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ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA  
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS

*Empowering Our Music Community*

**JOHN EVANS RECEIVES ACSO'S MOST VALUABLE PLAYER VOLUNTEER AWARD**

**Thursday, July 13, 2023** – The Association of California Symphony Orchestras (ACSO) is pleased to announce that **John Evans**, Former Chair of the Pacific Symphony's Board of Directors, is a recipient of the 2023 Most Valuable Player (MVP) Volunteer Award.

ACSO launched the MVP Volunteer Award in 1996 to recognize exemplary volunteers, volunteer projects, and volunteer organizations and to thank a few of the hundreds of dedicated, hardworking, and committed volunteers that orchestras and classical music organizations depend on every day.

"John Evans, who is a former chair of the Symphony's Board of Directors, has been devoted to Pacific Symphony's work and mission for over three and a half decades. He has played an outstanding role through his servitude and leadership. He attends both our Pops and Classical series as a Box Circle Club member," said Abby Edmunds, Pacific Symphony's Senior Director of Volunteer Services. "For all he means to Pacific Symphony, we celebrate John and congratulate him on being our Volunteer of the Year!"

ACSO Executive Director Sarah Weber said, "During good times and bad, orchestras depend on volunteers to help with almost every aspect of their operations. They are working behind the scenes and out in front as ambassadors to make sure that their orchestra is strong and active in the performance hall and in the community. John is an outstanding example of how critical volunteers are to keeping our orchestras vital and resilient."

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Pacific Symphony, led by Music Director Carl St.Clair for the last 32 years, has been the resident orchestra of the Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall since 2006. Currently in its 44th season, the Symphony is the largest orchestra formed in the U.S. in the last 50 years and is recognized as an outstanding ensemble making strides on both the national and international scene, as well as in its own community of Orange County. In April 2018, Pacific Symphony made its debut at Carnegie Hall as one of two orchestras invited to perform during a yearlong celebration of composer Philip Glass' 80th birthday, and the following month the orchestra toured China. The orchestra made its national PBS debut in June 2018 on Great Performances with Peter Boyer's "Ellis Island: The Dream of America," conducted by St.Clair. Presenting more than 100 concerts and events a year and a rich array of education and community engagement programs, the Symphony reaches more than 300,000 residents—from school children to senior citizens. [www.pacificsymphony.org](http://www.pacificsymphony.org)

The Association of California Symphony Orchestras (ACSO), founded in 1969, is a member service organization representing 120 classical music organizations and their 2,000 board and staff in its network. ACSO's members are comprised of professional, academic, youth and community-based orchestras, choruses, and festivals in California and the western region. To read about all our 2023 award winners, click [here](http://www.acso.org). [www.acso.org](http://www.acso.org)