**ACSO Young Musician Leadership Award Nomination 2024**

This award will be given to a young musician in middle-school through college, who is part of a performing ensemble and has shown remarkable potential to become a future leader in the performing arts field. This is NOT an award for musical ability – it is to highlight the leadership potential of those who have gone above and beyond in service to their orchestra, school, peer group, or community.

ACSO seeks to promote a more intentional pathway into the field of arts administration by recognizing students who currently show strong leadership potential. ACSO’s Young Musician Leadership Award comes with an optional mentorship opportunity between the awardee and an arts leader in ACSO’s membership network to support them and give them experience in their field of expertise. In doing so, we feel this award will help cultivate the future arts leaders of tomorrow.

To ensure that the field of arts administration becomes a place where diversity is exemplified and celebrated, ACSO encourages nominations of students from non-traditional pathways into music who represent a diversity of ages, genders, and ethnicities. This young person is the embodiment of ACSO’s vision that the classical music landscape of California and the region is vibrant, healthy, diverse, and connected to the communities it serves.

SELECTION CRITERIA
Nominee:

* Must be a young musician in a performing ensemble
* Must be a high school or college student
* Does not need to be affiliated with an ACSO member organization to be considered for this award

Nominator:

* Must be a member of an ACSO member organization
* Should be well-acquainted with the student and the work they have done that demonstrates their leadership potential

NOMINATION & REVIEW PROCESS:
**The Nominator must complete and submit the online application before Friday, May 17, 2024.**

The ACSO Awards Committee is comprised of ACSO staff, board, and members. When they complete their review and selection process, the nominator and winner will be notified, and the public announcement to the field will be made in June 2024. ACSO will provide the nominator’s organization with a press release that can be customized to send to local media.

***The Young Musician Leadership Award comes with a $250 honorarium, underwritten by ACSO Board Members Dean McVay and Jonathan Rios.* They will also receive an optional mentorship from an arts leader from within the ACSO membership network. The recipient will also receive an ACSO individual student membership for a year as well as one (1) complimentary registration to the 2024 Annual Conference.**

*These awards are given solely based on the quality of the application and supporting materials*. We encourage nominators to take their time and be intentional and specific when answering the questions on the award application.

The awardee will be recognized during the 2024 Annual Conference in San Francisco (July 25 – 27, 2024).

NOMINATION QUESTIONS

1. Nominator’s Name, Title, Org
2. Nominator’s Email and Phone Number
3. Nominee’s Name
4. Nominee’s Email and Phone Number
5. Nominee’s Mailing Address
6. Tell us how this person shows exemplary leadership skills within their ensemble, community, peer group, school, etc.
7. Tell us about any of this student’s projects or initiatives that have made them excited about and interested in a career in the performing arts.
8. Tell us how the nominee has demonstrated a spirit of service to others.
9. Include a letter of support from a music teacher, conductor, or music coach that outlines how the student has demonstrated leadership and/or gone above and beyond in service to their orchestra, school, or peers.
10. Include a high-res photo and a short bio (no more than 2 paragraphs) of the nominee, including what instrument they play and what ensembles they perform in.
11. If the nominee is under 18, please include parent email and phone number.

**Specifications of Optional Mentorship Opportunity:**

* August - Dec 2024
* Mentee and mentor will meet at the Annual Conference
* Parental approval will be needed if the mentee is a minor.