



Chronology

- 2008-present Minnesota Orchestral Association (MOA) raises more than \$50 million for the Orchestra Hall renovation, clearly implying that there will be no change to the quality of the orchestra in the near future.
- Feb 2, 2009 Chair of MOA Finance Committee tells MOA Board: “If the deficit is between \$3 million and \$5 million in fiscal 2010, it will be of the same size range for the next two years of the musicians’ contract. This is a serious liquidity issue, and the MOA already has \$11 million in debt. Our job is to leave behind a sustainable business.” Another Board member: “...reminded everyone that what is said today cannot go out of this room.”
<http://www.auditor.leg.state.mn.us/fad/pdf/fad1310.pdf>
- Sep 2009 Minutes of the MOA Executive and Finance Committees reflect VP of Finance Bryan Ebensteiner informing the Board regarding strategic use of the endowment fund: “Balances in 2009 and 2010 would support our state bonding aspirations, while the deficits in 2011 and 2012 would demonstrate the need to reset the business model.”
<http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/180782151.html>
- Jan 2010 MOA CEO Michael Henson reports to Legislature (two hearings) in testimony requesting bonding funds for the Orchestra Hall/Lobby renovation:
– “On the financial front, we have announced balanced budgets over the last three consecutive years, and we are facing the current economic downturn with a degree of stability.”
– “On the financial front, we have announced balanced budgets over the last three consecutive years, and we are facing the current economic downturn with some fortitude and consistency of planning.”
<http://www.auditor.leg.state.mn.us/fad/pdf/fad1310.pdf>
- Mar 2010 Gov. Pawlenty signs legislation authorizing \$14M in state bonds to City of Minneapolis to renovate Orchestra Hall
<http://www.auditor.leg.state.mn.us/fad/pdf/fad1310.pdf>
- Mar 14, 2010 Governor Pawlenty signs Laws 2010, chapter 189 authorizing \$16 million in state bonds to City of Minneapolis to renovate Orchestra Hall (this included \$2 million for Peavey Plaza)
- Mar 2011 MOA CEO Michael Henson receives his first bonus in calendar year 2011 for

FY ending August 31, 2011

<http://songofthelark.wordpress.com/2013/10/12/michael-hensons-massive-bonuses/>

- Nov 2, 2011 MOA publishes strategic plan, "Vision for a Sound Future."
- http://www.minnesotaorchestra.org/pdf/strategic_plan/#/1/
 - This document contains the new Mission Statement, making no mention of the Minnesota Orchestra:
The Minnesota Orchestral Association inspires, educates and serves our community through internationally recognized performances of exceptional music delivered within a sustainable financial structure.
- Dec 2011 MOA CEO Michael Henson receives second bonus in calendar year 2011 for FY ending August 31, 2012. For calendar year 2011 total bonuses were \$202,500 and total compensation \$619,313. (Total compensation was greater than 20% of MOA deficit announced in May 2012.)
<http://songofthelark.wordpress.com/2013/10/12/michael-hensons-massive-bonuses/>
- Early 2012 During contract negotiations the MOA retains the services of the law firm that represented American Crystal Sugar (at the time involved in its own vicious lockout of sugar-processing workers in the NW part of Minnesota).
- Apr 2012 MOA comes to musicians demanding 30-50% cuts in compensation, claiming they are necessary to financial sustainability – as well as over 250 work rule changes for the musicians and transfer of artistic control from conductor Osmo Vänskä to the MOA's President/CEO Michael Henson.
- Apr 13, 2012 Minneapolis City Council approves and Mayor Rybak signs resolution authorizing issuance of \$15 million of City Revenue Notes for money to be loaned to MOA for Orchestra Hall renovation. Notes are to be paid solely from project revenue and shall never be an obligation of the city.
Source: Minn. Laws 2010, ch. 189; City Council Resolution Nos. 2012R-176 and 2012R-290
- May 9, 2012 MOA announces staff reductions.
– MOA eliminated 9 full-time positions (13% of staff), 7 part-time positions
– Projected savings \$450,000 over 2012-13 season
– Cuts in response to 2011 deficit of \$2.9M
– Some positions might return after hall reopens in "fall of 2013"
– Since 2009, administrative staff has been cut 20%
<http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/150684545.html>
- May 24-25, 2012 Before anyone knows what is afoot, the MOA buys at least thirteen variations of domain names with the words "save our orchestra," clearly anticipating a backlash when their plans became apparent.
- May 25, 2012 Mayor Rybak signs City Council resolution accepting state grant and

authorizing signing construction agreement, ground lease, lease/use agreement and other documents with MOA.

