dr. Gary L. Ingle, having served for 28 years, announced his retirement effective June 30, 2024. The MTNA Board and Search Committee selected DHR Global, under the leadership of Philip DeBoer and James Abruzzo, to execute the search.

2024 Group Piano/Piano Pedagogy Forum

The 2024 Group Piano/Piano Pedagogy (GP3) Forum is set to take place August 2–3 at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati, Ohio. GP3 brings together educators, students and leaders in the field of piano pedagogy for two days of teaching, learning and sharing, featuring plenary sessions by Anthony Brandt and Vanessa Cornett, NCTM, lightning talks,

panel discussions and more. Register and learn more at www.mtna.org/GP3.

Present at the 14th Annual Collegiate Symposium

The 2025 Collegiate Symposium will be held January 18–19 at the University of Oklahoma in Norman, Oklahoma. The MTNA Collegiate Symposium Planning Committee is currently seeking proposals from collegiate chapters, college students and newly graduated young professionals to present at the Symposium, with a deadline of September 27 at 3:00 P.M. Eastern Time. Proposals can be submitted online at www.mtna.org/Symposium/.

Grants Applications Available

Applications are now available for MTNA Foundation Fund grants. Collegiate Travel and Enrichment Grant applications are due November 1, 2024, 3:00 P.M. Eastern Time. All other grant applications will be due May 1, 2025, 3:00 P.M. Eastern Time. For more information, visit www.mtnafoundation.org.

MTNA Student Competitions

Registration for the MTNA Composition, Junior, Senior and Young Artist competitions will open in August, with a deadline of September 11, 2024, at 3:00 P.M. Eastern Time. Chamber Music, Brass and Voice (Senior and Young Artist only) applications will open in November, with a deadline of December 4, 2024, at 3:00 P.M. Eastern Time. For more information, visit www.mtna.org.

2025 MTNA National Conference

The next MTNA National Conference will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, March 15–19, 2025. Headlining artists include Libby Larsen, Michelle Cann, Jennifer Linn, John Bloomfield and Lynda Lybeck-Robinson. Stay tuned at www.mtna.org/conference for information on registration, schedule, hotel blocks and more.

MTNA eFestival

The MTNA eFestival is an online-only performance opportunity where entrants receive a constructive critique from a highly qualified evaluator. Evaluations for solo piano, brass, woodwind, strings, voice, guitar/mandolin, ukulele, organ, percussion, harp and chamber music (maximum six) are available through this program. Musicians may be of any age or performance level and need not be studying with an MTNA member to participate. The MTNA eFestival runs year-round with no deadlines. For more information, www.mtna.org.

Follow MTNA on Instagram

MTNA is on Instagram. Follow us at [@mtnaorg](https://www.instagram.com/mtnaorg) to stay up-to-date on the latest deadlines, industry news, trends and more.

National Association for Music Education



Meet the NAFME President (2024–2026) Deb Confredo:

On June 4, 2024, Deborah A. Confredo began her term as the 2024–2026 NAFME National President. She is a 44-year veteran music educator and currently Professor of Music Education and Director of Online Graduate Studies in Music Education at Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Additionally, Confredo is Past Chair of the NAFME Society for Research in Music Education and Chair of the NAFME Music Teacher Profession Initiative. Learn more: nafme.org/person/deb-confredo.



NAfME President (2024–2026) Deb Confredo

Reassessing the National Arts Standards:

NAfME is a member of the National Coalition for Arts Standards (NCAS), which received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts in 2023 to begin a gap analysis of the standards through the lens of culturally responsive teaching and student-centered instruction. In phase I of the project, a panel of expert advisors representing diverse heritages and communities convened to review the standards for areas of needed change or revision. The group performed a rigorous gap analysis to assess the National Arts Standards for cultural sensitivity and inclusion and are now drafting a guidance document for standards creation and use.

In the next phase of “Creating a Community for All Learners—Reimagining Standards-Based Arts Education for Equity & Inclusion,” a selected cohort of teachers and teaching artists representing the five arts areas—chosen by the NCAS member organizations from PK–12 educational programs and school districts representing rural, suburban, and urban communities—will choose a frequently taught

taught [standards-based](#) lesson from their own practice to revise and pilot, using the guidance created by the panel of experts. The project will officially end in December 2024.

