



PITTSBURGH MUSICIAN

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF LOCAL 60-471, AFM
PITTSBURGH MUSICIANS' UNION
ELECTION ISSUE

FOURTH QUARTER, 2025

Everything yields to diligence ~ Antiphanes

Overture

By George Clewer
President/Secretary

This is the election issue of the *Pittsburgh Musician*. It is being hard copied to all members due to the significance of the material contained within. This election is being held to determine the **Executive Board** and **Vice- President** positions for the term beginning January 1, 2026 and ending December 31, 2028. All other officers and delegates have won by acclamation. This simply means that those candidates ran unopposed.

There are some ground rules governing elections in our Pittsburgh Musicians' Union bylaws. "Votes will be counted only for duly nominated candidates. A "write-in" vote shall be void insofar as the vote for that office is concerned." "The President/Secretary, with the approval of the Board, shall select an established impartial Agency to conduct the Election in accordance with Title IV of the Labor Management Reporting and Disclosure Act. (LMFDA) The Agency shall mail ballots to all members in good standing as soon as possible after October 31 of the Election Year to all eligible voting members. Ballots are counted on the first Tuesday of December."

Our Local has utilized the American Arbitration Association (AAA) for many years and the process has worked extremely well for us. There are Locals which run in-house elections as did this Local many decades ago. I do not believe that process to be a satisfactory one as it could raise questions about the legitimacy of the results. AAA is above reproach and we hope to use that agency now and in the foreseeable future.

If you should have questions involving the election process that have not been addressed in this journal, I will be happy to discuss. Please call (412-855-5137) or e-mail. (president@afmpittsburgh.com)

One important point! **THE SAMPLE BALLOT IN THIS ISSUE IS NOT AN OFFICIAL BALLOT. BALLOTS WILL BE MAILED TO YOUR ADDRESS ON FILE WITH THE LOCAL BY AAA.**

This is a process that has worked well here for many years. It is my hope that, at the end of the day, we will have the best Vice-President and Executive Board possible to serve our members. One thing that I would ask of you.

The election process is the membership's way of having a voice, of having a say as to who participates in the business of running this Local for the next three years. It is important that you take the time to cast a vote for the candidates of your choice **when the ballot shows up in your mailbox**. (Takes about 5 minutes) If you are unfamiliar with some folks on the ballot, you might ask others for their thoughts. I do not believe that any candidates on the ballot run for the small stipend they are paid. I truly believe that these are members who care enough about the Local and its members to become involved to see if they can't make things better for us all. Thanks for reading and a double thanks for being a member of the Pittsburgh Musicians' Union! One last thing. Please take good care of yourself. You're all we've got!

George

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2026 GAETANOS ON BANKSVILLE

7:00PM	SOCIAL
7:30PM	DINNER
8:15PM	BUSINESS MEETING

AGENDA

APPROVE OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
ENJOY A GOOD MEAL WITH FRIENDS

*PLEASE CALL 412-855-5137 OR E-MAIL
president@afmpittsburgh.com
TO MAKE DINNER RESERVATIONS NO
LATER THAN MONDAY, JANUARY 26TH*

MEMBERSHIP DUES

IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID YOUR 4TH QUARTER
MEMBERSHIP DUES, THIS MIGHT BE A GOOD
TIME TO DO SO. THANKS IN ADVANCE!

HONORARY LIFE MEMBER	\$25.00
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REGULAR MEMBER	\$45.00
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*PLEASE REMEMBER THAT IF DUES ARE PAID IN THE SECOND
MONTH OF ANY QUARTER THERE IS A \$2.00 LATE FEE. IF PAID
IN THE THIRD MONTH THERE IS AN ADDITIONAL LATE FEE.*

AMERICAN ARBITRATION ASSOCIATION, ADMINISTRATOR

Official Secret Ballot

PITTSBURGH MUSICIANS' UNION

Local 60-471 A.F. of M.