Source: Minn. Laws 2010, ch. 189; City Council Resolution Nos. 2012R-176 and 2012R-290

- Sep 4, 2012 Minnesota Orchestra management goes public with a summary of their proposed contract that seeks 30-50% cuts in musicians' salaries and a variety of work rule changes. They make the contract public without telling musicians.
http://www.minnesotaorchestra.org/images/pr/contracts/MOA_Summary_Contract_Proposal.pdf
- Sep 5, 2012 Minnesota Orchestral Association publishes an open letter on the contract negotiations.
<http://www.minnesotaorchestra.org/images/pr/contracts/openletter.pdf>
- Sep 25, 2012 MOA makes its "final contract proposal" to the musicians calling for cuts in average salary from \$135,000 to \$89,000.
<http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/stageandarts/171271871.html>
The musicians, in a secret ballot, unanimously reject the proposal.
- Sep 25, 2012 MOA publishes the detailed contract proposal
http://www.minnesotaorchestra.org/images/pr/pdf/9_25_12_contractproposal.pdf
- Oct 1, 2012 No agreement is reached; lockout begins. Concerts are cancelled through the end of November.
- Oct 6, 2012 Musicians stage a sold-out concert at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Former music director Stanislaw Skrowaczewski conducts.
- Nov 26, 2012 "MN Orchestra's Board Walked a Thin Line on Finances" Star Tribune article citing minutes of board meetings positioning funding request to Legislature. It also reveals that "In 2011, after choosing to balance its budget the previous two years, the board retained the public-relations firm Padilla Speer Beardsley to determine 'what size of deficit to report publicly, between \$2.9 million and \$4.3 million.'" Musicians charge management with misleading the community.
<http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/180782151.html?refer>
- Nov 27, 2012 Musicians, in a unanimous secret ballot, vote "no confidence" in MOA President and CEO, Michael Henson.
<http://www.minnesotaorchestramusicians.org/press-release-musicians-vote-no-confidence-in-minnesota-orchestra-ceo/>
- Dec 6, 2012 Minnesota Orchestra reports a record deficit of \$6 million and releases "independently audited financial statements for its 2011-12 season."
<http://www.minnesotaorchestra.org/about/press-room/621-2012-year-end-results>

- Dec 15-16, 2012 Musicians stage two sold-out holiday “Ode to Joy” concerts conducted by former music director Edo de Waart.
- Dec 21, 2012 Legislators call for a hearing on MN Orchestra finances.
<http://minnesota.cbslocal.com/2012/12/20/lawmakers-call-for-hearing-into-minn-orchestra-finances/>
- Jan 3, 2013 MOA and musicians restart stalled contract talks; management agrees to independent financial analysis musicians have been seeking.
- Jan 23, 2013 Minnesota House Commerce Committee holds hearings on lockouts.
- Jan 30, 2013 Minnesota Orchestra contract talks stall.
- Feb 2, 2013 Mayor Rybak and Judy Dayton host neutral Grammy nomination celebration concert conducted by Osmo Vänskä in hopes of bringing two sides together. Only a few MOA Board members attend and no one from upper management.
<http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/blogs/186210591.html>
- Feb 8, 2013 Concerts are cancelled through April 7.
- Feb 12, 2013 Minnesota House Legacy Committee holds hearing on Legacy funding.
- Feb 25, 2013 WCCO cites community’s monetary losses as lockout enters fifth month.
<http://minnesota.cbslocal.com/2013/02/25/losses-mounting-as-orchestra-lockout-enters-fifth-month/>
- Mar 7, 2013 100 Legislators sign letter requesting a legislative audit of Minnesota Orchestra finances.
<http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/196178641.html>
- Mar 25, 2013 Legislative Auditor agrees to a limited financial audit.
- Apr 1, 2013 Lockout reaches six month mark; remainder of this season, as well as next season now in jeopardy.
- Apr 5, 2013 Orchestra reported to have lost almost a quarter of its musicians and nearly a third of the string section.
- Apr 25, 2013 Locked-out musicians give concert of Bruckner and Mozart at O’Shaughnessy Auditorium with former music director Stanislaw Skrowaczewski conducting.
- Apr 26, 2013 Long-anticipated talks between musicians’ negotiating team and a full MOA board last longer than planned but end in hostility.
- May 2, 2013 Principal clarinetist Burt Hara wins audition in LA, is reported to be leaving the Orchestra. <http://www.minnesotaorchestramusicians.org/burt-hara/>
Press reports Osmo Vänskä’s 4/30/13 letter to the MOA Board stating that if the Nov 2013 Carnegie Hall concerts are cancelled as a result of the lockout, he will be forced to resign.
<http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/205850451.html>