Omar Thomas Is the Keynote Speaker for the 2024 Biennial NAFME Music Research and Teacher Education Conference:

Hailed by Herbie Hancock as showing “great promise as a new voice in the further development of jazz in the future,” educator, arranger, and award-winning composer Omar Thomas has created music extensively in the contemporary jazz and symphonic idiom. Omar has previously served as an Associate Professor of Harmony at Berklee College of Music and on faculty in the Music Theory department of The Peabody Institute of The Johns Hopkins University. He currently serves as Assistant Professor of Composition and Jazz Studies at The University of Texas at Austin. He has thrice been awarded the Certificate of Distinction in Teaching from Harvard University, where he served as a Teaching Fellow for four years. Omar was awarded the Boston Music Award’s “Jazz Artist of the Year” in 2012, and in 2017, Omar was selected from an international pool of applicants to be an artist-in-residence at the Cité Internationale des Arts in Paris. In 2019, he was awarded the National Bandmasters Association/Revelli Award for his wind composition “Come Sunday,” becoming the first Black composer awarded the honor in the contest’s 42-year history. This conference will take place September 25–28 at the Westin Peachtree Plaza in Atlanta, Georgia. Registration is now open, and early bird rates are available through August 6. The NAFME hotel block rate deadline is August 25. Interested sponsors can reach out to corporate@nafme.org.

[Learn more here.](#)



Keynote Speaker, Omar Thomas

2024 NAFME Collegiate Recognition Awards:

The annually awarded [NAfME Collegiate Recognition Awards](#) saw a 124% increase in award submissions from the 2022-2023 academic year. The [NAfME Collegiate Advisory Council](#) awarded nine Chapter of Excellence awards to the following NAFME Collegiate Chapters in their respective areas: the University of Nebraska at Kearney (advocacy), Dickinson State University (advocacy), Florida Gulf Coast University (professional development), Nazareth University (professional development), Ohio Northern University (professional development), Western Carolina University (recruitment), University of Idaho (service), University of Indianapolis (service), and Hofstra University (service). Additionally, the Council awarded eight Professional Achievement Awards to the following outstanding music education students: Alexis Gist (University of Idaho), Elizabeth Jones (University of Indianapolis), Tori Condra (University of Indianapolis), Colleen Gorski (Miami University), Madison Garraffo (Hofstra University), Amari Junkins (Ohio University University), Caroline

Feryo (Indiana University), and Amanda House (Dickinson State University). Of these recipients, two were selected to receive the [Shannon Kelly Kane scholarship](#): Elizabeth Jones and Tori Condra. For more information, please visit nafme.org/collegiate.

NAfME Collegiate Kickoff Week:

NAfME Collegiate's annual Collegiate Kickoff Week returns this fall from September 16-20 with a week of exciting, virtual programming. Themes this year include Service Monday, Musical Tuesday, Advocacy Wednesday, Professional Development Thursday, and Chapter Recruitment Friday. Chapters are encouraged to promote chapter activities and initiatives on social media while connecting with fellow music educators from around the country. Check out a [recap of last year's Collegiate Kickoff Week](#) and visit nafme.org/collegiate for more information.

Connected Arts Networks Project—

Opportunities for PreK–12 Music Educators:

NAfME is seeking additional PreK–12 teacher participants to join a vibrant group of professional learning communities (PLCs) for music educators throughout the United States through the Connected Arts Networks (CAN) project. Beginning in January 2024, CAN PLCs met virtually each month of the school year. The PLCs will continue meeting during the upcoming school year through June 2026 and will focus on professional learning and developing and sharing action research projects in the areas of intersection between equity, diversity, and inclusion; social emotional learning; and teacher leadership through standards-based arts instruction. Interested music educators are invited to **apply by July 15** to join PLCs starting in fall 2024. [Learn more here.](#)

NAfME Corporate Membership:

Amplify your brand in music education with [NAfME's Corporate Membership](#). Benefit from exclusive access to a network of more than 55,000 engaged K-12 and higher education music educators, enhancing your impact and extending your outreach in the profession. Learn more: nafme.org/membership/corporate.

