

MSO board meeting

August 11, 2026 – in person

Present

- Craig Purdy, Jennifer Rhees, Louise van der Eijk, Erik Larson, Jennifer Anderson, Lee Roby, Cathy Durfey, Ken Suchy, Kim Moss,

Absent

- Sarah Stevens, Richelle Greene, Dan Malan, Terry Berger,

Board elections

- Louise mentioned she has a friend that could potentially be a community member
- Cathy and Savannah are not currently board members. Cathy volunteered to be on the ballot but Savannah's name was tossed in as someone we might talk to about being on the board.

Meridian Art Spark

- Saturday August 29th 11am-7pm. Need volunteers – need canopy, table, banners and candy and assorted SWAG for attendees

League of American Orchestras renewal is due

- Agreed to renew for another year. There are very good videos and webinars that are beneficial to running a symphony

Personnel

- Auditions Saturday August 15th in BSU choir room– 8 signed up so far – could use additional help
- Pre-season gathering Monday August 31st at 7pm at 1st United Church of Christ – setup at 6:30pm – will provide dessert
 - § Agenda – dates, personnel, repertoire, folder pick up, elections and ask for help with facilities

26-27 Season

- American Spirit 250th anniversary theme – Copland Outdoor Overture, Lincoln Portrait and Hanson Symphony No.2 ~1.25 hrs with no intermission
- Typical holiday concert music – hasn't been finalized
- Shakespeare type theme – Hamlet Tchaikovsky, Richard III Svetlana, Romeo and Juliet Tchaikovsky, Wedding march, etc
- Busy B's theme – Candide, Bartok, Beethoven Borodin

- Dates Nov 7, Dec 12 and 13, March 6th, May 1st

Facilities

- Initial rehearsal space available at Lake Hazel Middle School – will lose in mid October, need another rehearsal space – possible locations Mountain View HS, Capital HS, South Junior High
- Meridian HS not available for rehearsals until November. Band director wants a written agreement of use of facilities
- MPAC coordinator for Meridian HS gave us 4 dates for concerts – only date that works for MSO is Dec 12 and 13th
- Centennial (CPAC) possibly available for all four concerts, preference is to use same facility for all four concerts.
- Facilitron opens August 15th – concert dates are not finalized until booked on Facilitron

Comp tickets – limit to two per player – exceptions will be made for hardships, gift additional comp tickets to local band directors to encourage student attendance

Interns – need to finalize the ads – social media intern and we need a house concert manager for concert days

Zeffy – have moved payment system to Zeffy – there is no charge to use, will send letters automatically

Website – MSO website is dated and needs to be rebuilt. Look at website and give feedback. Wix is the website platform – need help

Financials – All honorariums owed to Jim have been paid and the overall balance is lower, but financials are up from last year attributed to increased ticket sales, season ticket sales and contributions

Grants – Kim is looking at grants – has account setup – Zeffy has a resource for grants by category such as fine arts

Fundraising – on agenda for pre-season gathering – selling of advertising space in our programs

Discussion about broadcasting MSO performances on channel 4 – Lee Roby will look into it

Young Artist Competition – Jan 23rd, will be a junior and senior division winner to play in each concert March and May. Jim will be asked to be a judge; Craig will recuse himself from judging.

Discussions on pre-concert talks that Craig could give so attendees could have access to Craig and get to know him – also having some sort reception to meet the conductor hosted at a house

Tammy De Weerd Award is Wednesday Aug 26th 5pm-8pm – would be good to attend to support Jim.

Next board meeting October 1, 2026