



## Cy-Près

Incorporated in 2015, London Symphonia proudly carries on an orchestral tradition that began in London in 1937. We are a professional orchestra that promotes excellence in classical and contemporary musical performance as well as education to the public through the presentation of an annual series of innovative and engaging concerts in and for the London, Ontario community and beyond.

Positioned as a community-centred organization, we are guided by the following core principles:

- Striving for excellence and innovation in classical and contemporary music
- Building a strong artistic future for the London region by operating a sustainable orchestra
- Seeking meaningful community partnerships, connecting the region and its people
- Inspiring citizens, especially young people, to learn about and to enjoy music

We are an organization that can perform concerts involving as many as 60 musicians or as few as 10, making us flexible and nimble enough to meet virtually any orchestral need in the community.

## History

After the closing of Orchestra London Canada Inc. in December, 2014, the musicians of the orchestra, with a strong desire to continue offering high quality musical performance to the local community, began performing as an independent ensemble. "Pop-up" performances occurred in libraries, hockey rinks, theatres, retirement homes, and even at the London International Airport. The notion that the musicians were continuing to 'play on', despite the troubles of the former administration, caught the public's attention and the moniker #WePlayOn began to surface - a campaign name that has since represented the efforts of the group. #WePlayOn (now renamed London Symphonia) has now evolved into a well-respected and acclaimed orchestra and was formally incorporated in November, 2015 (Incorporation # 950613-6). The organization subsequently received charitable status in January, 2016 (Charitable # 79748 8129 RR0001). It legally changed its name to London Symphonia in February, 2017.

Since incorporating, the orchestra has performed numerous ticketed orchestral events in churches, at major outdoor London festivals, and a significant number of "pop-up" concerts. Guest conductors and performers of international acclaim have included Bramwell Tovey and the Amabile Singers of London, Canada. Because of the extraordinary efforts of our Music Advisor, the unwavering commitment and in-kind support of our musicians and administrative

staff, and financial support from our ticket sales, private donations, corporate sponsorship and all three levels of government, London Symphonia is now positioned for continued growth. We are remarkably resilient and look forward to serving the orchestral needs of the London community and beyond for many years to come.

To this end, we have a new Composer-In-Residence in place (who will refine the curatorial aspects of many of our presentations), a committed Board of Directors with experience in non-profit governance to set our policies and provide fiscal guidance, an established business plan which includes administrative procedures, operations, marketing and fundraising activities, and have established relationships with all 3 levels of government as future funding sources, which we expect will continue to grow such that project and operational funding will be procured. We are also proud to have witnessed a substantial renewed loyalty from Orchestra London's prior patrons and donors, a statement of their confidence in our organization.

## **Governance**

London Symphonia is governed by a volunteer [Board of Directors](#) that works together with the Artistic Advisory Council, which is comprised of musicians from the orchestra. The Board of Directors brings a variety of professional backgrounds and business expertise to oversee all aspects of administration, marketing, fundraising, programming and personnel in a fiscally responsible manner. A strong volunteer base committed to the arts and live performance is key to our success.

## **Summary**

London Symphonia is clearly the successor organization to the former Orchestra London and various orchestral iterations prior to our incorporation in 2015. As such, we are committed to the ongoing enrichment of the cultural community in London and region and look forward to providing our loyal and committed patrons and donors many future years of musical enjoyment.

If you would like more information about legacy giving, please contact our Fundraising Associate at [paula@londonsymphonia.ca](mailto:paula@londonsymphonia.ca) or 226-270-0910.

The contents herein are current as at the date of writing and are not intended to replace legal, tax, financial or any other professional advice. It is recommended that you consult your professional advisor to ensure any estate planning strategies you are considering are in keeping with your own personal tax, estate or financial situation.

London Symphonia, Incorporated 2015, Charitable Registration # 797488129 RR001  
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