Voting Instructions

1. Read this ballot carefully before marking.
2. Make a cross (X) mark in the box at the side of the candidates of your choice. Do not vote for more candidates than is authorized. **Your vote will be void if you do.** Do not sign the ballot; signed ballots will be void.
3. Insert your ballot in the "Secret Ballot" envelope and seal. Place your **Secret Ballot** envelope inside the business reply envelope addressed to the American Arbitration Association and seal. **Do not remove or deface your name and address on the back of the business reply envelope.** (This is for control purposes only. The secrecy of your vote will be protected because the "Secret Ballot" envelope will be separated from the business reply envelope and mixed in with others before being counted.)
4. Do not alter or cross off any of the pre-printed information on the business reply envelope. If you cross off or mark over the pre-printed number on the business reply envelope, your ballot may be void.
5. Mail the business reply envelope as soon as possible. No postage is necessary if mailed in the United States. **Your business reply envelope must be received in the offices of the American Arbitration Association, 230 South Broad Street, 12th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19102 by Monday, December 1, 2025, via the U.S. Mail.** Ballots will be counted on Tuesday, December 2, 2022, at the offices of the American Arbitration Association.
6. If you damage your ballot, please call 215-731-2280 and request a replacement ballot.

VICE PRESIDENT

Vote for One (1)

1. BRIAN BUCKLEY
2. ANDY YALCH

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Vote for up to five (5)

1. ELLIOTT RATLIFF
2. REBECCA ROTHERMEL
3. DOUG ROSENTHAL
4. MARK JOVANOVICH
5. MARYBETH SCHOTTING
6. JOE HERNDON
7. TOM EVANS

Andy Yalch



**Please re-elect me as your Vice President
It has been an honor serving the local over many years and looking forward to
another term.**

Pianist, Composer, Conductor Arranger,

Union member since 1972

Experience: 40+ Years Professional Performance

35+ Years Performing With National Name Acts

Masters in Music Composition, Duquesne University- 1985

BS in Music Education, Duquesne University- 1976

Music Educator- 1976 To Present

Music Specialist, Wilkinsburgh School District-30 Years Retired

**Traveled and Taught for Carnegie Mellon Urban Music Project under the direction Of Dr. Natalie
Ozeas spanning 10 years.**

**Music Director Trinity Jazz Orchestra
Pianist Trinity Music Group—All Ensembles**

**Pianist Riverview Jazz Ensemble-Pittsburgh Do-Woop Big band and all other smaller
groups.**

Pianist-Pittsburgh Big Band Legends.

**Jazz Director Of Arts in Pittsburgh Group-Took gifted Young Adults and Professionals
four years in a row through Europe and the Bahamas Playing concerts focusing on
the rich musical heritage of Pittsburgh. We performed for the Prime Minister of the
Bahamas and did a concert at the American Embassy In Rome and Many other
Venues.**

Staff Pianist -Pittsburgh Ballet Theater School

**Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra Education Committee-Started original education
committee for all school concerts and all public and private districts. Wrote
curriculum and lesson plans for all the school concerts. Many symphony musicians
would come to our schools and work directly with our students.**



Elliott Ratliff for the Executive Board of the



Pittsburgh Musicians Union Local 60-471

I have been a loyal, dedicated, and proud member of this local since 2005. I have enjoyed my time being on the Executive Board of our local for the past few years. In that time, I have been your AFM Diversity Delegate since 2010 representing our local at the AFM Convention. The following are some of my other things I am doing around the AFM:

AFM Eastern Conference President/ Executive Board Member

AFM Elections Committee Chair

AFM Diversity Committee Member

Freelance Musicians Association (FMA) Executive Board Member

Pennsylvania AFL-CIO Delegate

I have established relationships and friendships with other AFM members in the following locals:

Lancaster, PA

Philadelphia, PA

Erie, PA

Norristown, PA

Poconos, PA

Houston, TX

Grand Rapids, MI

Charlotte, NC

Binghamton, NY

New York, NY

Atlanta, GA

Iowa City, IA

London, ON

Nova Scotia, CAN

Calgary, AB

Halifax, NS

Vancouver, BC

Los Angeles, CA

Santa Barbara, CA

Eugene, OR

Dayton, OH

Washington, D.C.

Baltimore, MD

Patterson, NJ

Orange County, CA Beaver, PA

When it comes to my music background, I currently work as a music teacher in Mars, Wexford, Valencia, Shadyside, North Versailles and Irwin, giving private lessons in Brass, Strings, and Woodwinds. I also perform all over Pittsburgh and surrounding areas as well as being the Band Leader and Booking Manager for my own jazz group, Steel City Jazz Katts (www.steelcityjazzkatts.org) performing all over Pittsburgh and surrounding areas. If you elect me to your Executive board, I will continue to fight the good fight, work with you, the President and other board members keeping live music relevant and strong in our local and all the AFM Locals in the US and Canada. I live by the moto, "Music is not what I do. Its who I am".

