



Continued Musician Strike Forces Cancellation of FWSO Concerts Scheduled for September 30 – October 2

FORT WORTH, TX – September 20, 2016 – Due to the ongoing strike initiated by the musicians of the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra Association is forced to announce the cancellation of the symphonic concerts scheduled to be performed September 30 - October 2 at Bass Performance Hall. No other FWSOA concerts are affected at this time. If this changes, the FWSOA will immediately communicate with its patrons.

“We regret that we had to cancel these performances due to the ongoing strike. The continued and loyal support of patrons and ticket holders during this difficult time is truly appreciated,” says Mercedes T. Bass, Chairman of the FWSOA Board of Directors. “The management and board are steadfastly committed to operating in a responsible manner to secure the future of this Orchestra.”

The FWSOA bargained in good faith for more than 15 months, with 34 negotiation sessions and federal mediation.

- **August 31, 2016** – Through federal mediation, the FWSOA reached a tentative agreement with the Union and musicians’ negotiating committee for a new contract for FWSO musicians. The contract would have covered four years ending July 31, 2020, and was unanimously recommended for ratification by the musicians’ negotiating committee.
- **September 4, 2016** – The tentative agreement was rejected by the musicians.
- **September 7, 2016** – A negotiating session took place during which the Union and musicians’ negotiating committee completely reversed its position, demanding three years of pay increases that the Association has no way to fund.
- **September 8, 2016** – The musicians initiated a strike, causing the cancellation of concerts.

“We are disheartened that the musicians rejected the tentative agreement that was reached in good faith, reversed course, and initiated a strike,” says FWSOA President and CEO Amy Adkins. “There is no doubt that we are in the delicate position of wanting to provide our musicians with pay increases, while also being limited by our financial constraints.”

Further information regarding the ongoing strike is available at www.fwsymphony.org/contract.

The FWSOA will notify ticket holders immediately regarding options for handling unused tickets. Patrons are encouraged to hold onto their tickets and wait for notification before calling the ticket office. Information regarding the concert cancellations is available at www.fwsymphony.org.

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