



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ATLANTA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA LAUNCHES NEW FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
Excellence-Based Training Program Designed to Bridge Excellence and Inclusion
for Early Career Musicians**

Applications Open October 3, 2022

ATLANTA – The **Atlanta Symphony Orchestra** will launch the **ASO Fellowship Program** on **October 3, 2022**. The Fellowship is an excellence-based training program for exceptional early-career/post-graduate symphonic musicians from historically underrepresented populations in American orchestras. The Fellows will perform regularly in the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, gaining invaluable on-the-job experience. The program provides a stipend to the participants, mentorship from ASO musicians, funding for professional development opportunities, and preparation for orchestra auditions.

The Fellowship is inspired by the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra's vision to work together toward a more equitable and diverse future within our organization and community, serving as a leader in the field. This program is made possible with the support of Accenture, The Thalia & Michael C. Carlos Foundation, Inc., and The Thalia and Michael C. Carlos Advised Fund.

"We are excited to launch the ASO Fellowship Program. It is a great opportunity for us to support young musicians just beginning their careers," said **ASO Executive Director Jennifer Barlament**. "Through this fellowship, talented musicians will be able to refine their skills by performing regularly in one of the best orchestras in the country, expand their repertoire, and receive valuable training that will help them succeed in the extremely competitive world of orchestral music."

The ASO Fellowship Program is open to all string, woodwind, brass, and percussion instrumentalists who have graduated from college, university, or conservatory, and are from populations traditionally underrepresented in American symphony orchestras. That includes but is not limited to musicians of Black, Hispanic/Latine, Native American, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander descent. Applications for the program open on **October 3, 2022**, and will be accepted through **October 31, 2022**, with audition details available at aso.org/fellowship.

During regular season months, the inaugural class of Fellows will serve a two-year term from January 2023 – June 2024. They will rehearse with the ASO for at least 25 weeks per season with the possibility

of additional performances. Twelve of those weeks will also include personal growth and development activities, including coaching and lessons with ASO musicians.

The Fellows will be required to live in Atlanta for the duration of the fellowship, except for July and August of each year, and will receive a base compensation of at least \$50,000 per year salary, with benefits.

For nearly 30 years, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra has been preparing Black and Latinx high school musicians for music school and/or conservatory through its nationally acclaimed Talent Development Program. The new ASO Fellowship Program will help provide training and mentorship for another critical leg of the journey to become a professional orchestral musician.

About the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra unites, educates, and enriches our community through the engaging and transformative power of orchestral music experiences. The core of our passion is the rich history of symphonic repertoire spanning centuries. We honor this body of work by holding ourselves to the highest artistic aspirations, bringing it to life in new and exciting ways. While we pay homage to the great masters, we also seek out new voices that speak to our contemporary landscape. As we perform, we engage the diverse international community of our city, bringing people together in harmony—including our youngest citizens, with extensive opportunities for youth and families to fall in love with music.

Celebrating its 78th season, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra continues to affirm its position as one of America's leading orchestras with excellent live performances, renowned guest artist features, and engaging education initiatives. As a cornerstone for artistic development in the Southeast, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra performs a full schedule of more than 150 concerts, including educational and community concerts, each year for a combined audience of more than a quarter-million people.

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