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ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS

Empowering Our Music Community

DR. ERIN KEEFE RECEIVES ACSO'S MOST VALUABLE PLAYER VOLUNTEER AWARD

Thursday, June 20, 2024 – The Association of California Symphony Orchestras (ACSO) is pleased to announce that **Dr. Erin Keefe**, Board Member of the San Bernardino Symphony Orchestra (SBSO), is a recipient of the 2024 Most Valuable Player (MVP) Volunteer Award that will be presented to her at ACSO's 2024 Annual Conference in San Francisco from July 25-27.

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 music organizations depend on every day.

Keefe was nominated by Dr. Anne Viricel, Executive Director of the San Bernardino Symphony Orchestra, for her myriad contributions to the SBSO over the past three years, not least of which was her medical expertise and guidance during the pandemic which helped the orchestra create important patron safety policies and guidelines.

"Dr. Erin Keefe is the Board Member every orchestra wants. As Chief Nursing Executive Officer at St. Bernardine Medical Center in San Bernardino, she is incredibly busy, yet she rarely misses a Board meeting, is always a Concert Greeter, volunteered for two days at the 2023 ACSO Annual Conference, and is amongst the first to raise her hand whenever help is needed," said Viricel. "Erin brings a great deal of value to positively impact the San Bernardino Symphony Board of Directors. She is a highly respected member of the community dedicated to positive social change, and bringing a unique combination of kindness, humility, and brilliance that inspires others to want to do likewise."

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

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The San Bernardino Symphony Orchestra has been bringing music to the people of the Inland Empire for over ninety years. Its mission is "to foster a love of music, excite the spirit, and enrich our diverse community and region through live orchestral performances and music education." The orchestra plays in the historic California Theater in downtown San Bernardino. www.sanbernardinosymphony.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