NAFME PUBLIC POLICY AND ADVOCACY UPDATES

NAfME Partners with Four Other Arts Education Associations to Advance Federal Policy Goals:

NAfME Assistant Executive Director for Advocacy and Public Policy Amanda Karhuse will lead federal advocacy to amplify the value of arts education for this new partnership, which includes the Educational Theatre Association, National Art Education Association, National Association for Media Arts Education, National Association for Music Education, and National Dance Education Organization. "Our collective goal is for all schools to be arts-rich schools," said Karhuse. "This partnership allows us to speak with one voice for the value of arts education." To learn more about federal policy goals for music and arts education, visit nafme.org/advocacy.



NAfME Endorses Sen. Cory Booker's (NJ) Resolution Recognizing African American Contributions to Music:

"This resolution highlights the rich and impactful contributions of African American musicians to the musical history of the United States," said NAfME President Deborah Confredo. "Additionally, this resolution shines a spotlight on the disparity in access to music education for African American students, and

the lack of representation for African Americans in the music education profession. The musical history of the United States is as diverse as the country itself, but to continue our tradition of culturally diverse musical offerings, we must ensure all students have access to a comprehensive and culturally relevant music education."

[Read the press release here.](#)

NAfME 2024-2026 President-Elect Cecil Adderley Speaks at Capitol Hill Briefing on Black Music Month:

On June 27, NAfME President-Elect Cecil Adderley spoke as part of a panel discussion hosted by Rep. Shontel Brown (OH-11), who is a member of the Congressional Rock&Roll Caucus, along with Dr. Dwandalyn Reece, curator of music and performing arts at the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, and Dr. Stephanie Shonekan, Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities and Professor of Ethnomusicology, Musicology & Ethnomusicology at the University of Maryland. The panel discussion focused on Black music, including aspects of culture, history, and music education, and featured historic artifacts from the Library of Congress. Earlier in June, Congresswoman Brown introduced a House resolution recognizing June as Black Music Month, co-led by Congressman André Carson (IN-07), a Co-Chair of the Congressional Hip Hop Power and Justice Task Force and Congressman Gregory Meeks (NY-05) and supported by 44 original cosponsors.

NAfME Endorses the Reimagining Inclusive Arts Education Act:

NAfME is proud to endorse the Reimagining Inclusive Arts Education Act (H.R.7261), introduced by Rep. David Scott (GA-13) and developed in partnership with the Georgia Music Educators Association (GMEA).

Recognizing the benefits of arts education for children with disabilities, this legislation would provide grants to further train music and arts educators and arts therapists working with children with disabilities. Specifically, this legislation would direct the Secretary of Education to establish a new Inclusive Arts Education Grant Program.

[Learn more about what this program would provide here.](#)

NAfME Honors Rep. David Scott (GA-13) as the 2024 NAfME Music Education Champion:

NAfME presented the Music Education Champion Award to Rep. Scott June 12 during NAfME Hill Day 2024. Presented to only a few recipients through the course of the association's 117-year history, the award recognizes personal commitment to the promotion of music education, both through engagement with policymakers and outreach to potential music education supporters. "We applaud Rep. David Scott for his tireless efforts to advance equitable access to music education, while including GMEA and NAfME in those conversations," said NAfME President Deb Confredo. "Rep. Scott has shown himself to not only be a steadfast music education advocate, but also a supporter of NAfME, our state affiliates, and the work of our organization. Rep. Scott's commitment to increasing access to music education for diverse populations is one of the many qualities he embodies that make him a Music Education Champion." [Learn more here](#)

NAfME 2024 Hill Day Brings Together More Than 300 Music Education Leaders and Future Music Educators:

On June 12, music education leaders and music educators from around the country, including 2024 GRAMMY Music Educator Award honoree Annie Ray of Annandale High

School in Virginia, visited Capitol Hill to meet with elected officials and advocate for key legislation and education funding priorities that would support music education, culminating in a rousing gathering for a public sing-along on Capitol Hill. The Rhode Island Music Education Association was also honored with the 2024 NAfME Excellence in Advocacy Award. "Teachers, by nature, are leaders—in their classroom, in their community, and on Capitol Hill," shared NAfME President Deb Confredo. "The annual NAfME Hill Day provides a wonderful opportunity to engage with legislators and share the benefits of music teaching and learning." Read about the Music Education Policy Roundtable legislative priorities which helped guide conversations during the meetings: [here](#). To join the Roundtable, email advocacy@nafme.org.