- May 4, 2013 Star Tribune editorial calls for the Governor to step up and help end the lockout. <http://www.startribune.com/opinion/editorials/206029921.html>
- May 5, 2013 Musicians run "Open Letter to the People of Minnesota" in a full-page Star Tribune ad and call for the resignation of MOA Board Chair Jon Campbell and Negotiating Committee Chair Richard Davis. <http://www.minnesotaorchestramusicians.org/an-open-letter-to-the-people-of-minnesota-2/>
- May 8, 2013 Minnesota Orchestra concerts are cancelled for the rest of the season. Summer lineup announced.
- Jun 13, 2013 MN Legislative Auditor Jim Nobles reports that his audit finds no major legal problems, but raises question of unused funds. His report mentions that MOA financial difficulties that were not disclosed to the legislators: "Mr. Henson did not indicate to legislators that he and some association board members were beginning to have significant concerns about the association's financial condition."
<http://www.auditor.leg.state.mn.us/fad/2013/fad13-10.htm>
<http://www.auditor.leg.state.mn.us/fad/pdf/fad1310.pdf>
<http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2013/06/13/arts/minnesota-orchestra-legislative-auditor>
- Jul 11, 2013 Summer lineup cancelled.
- Jul 24, 2013 Press announces former Sen. George Mitchell has been brought in as mediator. Management reportedly makes offer through Mitchell for end of lockout with 25% pay cut after two months if no agreement reached. <http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/216671301.html>
Musicians call management proposal "absurd and unacceptable."
<http://www.minnpost.com/glean/2013/07/orchestra-musicians-poised-reject-arbitration-offer>
- Aug 15, 2013 Mitchell's own proposal for an end of the lockout and beginning of negotiations and rehearsals is unanimously accepted by musicians and rejected by MOA Board. <http://kstp.com/article/stories/s3130892.shtml>
- Aug 19, 2013 BIS postpones recording of Sibelius Symphonies because of concerns the Minnesota Orchestra is not in "good enough shape."
<http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2013/08/19/arts/minnesota-orchestra-recording-postponed>
- Aug 20, 2013 More than 600 people gather at Westminster Church, across from Orchestra Hall, for a Community Forum organized by Orchestrate Excellence, to hear a talk by Dr. Alan Fletcher, CEO of Aspen Music Festival & School. He says, "The Lockout must end now, unconditionally." Breakout groups show enthusiasm for more focused efforts to save the Orchestra, in view of the MOA's

determination to downgrade it.

- Aug 20, 2013 The new audience organization "Save Our Symphony MN" announces its formation with the intention to apply pressure on several fronts, on behalf of the audience and for the continuation of the orchestra at its present level of excellence. The lockout must end. Osmo Vänskä must not be forced to resign. The group's Facebook page garners over 6,000 likes in a week.
<http://www.saveoursymphonymn.org/>
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Save-Our-Symphony-Minnesota/434360043343225>
- Aug 21, 2013 Entry on Emily Hogstad's "Song of the Lark" blog reveals that the MOA had purchased groups of "save the orchestra" domain names in May 2012, months before the lockout began.
<http://songofthelark.wordpress.com/2013/08/21/how-saveoursymphonymn-org-was-named/>
This revelation leads to critical international media attention being focused on the MOA.
- Aug 27, 2013 MOA reverts back to the previous mission statement that includes the concept of an orchestra, along with an additional line about fiscal sustainability. <http://www.minnesotaorchestra.org/about/history>
- Aug 28, 2013 MOA Board meets and issues a press release, recapping critical dates and deadlines. It does not comment on George Mitchell's proposal for a structured end to the lockout nor on the hundreds of email messages sent by concerned citizens in the previous 24 hours.
<http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/221566001.html?page=all&prepage=1&c=y#continue>
- Aug 30, 2013 The MOA submits a new proposal to the musicians and publishes it on their website, circumventing the process established by mediator George Mitchell. The proposal is nearly identical to one the musicians rejected in early August within the Mitchell mediation process.
<http://www.minnesotaorchestra.org/about/press-room/676-aug-29-revised-contract-proposal>
The musicians post their response to MOA's proposal.
<http://www.minnesotaorchestramusicians.org/management-abandons-their-own-mediator-2/>
- Aug 30, 2013 Orchestrate Excellence publishes a report from its Aug 20 Community Forum, providing a summary, key findings and a call to action as well as a 25-page transcript of comments from the 30 breakout groups.
<http://www.orchestrateexcellence.org/>
- Aug 30, 2013 In response to MOA's "new" offer, musicians state: "The board and

