

NEWS



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MAYOR JOHN F. STREET ANNOUNCES SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT REACHED BETWEEN PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA AND MUSICIANS

PHILADELPHIA — I am happy to announce an agreement has been reached today on a settlement of the contract dispute between the Philadelphia Orchestra and the musicians of the Orchestra. This agreement must be ratified by both parties which we anticipate will happen sometime today. We worked through some difficult issues and both the orchestra management and its musicians have my gratitude for their commitment to obtaining an agreement and to their dedication to excellence in providing our region with one of the best orchestras in the world. One of the results in which the City was most interested was an improved relationship between the parties ensuring the Orchestra continues to provide our community with their world-class artistry and to serve as an international ambassador for Philadelphia. Both management and musicians have worked through many long nights through admittedly tough issues. I want to thank them for avoiding a work stoppage and for continuing to play their wonderful music for the people of our region and throughout the world.

The Orchestra management and its musicians expressed their appreciation for the Mayor's leadership and guidance throughout the negotiations:

“We are extremely grateful to Mayor Street and Stephanie Naidoff for all they have done. There's no way our two sides could have come to an agreement without their incredible efforts and insights. Hopefully now that we have an agreement, we can all return our attention to doing what we do best: making the world's finest music” said John Koen, Chair of the Philadelphia Orchestra members Committee.

“We have reached a new fair, affordable and progressive agreement that serves the mutual interests of our musicians, the Orchestra, and our community,” stated Philadelphia Orchestra Association Chairman Richard L. Smoot. “We extend our deep appreciation to Philadelphia Mayor John F. Street, Commerce Director Stephanie Naidoff, and their staffs, for recognizing the economic and artistic impact of The Philadelphia Orchestra on our entire community, and for their dedicated efforts and professionalism, which enabled us reach an agreement without an interruption of our concerts.”

NOTE TO EDITORS: No details of the agreement will be distributed until the agreement is ratified by the musicians union.

