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ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS

Empowering Our Music Community

PAUL FINKEL RECEIVES ACSO'S MOST VALUABLE PLAYER VOLUNTEER AWARD

Thursday, July 13, 2023 – The Association of California Symphony Orchestras (ACSO) is pleased to announce that **Paul Finkel**, Board Chair of New West Symphony, 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.

"Dr. Finkel leads by example and has reinvigorated the New West Symphony Board of Directors to leap toward its goal of being a top-notch organization. In his first few months as Board Chair, Dr. Finkel re-engaged the board through a program called 'AAA,' which stands for 'Ambassadors, Advocates and Askers' and helps uncover the interest areas and strengths of members," said New West Symphony's Director of Special Projects, Patricia Jones. "Dr. Finkel [has shown] commitment to his community and unwavering commitment to sustaining the New West Symphony in order to keep world-class classical music accessible in Ventura and Los Angeles Counties."

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. Paul is an outstanding example of how critical volunteers are to keeping our orchestras vital and resilient."

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The New West Symphony is an esteemed performing arts organization that attracts diverse, capacity audiences to experience and celebrate the transformative power of live symphonic music in Ventura and Los Angeles counties. Led by visionary Music Director Maestro Michael Christie, it serves as a growing hub for music appreciation and education sustained by robust financial support and community resources. www.newwestsymphony.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