management of the Minnesota Orchestra has [sic] abandoned the mediation process and the mediator they themselves selected. They have presented an offer to the Musicians which appears to be virtually identical to an offer that the Musicians unanimously rejected earlier in August, an offer that was made outside of the mediation process put in place by Governor Mark Dayton. As stated in management's letter to the Musicians: 'This offer is submitted outside the provisions of the Mediation Agreement between the parties and Senator Mitchell.'

<http://www.minnesotaorchestramusicians.org/musicians-vote-unanimously-in-support-of-governors-mediation-process/>

Sep 1, 2013

The MOA Board of directors posts a full page ad in the Star Tribune. Although they say they will meet "anytime, anywhere, without preconditions" they do not mention mediation or their mutually-chosen mediator at all in their ad. Blogger Scott Chamberlain counters each of their statements.

<http://maskoftheflowerprince.wordpress.com/2013/09/01/does-this-qualify-as-false-advertising/>

Sep 2, 2013

Fifteen respected arts bloggers with thousands of followers mount a special Labor Day cross-blog event wherein they each posted their unique perspectives and prescriptions on the lockout. Each blogger cross-linked to all the other blogs. Audience members embedded these posts in tens of thousands of Facebook and Twitter messages.

<http://www.adaptistration.com/blog/2013/09/02/arrogance-is-a-weed-that-grows-mostly-on-a-dunghill/>

Sep 3, 2013

Star Tribune reports MOA stating that Osmo Vänskä might have to leave and also announcing results of "independent" financial review that had been completed in June 2013. "'Osmo may have to leave,' Davis said in a meeting Tuesday with the Star Tribune editorial board. 'The board is resolved to know that that is a risk. Carnegie, the opening of the hall. All three may have to fall.'" <http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/222221521.html>

Sep 3-12. 2013

Blogger Scott Chamberlain analyzes MOA's "Strategic Plan" over the course of four blogs, finding it severely lacking.

<http://maskoftheflowerprince.wordpress.com/2013/09/03/an-infuriating-development/>

<http://maskoftheflowerprince.wordpress.com/2013/09/09/an-un-strategic-plan-part-2-assumptions-that-assume-quite-a-bit/>

<http://maskoftheflowerprince.wordpress.com/2013/09/11/unclear-goals-uncertain-paths-to-success/>

<http://maskoftheflowerprince.wordpress.com/2013/09/12/an-un-strategic-plan-part-4-and-finally-you-list-your-artistic-goals/>