"Harmony on Capitol Hill" Event Co-Hosted by NAfME and CMA Foundation:

On March 11, 2024, NAfME, the Country Music Association (CMA) Foundation, and Congresswoman Nydia Velázquez (NY-07) hosted the "Harmony on Capitol Hill" briefing in Washington, DC. This event was held in recognition of 39 years of Music In Our Schools Month® (MIOSM®), highlighting the importance of music education in shaping young minds and enriching our society. A panel discussion moderated by Executive Director CMA Foundation Tiffany Kerns featured three seasoned music educators: Shawna Longo, District Supervisor of Visual and Performing Arts/Consumer Education—Westfield Public Schools, New Jersey; DaJuana Hammonds, Music and Choral Teacher—Hull-Jackson Montessori School, Metro Nashville Public Schools, Tennessee; Jared Cassidy, K-12 Performing Arts Coordinator, LHS Wind Ensemble Conductor—Lexington Public Schools, Massachusetts; along with the University of Maryland, College Park NAfME

Collegiate Chapter President Jenna Dietrich.
[Read more and watch the full briefing here.](#)



Photo: © Ashlee Wilcox Photography, LLC.

Updated Federal Funds Survey:

The National Association for Music Education (NAfME), in collaboration with the NAMM Foundation, Educational Theatre Association (EdTA), the National Dance Education Organization (NDEO), and the National Art Education Association (NAEA), conducted its second annual survey to collect data on the use of federal funds to support music and the arts (dance, theatre, and visual arts). View the [survey results here](#).

NAfME urges advocates to reach out to U.S. Senators and Representatives to support funding for key programs and legislation that supports music education. Learn more about NAfME policy priorities: nafme.org/advocacy/policy-priorities.

National Federation of Music Clubs



NFMC members are currently basking in the wonderful music and workshops held during our 2024 Conference in Bettendorf, Iowa.

The 2024 Conference brought workshops by pedagogue and composers, Dr. Helen Marlais, Dr. Jason Sifford, and Melody Bober.

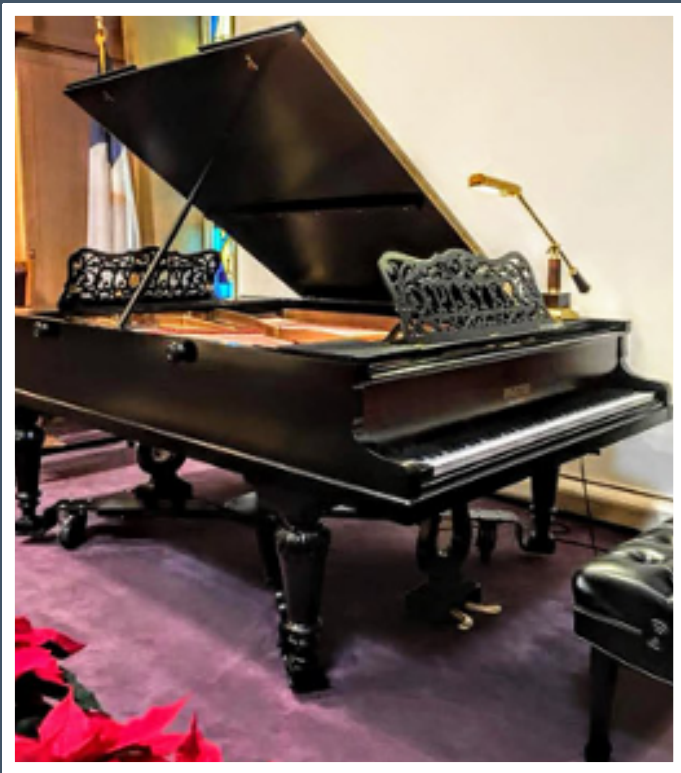
Audrey Johnson presented a concert on **Of Thee I Sing: American Heritage Through Song**, an innovative performance platform featuring educational, interactive concert programming with the mission of bringing American history to life through music.

