

Dear Mid-Columbia Symphony Orchestra Member,

I hope this message finds you well. It applies to all musicians who have played with the Mid-Columbia Symphony this past season.

As you know, our orchestra has always relied on the dedication, talent, and passion of its musicians to bring high-quality performances to our community. Your continued support has been the cornerstone of our success, and we are deeply grateful for all that you have contributed.

At this time, the Mid-Columbia Symphony is facing significant financial challenges. To help sustain the orchestra and continue fulfilling our mission, we are planning a reduced season consisting of three fundraising concerts, rather than our usual five. These performances will be essential in generating much-needed support from our audience, donors, and grant organizations.

Due to our current financial constraints, we are unfortunately unable to offer our standard musician fees for these concerts. Instead, we are asking our musicians to consider donating their time and talent for these events as a way to help ensure the orchestra's future.

The planned concert dates are as follows:

- Saturday, October 18, 2025 – 7:00 PM
- Saturday, December 20, 2025 – 7:00 PM and Sunday, December 21, 2025 – 3:30 PM
- Saturday, March 28, 2026 – 7:00 PM

To help reduce the time commitment, the current proposal includes eliminating one rehearsal per concert cycle, leaving just one standard rehearsal and one dress rehearsal. Please note that this adjustment is still under review and has not yet been finalized.

We understand this is a significant request, and we do not take it lightly. Your artistry is invaluable, and we remain fully committed to restoring regular compensation as soon as our financial situation improves.

In the meantime, your willingness to contribute to this fundraising effort would be a tremendous gift to the organization and to the community that so deeply values our performances.

Please take some time to consider this request. If you are willing to donate your time—and we sincerely hope you are—please reply to this email and let us know which of the concerts you would be available to participate in. If you have any questions or would like to discuss further, don't hesitate to reach out.

Thank you for your time, your talent, and your continued belief in the music we create together.

With deep appreciation,

George Winter, MCS concert manager