ELECT **REBECCA ROTHERMEL**
TO THE **PMU EXECUTIVE BOARD**



EXPERIENCE,
KNOWLEDGE,
COMMITMENT

40 YEAR MEMBER
OF AMERICAN
FEDERATION
OF MUSICIANS

- Executive Board Local 294: Susquehanna Valley Musicians
- Regional Orchestra Players Association (ROPA) Representing HSO and Pittsburgh Opera
- National AFM Convention Representing Local 269
- Contract Negotiating Committees, Pittsburgh Opera and HSO
- Tenured Violist of 4 CBA ORCHESTRAS
 - Pittsburgh Opera
 - Wheeling Symphony
 - West Virginia Symphony
 - Harrisburg Symphony
- Manager: Sterling and Strings Wedding and Event Ensembles Recipient of *Creative Entrepreneurship Grant 2025: Pittsburgh Arts Council for "Through The Ages"*
- Broadway Series, Latshaw Productions
- Adjunct Professor: Washington and Jefferson College
- Paralegal Certificate, Duquesne University

PLEASE REMEMBER
TO VOTE!
THANK YOU!

Dear Fellow PMU Member,

I'm Doug Rosenthal, the Associate Principal Trombone at the PSO. For over a decade, I have enjoyed participating in various committee and leadership roles. And now, I would love to serve this Local as a member of our Executive Board. Whether or not you vote for me, I'm glad to be your colleague and will always stand united with you.



Whichever genres you perform and wherever you work, the dignity of your wages and working conditions are paramount. This isn't just limited to the fight for proper contracts. The PMU is a guiding light for artists all over the region, and I want to help grow our membership—in numbers, and also in strength. We are in a time that is steeped both in adversity and opportunity. Because of this, I'm particularly interested in helping expand the PMU's presence in the greater labor community of Southwestern PA. I would also like to help connect us more deeply with political and legislative affairs at the municipal and county levels.

Before I began at the PSO, I was in Washington, DC for 11 years as the Assistant Principal Trombone of the Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestra. I served for 9 years on the Executive Board of DC's AFM Local. In this capacity, I was a delegate to the local council of the AFL-CIO and also to a community coalition called DC Jobs with Justice. I also helped organize music for labor actions, in which the Local hired members to hit the streets—and once, inside the airport—to perform at other labor unions' rallies and marches.

During my time in DC, I regularly helped represent the AFM at events on Capitol Hill and around the DC Metro Area. I visited Senate and House offices advocating for arts funding, and I went to Congressional hearings for issues like multi-employer pension funds and artist royalties. I also attended networking events and fundraisers for politicians and political coalitions who have common goals with the AFM.

I would absolutely love to continue this meaningful work as one of your Executive Board Members. Thank you for your consideration. I wish each candidate of this election my best, and regardless of the outcome, I look forward to continue being an active PMU member, helping in any way that I can!

With fondness and in solidarity,
Doug Rosenthal



Vote MARK JOVANOVICH FOR AFM 60-471 EXECUTIVE BOARD

Ballots mailed Wednesday, November 12
Must be received by Monday, December 1

Strengthening Our Union

- Respect tradition while building the future
- Bring fresh energy and ideas to bolster our union
- Advocate for ALL Pittsburgh musicians
- Expand support for freelancers & contemporary genres

MJXmail@duck.com

www.MJXmusic.com

Elect MaryBeth G. Schotting, Executive Board

Executive Board Member since 2019

Member of American Federation of Musicians since 1991

- Tenured violinist, Pittsburgh Opera (2000) & Pittsburgh Ballet Orchestra (2009)
- Civic Light Opera, served as Concertmaster (member since 2006)
- Chamber Orchestra of Pittsburgh (Acting Principal 2nd Violin)
- Adjunct Instructor of Violin, Carnegie Mellon University (since 1998)
- Violin Faculty at City Music Center, Duquesne University (2023) & PYCO School of Music (2024)
- Served many times on Opera, Ballet & Civic Light Opera Orchestra committees and through contract negotiations

~Advocate for sensible solutions, budget awareness and savings to ensure a strong future for the Union

~In 2022, successfully advocated for the Union office to move in order to save money on rent

**~Dedicated to fairness in the workplace & have advocated for members,
including defending them through the grievance process**



VOTE JOE HERNDON FOR EXECUTIVE BOARD

Experience. Integrity. Dedicated to every musician.