- Sep 4, 2013 Musicians ask for updated financial information.
<http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/222422831.html>
- Sep 5, 2013 Polyphonic's Robert Levine dissects the problems with the MOA's purported "independent financial review."
<http://www.polyphonic.org/2013/09/05/bought-and-paid-for/>
- Sep 5, 2013 Locked-out MN Orchestra musicians vote unanimously to reject latest MOA "new" proposal (similar to previous one) that was proposed outside the terms of the MOA's chosen mediator, Former Senator George Mitchell, and reaffirm their support for the mediator's return-to-work proposal.
<http://tcbmag.com/News/Recent-News/2013/September/MN-Orchestra-Players-Reject-Managements-Latest-Of>
<http://www.minnesotaorchestramusicians.org/musicians-vote-unanimously-in-support-of-governors-mediation-process/>
- Sep 5, 2013 MOA announces that their Mission Statement has reverted to previous one, but includes a sentence on fiscal sustainability. Mission Statement which had been missing from the MOA website for months can now be found on their website. <http://www.minnesotaorchestra.org/about/history>
- Sep 6, 2013 Between 150 and 200 people attend Save Our Symphony Minnesota's first Rally "A Lockout is No Party" outside Orchestra Hall, preceding a Private Patrons Party.
- Sep 8, 2013 MOA places full page advertisement in the Star Tribune re: contract offered to locked-out musicians outside the auspices of their chosen Mediator, Former Senator George Mitchell.
- Sep 9, 2013 Original date by which Osmo Vänskä indicated that he would resign if an agreement between the MOA and Musicians was not reached came and went without any announcement by Maestro Vänskä or contract agreement.
- Sep 9, 2013 Orchestrate Excellence (which sponsored the August 20 Community Forum with Dr. Alan Fletcher as speaker) writes editorial asking for State Leaders to intervene in MN orchestra impasse.
<http://www.startribune.com/opinion/commentaries/223041921.html>
- Sep 10, 2013 Musicians issue "Reality Check" statement to correct erroneous statements made by MOA. <http://www.minnesotaorchestramusicians.org/reality-check-september-10/>
- Sep 10, 2013 Musicians make counter-offer to MOA.
<http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/223222841.html>
- Sep 11, 2013 Rep. Keith Ellison (D-MN) sends a letter to the Minnesota Orchestral Association Management and Board asking them to end the current lockout and accept the interim agreement proposed by former Senator George Mitchell to allow the orchestra to play while negotiations continue.

http://ellison.house.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1056%3Arep-ellison-sends-letter-to-minnesota-orchestral-association-management-and-board&catid=1%3Alatest&Itemid=16

- Sep 11, 2013 MOA quietly announces that opening acts (Preservation Hall Jazz Band and Bill Cosby) for the renovated Hall are cancelled or postponed.
<http://www.minnesotaorchestra.org/about/contract-talks/cancelled-concerts-information>
- Sep 12, 2013 \$52 million Orchestra Hall renovation unveiled to the press.
<http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/223482771.html>
General Manager Robert Neu “estimates that the new hall will generate about \$300,000 in added annual revenue through rentals.”
- Sep 13, 2013 Various commentators warn about what a future without Vänskä looks like:
<http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2013/09/13/arts/osmo-vanska-minnesota-orchestra>
- Sep 13, 2013 Minnesota Orchestra musician representative Kevin Watkins and MOA President/CEO Michael Henson debate on MPR’s Daily Circuit:
<http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2013/09/13/daily-circuit-minnesota-orchestra-lockout>
- Sep 13, 2013 Minnesota Orchestra musician representative Kevin Watkins and MOA representative Doug Kelley debate on Twin Cities Public Television’s Almanac:
http://www.mnvideovault.org/mvvPlayer/customPlaylist2.php?id=25094&select_index=0&popup=yes#1
- Sep 15, 2013 Second contract agreement deadline identified by MOA (allowing start-up time for rehearsals to begin on September 30 for November Carnegie Hall concerts) passes without agreement.
- Sep 15, 2013 MOA suddenly agrees to (and announces that they will) present proposals to the musicians confidentially via their mutually-chosen Mediator Former Senator George Mitchell, rather than through advertisements in the mainstream media.
<http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/223853371.html>
- Sep 15, 2013 Over 7,000 people attend the LOMOMO’s free concert at Lake Harriet Bandshell, where a new fall season with or without the Minnesota Orchestral Association auspices is announced. First concert October 4th and 5th at Ted Mann Hall with Emmanuel Ax performing.
<http://www.minnesotaorchestramusicians.org/fall-concert-series-announcement/>
- Sep 19, 2013 Minneapolis Mayor RT Rybak and Minnesota Governor Mark Dayton hold joint press conference announcing that both parties must come to the table face to face and resolve impasse.

