



ASSOCIATION OF WISCONSIN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS

2026 ANNUAL SPRING WORKSHOP

The Madison Symphony Orchestra, Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra, and Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestras are collaborating to present the 2026 AWSO's Spring Workshop! This year's 2-day program features a distinguished keynote address, curated breakout sessions, and dedicated networking opportunities. To conclude the weekend, attendees are invited to a **FREE** special performance of the Madison Symphony Orchestra's Festival Weekend Concert. [Check Out This Video](#) to see why we chose Madison as this year's location for our annual AWSO spring workshop!

Dates: June 13th, 2026 - 10:00 am - 6:00 pm & June 14th, 2026 - 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Location: WYSO Center for Music - 1118 E. Washington Ave. Madison, WI 53703

[\[Click Here For Detailed Workshop Schedule\]](#)

Featured Presenters



John DeMain
Music Director
Madison Symphony Orchestra
[See Bio](#)



Kyle Knox
Music Director
Wisconsin Youth
Symphony Orchestras
[See Bio](#)



Ellie Chin
CEO
Destination Madison
[See Bio](#)



Doug Hagerman
Former Board Chair
League of American Orchestras &
Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra
[See Spotlight Bio](#)



Andrew Sewell
Music Director
Wisconsin Chamber
Orchestra
[See Bio](#)

Workshop Itinerary

Day 1 - 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Enjoy a pre-workshop visit to the [Dane County Farmers' Market](#) starting at 7 am prior to arriving at the WYSO Center.

- **Welcome**
- **General Sessions**
 - *Sharing AWSO Success Stories and Opportunities* - Robert Reed, MSO and Joe Loehnis, WCO
 - *Orchestras as Community Educators* - Michelle Kaebisch, WYSO
- **Keynote:** Artistic Directors Panel - John DeMain, Kyle Knox, Andrew Sewell; Ellie Chin, Moderator
- **General Session**
 - *Educate! Advocate! Repeat!* - Michelle Kaebisch
- **Networking Reception**



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Workshop Itinerary Continued

Day 2 9:30 am - 4:00 pm

- **AM Concurrent Sessions**
 - *Building a Culture of Philanthropy* - Charles McLimans, WYSO, Cayla Minear, WCO, Casey Oelkers, MSO
 - *Board Development & Organizational Culture* - Doug Hagerman, Joe Loehnis
 - *Collaboration with Fellow Arts Organizations* - Robert Reed, Linda Edlestein, Ria Hodgson
 - *Roundtables* - Michael George
- **Service to Music Award Presentation to Maestro John DeMain, Annual Business Meeting & Luncheon**
- **PM Concurrent Sessions**
 - *Building a Culture of Philanthropy* - Charles McLimans, WYSO, Cayla Minear, WCO, Casey Oelkers, MSO
 - *Board Development & Organizational Culture* - Doug Hagerman, Joe Loehnis
 - *Collaboration with Fellow Arts Organizations* - Robert Reed, Linda Edlestein, Ria Hodgson
 - *Roundtables* - Michael George
- **Closing General Session** - Michelle Kaebisch, Joe Loehnis, Robert Reed
- **Shuttle to Overture Center for the **FREE** MSO Centennial Festival Performance**

Hotel Partner

Hotel Indigo Madison Downtown by IHG - 901 E Washington Ave, Madison, WI 53703
Phone: (608) 256-0061 **Website:** [Hotel Indigo® Hotels Official Site](#) | [Book Reservations Direct](#)

Hotel Indigo is offering AWSO attendees a **Special Rate of \$189**. Attendees must contact Hotel Indigo directly and place their reservation by **June 5** to receive the conference rate.

Registration Info

Before June 5th - Seminar Pass: \$65

After June 5th - Seminar Pass: \$80

Visit the following link to register: <https://wiscsym.org/index.php/2026-awso-conference>

Questions?

Contact our Andrew Briddell, WYSO Director of Community Partnerships andrew@wysomusic.org.