NFMC Young Artist Winners performed and collaborated for a memorable concert. Anna Han, piano; Leland Ko, cello; Michael Celentano, man's voice; and Krista Pape, Woman's voice.

Former Ellis Duo winners **Happy Dog Duo** – Dr. Eric Tran and Dr. Nathan Cheung, performed on a Pleyel double-grand piano. The Pleyel Double Grand Piano at Asbury United Methodist Church is 1 of 7 Pleyel double grand pianos known to remain in the world, and the only playable Pleyel double grand in the Western Hemisphere.

It has two facing keyboards with two complete & separate sets of strings, on one shared soundboard. The resonance created by this

design is akin to the extra harmonics created by a 12-string guitar - only with over 460 strings.



NFMC awards over \$750,000 annually to Junior, Student, and Adult musicians. I encourage all of you to visit our Competitions and Awards chart and share these opportunities with your friends and colleagues. www.nfmc-music.org Join us in promoting American music!

Deborah Freeman, NFMC President

National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS)



Careers

Looking to turn the skills and abilities you learned from performing arts activities into a lifelong career? The NFHS has built these careers pages to help bridge the gap for students looking to use their gifts after graduation!



NFHS Performing Arts Conference

The 2024 NFHS Performing Arts Conference will take place from September 23-25 with committee meetings taking place before and after. There will be a mixture of speech, debate, theatre, academics, and music sessions, along with the NFHS Performing Arts Update. Click [here](#) to register.



[NFHS Performing Arts Conference](#)

Sigma Alpha Iota International Music Fraternity



Sigma Alpha Iota International Music Fraternity has just completed a busy round of scholarship auditions and is very happy to announce the winner of the SAI Philanthropies Career Performance Grant, given in memory of Verna Ross Orndorff. Hannah Comia, initiated at William Paterson University, is an outstanding pianist and SAI is proud to have a part in launching her career. An avid recitalist and academic, Hannah uses her programs to educate and engage

audiences with recitals focused on independence, identity, women composers, and composers of color in both the US and Europe.

At the next triennial National Convention, to be held in Minneapolis, MN, July 17-21, 2025, the featured Benefit Concert Artist will be Rachel Barton Pine, an SAI Honorary Member and violinist extraordinaire.

Submissions for new percussion ensemble compositions are now being accepted for the InterAmerican Music Awards competition. The two Composer/Judges, who will also have premieres of commissioned works, will be Libby Larsen and Jerod Impichchaachaaha' Tate. Visit www.sai-national.org for more information.



Music World News

Your membership in the National Music Council gives you access to the [IMC Music World News eBulletin](#), which presents music news from around the world. The bulletin is emailed to subscribers every two weeks free of charge. It reaches more than 70 countries on all five continents.

Music World News is divided into six sections:

- Music the artform and artists
- Music Industry
- Music Education
- Policy, Research & Politics
- Technologies and media
- The Pointy End

The International Music Council

IMC is the world's largest network of music organizations and institutions, founded by UNESCO and dedicated to the advancement of essential music rights for all people. We stand for a world where everyone can enjoy access to music, where they can learn, experience, create, perform, and express themselves through music, and in which artists of every kind are recognized and fairly remunerated. IMC brings together people, ideas and actions under the umbrella of the Five Music Rights.

We raise awareness and encourage members and others by

- Advocating the Five Music Rights across society and to decision-makers in arts education, policy, and industry
- Bringing together the expertise of music organisations and institutions supporting the Five Music Rights
- Enabling and implementing initiatives advancing the Five Music Rights

THE BEST PLACE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH THE NATIONAL MUSIC COUNCIL IS THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA!



The content on our social channels allows you to stay updated on National Music Council events, remain informed about the latest developments in music rights, and support causes surrounding music education. With that being said, we warmly welcome you to give our Facebook page a thumbs-up and join us on Instagram!



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