- <http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/224406911.html>
- Sep 19, 2013 The New York Times quotes musicians' spokesperson saying there has been "soft interest" in musicians playing at Carnegie Hall without MOA involvement. <http://www.nytimes.com/2013/09/20/arts/music/minnesota-orchestra-plans-gala-dissonance-is-expected.html>
- Sep 20, 2013 SOSMN-sponsored Rally entitled "Ending the Lockout will be a Ball" outside Orchestra Hall coinciding the with MOA's annual fundraisers Symphony Ball and Crash the Ball attracts several hundred people. Volunteer professional, amateur and student jazz, Dixieland, vocal and brass musicians entertain the crowd amid rain, chill and wind. <http://www.minnpost.com/arts-culture/2013/09/capturing-scene-orchestra-hall-rain-ralliers-and-symphony-ball-arrivals>
- Sep 23, 2013 Star Tribune reports that bridge funds by both private and public sources are being sought for Minnesota Orchestra in advance of new September 29 or 30th deadline for Musicians to start rehearsing with Maestro Vänskä for Carnegie Hall concerts in November. <http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/225102192.html?page=1&c=y>
- Sep 23, 2013 Classicalite mentions rumors of musicians "going it alone" at Carnegie Hall. <http://www.classicalite.com/articles/2903/20130923/dallas-symphony-win-new-terms-lexington-philharmonic-agree-temporarily-minnesota.htm>
- Sep 24, 2013 MOA complains musicians "let offer expire." <http://www.kare11.com/news/article/1040227/396/Minn-Orchestra-says-musicians-let-offer-expire>
- Sep 26, 2013 MOA announces in the press that it "sweetened its offer to locked-out musicians Thursday, after an 11th-hour fundraising effort led by Marilyn Carlson Nelson, one of Minnesota's wealthiest people." Ms. Carlson Nelson is a member of the MOA Board. This offer was not made via the confidential negotiations with their mediator. It includes a \$20,000 "signing bonus" but also features reduced base salaries over three years, ending at 25% below current levels. "According to several sources, [Marilyn Carlson Nelson] called a meeting of foundation leaders about 10 days ago and asked for help. Fifteen foundations contributed."
<http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/225398062.html>
- Sep 27, 2013 SOSMN has its first commentary published in MinnPost: <http://www.minnpost.com/community-voices/2013/09/10-key-points-public-should-know-about-minnesota-orchestra-situation>
- Sep 29, 2013 Musicians reject MOA's Sep 28 offer <http://www.mndaily.com/blogs/newsstand/2013/09/28/mno-musicians-proposed-contract-artistically-unsustainable>

and say that they will present at least two other counter-offers to management <http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2013/09/30/no-talks-despite-vanska-deadline>

- Sep 30, 2013 (Deadline for Carnegie Hall concerts) Musicians and MOA management meet face to face, musicians present two counterproposals to MOA management, MOA management rejects them, then cancels the Carnegie Hall Concerts with several hours left in the day for potential negotiations, but chooses not to do so. <http://blogs.mprnews.org/state-of-the-arts/2013/09/updates-minn-orchestra-musicians-to-speak-as-deadline-nears/>
- Sep 30, 2013 Musician PR representative Blois Olson says that the MOA has refused to negotiate with them and “They have chosen to drive the car that is the Minnesota Orchestra over the cliff...”
<http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/225822651.html>
- Sep 30, 2013 Michael Henson is quoted as saying that any musicians who do not return to the orchestra can be replaced: “‘When we get up and running again,’ he said, ‘as other orchestras in this position have, we will advertise for the jobs that we need to replace, and I’m sure we will get an astonishing bunch of individuals who will want to perform and live in this great city.’”
<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/08/31/arts/music/minnesota-orchestra-calls-in-big-gun-in-dispute.html?pagewanted=all& r=0>
- Oct 1, 2013 Osmo Vänskä resigns from the Minnesota Orchestral Association.
http://www.twincities.com/music/ci_24212688/minnesota-orchestras-osmo-vanska-resigns
- Oct 1, 2013 MOA Board Chair Jon Campbell says that negotiations with the musicians will now “probably [be in] a pause for the next few months.”
<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/10/02/arts/music/vanska-quits-minnesota-orchestra.html>
- Oct 1, 2013 Aaron Jay Kernis, Director of the Composer Institute at the MOA, resigns.
<http://www.minnpost.com/arts-culture/2013/10/wreck-elite-minnesota-orchestra-now-complete>
- Oct 1, 2013 Amidst the devastating news of Vanska’s resignation, the Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra continue community outreach by performing at Hopkins High School for students.
<http://www.hopkinsschools.org/minnesota-orchestra-gives-educational-performance-hopkins-high-school>
- Oct 1, 2013 Locked out Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra hold a rally at Orchestra Hall on the one-year anniversary of the lockout.
<http://www.minnesotaorchestramusicians.org/rally-to-mark-the-one-year-anniversary-of-the-lockout/>
- Oct 3, 2013 Former Minnesota Governor Arne Carlson suggests that the Minnesota