Joe's Priorities:

- ♪ Protecting fair wages and working conditions while expanding opportunities for local musicians
- ♪ Building transparent, collaborative leadership within the union

AFM Local 60-471



**RE-ELECT
TOM EVANS
TO THE PITTSBURGH MUSICIANS' UNION
EXECUTIVE BOARD**

- **LIFETIME MEMBER OF LOCAL 60-471, PITTSBURGH**
- **TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF EXPERIENCE ON THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**
- **PAST DIVERSITY DELEGATE TO 4 AFM CONVENTIONS**
- **A MEMBER WHO HIRES ONLY UNION MUSICIANS**
- **NO FLUFF, JUST PLAIN AND HONEST TALK**

**“IT HAS BEEN AN HONOR AND A PRIVILEGE TO HAVE SERVED THE
MEMBERSHIP AND LOOKING FORWARD TO SERVING YOU AGAIN!”**

NO. 7 ON THE BALLOT

“I’VE GOT YOUR BACK!”

FYI

THE PRECEDING ELECTION ADS HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED FOR INCLUSION IN THIS NEWSLETTER BY THOSE CANDIDATES WHO CHOSE TO DO SO. THE LOCAL DOES NOT ENDORSE OR OTHERWISE PROMOTE ONE CANDIDATE OVER ANOTHER. BE CERTAIN THAT WHEN YOU FILL OUT YOUR BALLOT TO VOTE FOR ONLY ONE CANDIDATE UNDER THE VICE-PRESIDENT CATEGORY AND VOTE FOR UP TO FIVE CANDIDATES IN THE EXECUTIVE BOARD CATEGORY. WE ARE OFTEN ASKED IF IT’S NECESSARY TO VOTE FOR 5 CANDIDATES FOR THE BOARD. THE ANSWER IS NO. YOU MAY VOTE FOR ANY NUMBER OF CANDIDATES BUT NO MORE THAN 5.

ALSO, PLEASE BE AWARE THAT THE SAMPLE BALLOT IN THIS NEWSLETTER IS JUST THAT. IT IS A LIKENESS OF THE BALLOT THAT WILL COME TO YOU VIA THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE. AGAIN, PLEASE DO NOT TEAR THE BALLOT OUT OF THIS NEWSLETTER AND MAIL TO US. IT WILL NOT BE COUNTED. ALL BALLOTS WILL BE MAILED ON NOVEMBER 12 FROM THE AMERICAN ARBITRATION ASSOCIATION IN PHILADELPHIA DIRECTLY TO YOUR MAILBOX OR PO BOX, WHICHEVER YOU MAY HAVE.

THANK YOU FOR READING AND PLEASE REMEMBER TO VOTE IN THIS IMPORTANT ELECTION!

“ EVERYTHING MATTERS” ~ ANON.

MPTF GUIDELINES FOR MAY 2026-APRIL 2027 SEASON

**The following action is necessary due to the increased interest in our MPTF program.
The numbers indicated are per leader per season.**

SOLO/DUO	6 PROJECTS AT 100%	6 PROJECTS AT 50%
TRIO/QUARTET	3 PROJECTS AT 100%	3 PROJECTS AT 50%
QUINTET/ SEXTET	2 PROJECTS AT 100%	3 PROJECTS AT 50%
SEPTET/ OCTET	2 PROJECTS AT 100%	2 PROJECTS AT 50%
NINE OR MORE	1 PROJECT AT 100%	2 PROJECTS AT 50%

NOTE- 50% FUNDING IS ALWAYS PREFERRED BY MPTF ON ALL PROJECTS.
THIS SHOULD BE OFFERED BEFORE NEGOTIATING A LESSER RATE (50%)

