

## La Crosse Symphony Fellowship for Underrepresented Musicians

The La Crosse Symphony Orchestra (LSO) is offering a one or two-year Fellowship program for promising violinists and violists who are thirty-eight years old or younger pursuing an orchestral career. The LSO strongly encourages applicants from diverse backgrounds including but not limited to, diverse racial, ethnic, socio-economic, and geographic backgrounds that are traditionally under-represented in orchestras and whose participation will strengthen the LSO's efforts to foster greater diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). Fellows will be paid at the principal rate (\$75) to rehearse and perform with the orchestra. In addition, they will receive other career development benefits including mentoring and audition preparation, as well as Education/Community Engagement training with supervised experiences.

### Fellowship Benefits:

- Fellows will be offered 26 services to rehearse and play with the full Orchestra on the six-season concerts and the Symphony for Youth concert.
- Fellows will gain valuable Education and Community Engagement opportunities by collaborating with area organizations during the 6 concert weeks. The Fellow will be compensated a service fee for each engagement with a minimum of 4 engagements:
  - Meet with the High School Orchestras of the La Crosse School District each concert week.
  - Gundersen Hospital engagement opportunities for music healing
  - Boys and Girls Club free violin lessons
  - Guest Artist Society event participation
- Fellows will be paid the LSO's principal rate (\$75) per service, travel costs up to \$800 reimbursed for air fare/ driving costs / rental car fees, hotel stay or \$64 per day for self-planned accommodations, and a per diem of \$59 per day per the IRS Standard Rates for 2023. In addition, there will be a stipend of \$100 per concert week such that the LSO Fellow will make at least \$1000 per week they participate.
- Fellows will receive career development services throughout the program including:
  - Having a mentor from the LSO
  - Interview training and practice with an LSO member
  - Guidance from the LSO maestro

### Eligibility Requirements:

- Enrollment in or graduation from a Graduate music program
- Thirty-eight years of age or younger as of January 1, 2023

### Ideal Candidate Attributes:

- Desire to pursuing an orchestral career
- Passionate about Education and Community Engagement
- Experience teaching kids

### Concert Week Schedule Outline:

Items to be scheduled during each concert week:

- To be scheduled in tandem with the Project Manager:
  - Evening rehearsals – 7-10 pm on rehearsal days
  - Daytime School visits
  - Daytime Hospital performances
  - Afternoon Boys and Girls Club violin lesson participation -Thursday from 3:30 to 4:30
- LSO regularly scheduled rehearsals/concerts:
  - 26 services will be offered, 16 must be accepted.  
**Service dates for 2023-24:**  
Oct. 17,19, 20, 21 / Nov. 7, 9 ,10 ,11  
Dec. 12, 14, 15, 16 / Feb. 27, 29  
Mar. 1, 2 / Apr. 2, 4, 5, 6, 30 / May 2, 3, 4
  - Evening rehearsals/concerts (7 pm – 10 pm)
  - Weekend concerts and 1 morning Youth Concert

### Application:

1. Resume
2. Up to 3 YouTube links of a SOLO performance

### Application Process:

1. Applications are **due by Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 11:59pm.**
2. Email your resume and YouTube performance links with the subject labeled as: **LSO Fellowship Application Your First and Last Name** to [admin@lacrossesympphony.org](mailto:admin@lacrossesympphony.org).
3. A committee will meet and decide which candidates will move on to the second round. Applicants will be notified no later than Wednesday, April 19, 2023.
4. The second round includes a live audition with the audition committee and an interview via Zoom held on Saturday, May 06, 2023.

For more information, please contact Executive Director, Eva Marie Restel, at [exec@lacrossesympphony.org](mailto:exec@lacrossesympphony.org).

## Audition Committee:



**Alexander Platt**  
Ex-officio member of the committee  
  
Conductor of the La Crosse  
Symphony Orchestra



**Wes Luke**  
Concertmaster of the La Crosse Symphony  
Orchestra  
  
*Addition Role: Fellow Audition Coach*



**Michelle Elliott**  
Associate Concertmaster of the  
La Crosse Symphony Orchestra  
  
*Additional Role: Fellow Liaison*



**Damian Combs**  
Engaged Symphony Patron with a Music  
Education and Performance Degree



**Aaron Schwartz**  
Assistant Concertmaster of the  
La Crosse Symphony Orchestra  
  
*Additional Role: Fellow Mentor*



**Jonathan Borja**  
Musician with the La Crosse  
Symphony Orchestra