- Orchestra needs more support from civic leaders, the state, and the Vikings.
<http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2013/10/03/daily-circuit-carlson-orchestra>
- Oct 3, 2013 Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra announce that Osmo Vanska will conduct the October 4th and 5th concerts with Emmanuel Ax at the University of Minnesota's Ted Mann Hall.
<http://www.artsjournal.com/slippeddisc/2013/10/breaking-osmo-vanska-to-conduct-minnesota-musicians-this-weekend.html>
- Oct 4, 2013 Due to overwhelming demand, a third concert on the afternoon of October 5th is announced. Tickets on sale at 8AM on October 4th sell out in 30 minutes.
<http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/226310391.html>
- Oct 4, 2013 The Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra announce a November concert with Stanislaw Skrowaczewski conducting.
<http://www.minnesotaorchestramusicians.org/skrowaczewski-artymiw-november-14-15/>
- Oct 5, 2013 MPR announces that it will broadcast the 8pm concert live.
https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?id=157141518844&story_fbid=10151731054363845
- Oct 7, 2013 Michael Kaiser, President of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts published an article questioning the claim by some arts organizations of "structural deficit" when other organizations in the same arts segment balance their budgets, and stating that "Almost always the answer can be found in strong management and a good strategy."
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/michael-kaiser/structural-deficits_b_4056719.html
- Oct 7, 2013 Former Indiana Senator Mitch Daniels is the featured speaker at the Center of the American Experiment's Fall conference held at Orchestra Hall.
<http://www.americanexperiment.org/events/2013-fall-briefing-featuring-mitch-daniels>
- Oct 10, 2013 VocalEssence announces move from Orchestra Hall to Central Lutheran Church for their October 27 opening season concert due to the MOA's lockout of the Minnesota Orchestra musicians.
<http://www.bizjournals.com/twincities/news/2013/10/10/ongoing-labor-feud-forces-concert-out.html>
- Oct 10, 2013 Bruce Ridge, Chairman of ICSOM, writes about how arts journalists have low standards when it comes to reporting orchestra news (especially good orchestra news). http://www.icsom.org/news/2013_arts-journ.php
- Oct 12, 2013 Another bombshell blog post by Emily E. Hogstad (Song of the Lark) on Michael Henson's massive bonuses in the Minnesota Orchestral Association's

fiscal year 2011-2012.

<http://songofthelark.wordpress.com/2013/10/12/michael-hensons-massive-bonuses/>

- Oct 14, 2013 State Representative Phyllis Kahn announces proposal of a bill that would make the Minnesota Orchestra a community asset.
<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/members/pressrelease.asp?pressid=7984&party=1&memid=10302>
- Oct 14, 2013 Announcement made that the planned residency at the London Proms in 2015 by the Minnesota Orchestra performing Sibelius with Vänskä has been canceled. This planned residency was a first for an American orchestra.
<http://www.artsjournal.com/slippeddisc/2013/10/minnesota-clocks-up-another-loss-this-time-its-global.html>
- Oct 15, 2013 SOSMN issues press release questioning Minnesota Orchestral Association CEO/President Michael Henson's bonuses and salary which exceeds 10% of the MOA's 6 million dollar deficit in FY 2011-2012.
http://www.saveoursymphonymn.org/uploads/2/2/7/7/22773088/oct15_moa_990_press_release.pdf
- Oct 15, 2013 MPR reports that Minnesota charitable giving rose 15% from 2010 to 2011.
<http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2013/10/15/report-minnesota-charitable-giving-climbs-15-percent>
- Oct 17, 2013 The community group Orchestrate Excellence (which sponsored the August Community Forum with Aspen Music Festival director Alan Fletcher as featured speaker) publicly releases their comparison study between the Minnesota Orchestra and The Cleveland Orchestra. This study was distributed earlier in the year to both the MOA and the Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra as a benchmark study to understand the industry and financial strategies better. <http://www.orchestrateexcellence.org/a-tale-of-two-orchestras/>
- Oct 18, 2013 "Bonusgate" covered by the Twin Cities Daily Planet and the MinnPost morning editions. <http://www.tcdailyplanet.net/news/2013/10/17/patrons-question-massive-bonuses-minnesota-orchestra-ceo>
<http://www.minnpost.com/artscape/2013/10/all-quiet-orchestra-front-now-mn-original-returns-french-honors-coens>
- Oct 18, 2013 "Bonusgate" finally covered in the Star Tribune in the evening, with an official response from Jon Campbell, MOA Board Chair, who defends the bonuses.
<http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/228404331.html>
- Oct 18, 2013 Blogger Scott Chamberlain challenges Jon Campbell's defense of Henson's bonuses. <http://maskoftheflowerprince.wordpress.com/2013/10/18/a-word-about-those-bonuses/>