NO LEADER WILL BE OFFERED MORE THAN 12 PROJECTS IN TOTAL

THE ABOVE NUMBERS REFLECT THE NEED TO UTILIZE THE MPTF DOLLARS IN A MORE EFFECTIVE WAY. WE HAVE BEEN VIRTUALLY DEVOID OF DOLLARS FOR FURTHER PROJECTS FOR THE MAY 2025-APRIL 2026 SEASON SINCE SEPTEMBER. IT IS OUR HOPE THAT BY LIMITING THE NUMBER OF PROJECTS PER LEADER AS STATED ABOVE WE WILL BE ABLE TO PROVIDE PROJECTS FOR MORE OF OUR MEMBERS.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE MUSIC PERFORMANCE TRUST FUND PROGRAM, PLEASE CALL (412) 855-5137 OR E-MAIL president@afmpittsburgh.com for MORE INFORMATION REGARDING MPTF.

THE ABOVE NUMBERS ARE BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT OUR LOCAL WILL RECEIVE AT LEAST THE SAME FUNDING AS IN THE CURRENT SEASON. IF IT IS DETERMINED THAT WE ARE TO RECEIVE LESS DOLLARS FOR NEXT SEASON, THE ABOVE NUMBERS WILL NEED TO BE ADJUSTED.

“Life is like playing a violin solo in public and learning the instrument as one goes on.” ~ Samuel Butler, the younger

**Pittsburgh Musicians' Union
Executive Board Meeting
Via Zoom
6 /23/25**

Meeting called to order at 4:03 pm.

Attendance-All members were present.

Minutes read from previous meeting. Motion to accept as amended by Stephanie Tretick
And seconded by MaryBeth Schotting. Motion carried unanimous.

Financials were reviewed.

New Members-There were four new member. Motion to accept by Stephanie Tretick with open arms and seconded by Tom Evans- Motion carried unanimous.

Omari Abdul-Alim-05/29/2025, Drums

Hudson T. Orfe (Student) -05/29/2025, Piano

Emilia Poirer-Molina-06/23/2025, Violin

Yevgheny Faniuk-06/09/2025, Flute

Resignations-There were two resignations. Motion to accept with regrets by Joe Herndon and seconded by Elliot Ratliff. Motion carried unanimous.

Andrew D. Augustine-effective June 30, 2025

Amelia Van Howe-effective December 31, 2024

Deaths-There was one death to report. A moment of silence was held in memoriam.

Charles J. Spatafore-Died 06/20/25, Drums

Pittsburgh Opera-Contract negotiations are still in progress.

Old Timers Party-The party will be at Giatanos on Monday September 15th 2025. Festivities will begin at 7:00 pm.

Good Of The Local-Elliott Ratliff brought board members up to date on his activities with the Eastern Conference. Elliot is the president of the Eastern Conference.

Stephanie Tretick is retiring at the end of the current PSO season. She told us a story about how over the years she kept her viola in one place back stage. In honor of her many years of service, the PSO made that location to be called Stephanie's Spot with a plaque!

Next board meeting will be on 7/21/25 at 4:00 pm.

Motion to adjourn b Elliott Ratliff and seconded by MaryBeth Schotting. Motion carried unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Andy Yalch, Vice President.

Pittsburgh Musicians Union
Local 60-471, A.F. of M., AFL-CIO
564 Forbes Avenue
Suite 1003
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-2903



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Deadline — Two Weeks Prior to Publication

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Pittsburgh Musician

In order to protect the interests of the Union, we hold that the opinions expressed by the person submitting same and the articles or paid advertisements appearing in the Pittsburgh Musicians' Union must be signed by the author or editor. Unsigned or unsigned articles or paid advertisements appearing in the Pittsburgh Musicians' Union does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Union.

Office Manager: Miriam Leskinen

Mary Beth Schotting Stephamite Trebilck

Joe Hendon Elliott Radliff

Thomas E. Evans

Executive Board

Vice President — Andrew P. Yalch

President/Secretary — George A. Clewer

Officers for 2023-25

Closed Weekends & Holidays

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Fax: 412-281-1866

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Pittsburgh, PA 15219-2093

Local 60-471, A.F. of M., AFL-CIO

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Pittsburgh Musicians' Union

or material submitted.

The right is reserved to reject any advertisement

George A. Clewer,.....Editor

*Published six times a year in the interest of the members
of the Pittsburgh Musicians' Union.*

Pittsburgh Musician