



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Boston Symphony Orchestra Approves New Three-Year Labor Agreement

BOSTON (August 25, 2026) – The Boston Symphony Orchestra (BSO) musicians, the Boston Musicians' Association, and the BSO trustees and management approved a new collective bargaining agreement effective through August 26, 2029. The contract provides competitive financial packages for the musicians and expands their role in artistic decision-making, including the search for the BSO's next Music Director.

With the agreement in place, the musicians, BSO trustees, and management are focused on the BSO's next chapter, beginning with the start of the 2026-2027 season and the Music Director search this fall.

"I'm proud of the agreement we reached, which deepens our collaboration with the musicians and strengthens their role in the artistic planning process," said **Chad Smith, BSO President and CEO**. "This agreement marks an important milestone for the BSO and reflects our shared commitment to artistic excellence. I am grateful to the musicians for their partnership in reaching an outcome that supports our artists, audiences, and the communities we serve, and to the BSO Board of Trustees for their thoughtful engagement during this process."

"As stewards of an institution built and sustained across generations, we have a responsibility to leave the BSO stronger than we found it," said **Barbara Hostetter, Chair of the BSO Board of Trustees**. "This agreement reflects that commitment, and I am deeply grateful to our musicians, our leadership and staff, and everyone in the BSO community whose collaboration made it possible. As the BSO enters its next chapter, we will build on this momentum to ensure the organization is positioned to reach even greater heights."

The BSO's 2026-2027 season opens September 17 with Music Director Andris Nelsons leading a special program featuring Yo-Yo Ma in Edward Elgar's monumental Cello Concerto, as well as works by Brahms and Arturs Maskats. More information about the upcoming season can be found at bso.org/2026.

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