- Oct 18, 2013 State Representative Alice Hausman questions the legality of the MOA's adherence to the City/State Bonding requirements for the Hall's use, given the continued lockout of the Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra as well as Former Indiana Senator Mitch Daniels' appearance at the Center of The American Experiment's conference at Orchestra Hall on October 7, 2011. <http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/228414691.html>
- Oct 20, 2013 StarTribune reports that additional "Legislative and community leaders are considering giving more public money to the Minnesota Orchestra as its yearlong labor dispute leaves the future of the state's largest arts organization — and its stellar reputation — in limbo." <http://www.startribune.com/politics/statelocal/228561301.html>
- Oct 21, 2013 Op-ed appears about public subsidies for the Minnesota Vikings vs. the Minnesota Orchestra. <http://wosu.org/2012/classical101/minnesota-vikings-450-million-minnesota-orchestra-0/>
- Oct 21, 2013 Musicians recap the eleven counter-proposals they have submitted to MOA in the past year. <http://www.minnesotaorchestramusicians.org/musician-counter-proposals-you-may-have-missed/>
- Oct 28, 2013 Musicians explain why they unanimously rejected the MOA's last offer, describing its "poison pills." <http://www.minnesotaorchestramusicians.org/poison-pills-reasons-the-musicians-of-the-minnesota-orchestra-unanimously-rejected-managements-last-offer-and-how-it-blocks-our-vision-for-a-vibrant-future/>
- Oct 30, 2013 An article is published on Polyphonic.org about the MOA's apparent intent to make the orchestra merely "good," not "great." <http://www.polyphonic.org/2013/10/30/bringing-down-the-sky-from-great-to-good-in-minnesota/>
- Oct 30, 2013 The lockout becomes a key issue in city of Minneapolis mayoral race. <http://www.minnpost.com/data/2013/10/minneapolis-mayoral-candidate-questionnaire>
- Oct. 30, 2013 Blogger Gina Hunter begins her three-part investigation of the MOA's governance structure. It describes the transition of the organization from one where the public had input (membership) to one in which the Board became insular and without outside oversight.
- Part 1: <http://eyesonlife-ginahunter.blogspot.com/2013/10/the-minnesota-orchestral-association.html>
 - Part 2: <http://eyesonlife-ginahunter.blogspot.com/2013/11/the-minnesota-orchestral-association.html>
 - Part 3: http://eyesonlife-ginahunter.blogspot.com/2013/11/the-minnesota-orchestral-association_6.html

- Nov 1, 2013 In response to MOA Board member Ken Cutler's Star Tribune letter to the editor found here:
<http://www.startribune.com/opinion/letters/230132641.html?page=2&c=y>
 blogger Scott Chamberlain questions whether the MOA management and Board are good stewards of the Minnesota Orchestra endowment.
<http://maskoftheflowerprince.wordpress.com/2013/11/01/stewards-of-the-endowment/>
- Nov 2, 2013 Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra Facebook page accumulates over 11,000 FB "likes."
- Nov 2, 2013 Garrison Keillor talks about the MOA President and CEO's bonuses ("Bonusgate") and the Minnesota Orchestra lockout on American Public Media's "A Prairie Home Companion." Remarks about the orchestra are at minute 73:18. <http://prairiehome.publicradio.org/programs/2013/11/02/>
- Nov 4, 2013 Former MOA Board Member Karen Bachman claims to not know what the locked-out musicians want in Star Tribune op-ed.
<http://www.startribune.com/opinion/commentaries/230572971.html>
- Nov 5, 2013 Blogger Scott Chamberlain provides a rebuttal to Ms. Bachman's op-ed.
<http://maskoftheflowerprince.wordpress.com/2013/11/05/lets-call-this-thing-what-it-really-is/>
- Nov 5, 2013 City of Minneapolis elections are held. Ultimately, Betsy Hodges, a former Minneapolis City Councilwoman and long-time supporter of the Minnesota Orchestra musicians, is elected mayor.
http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/democratic-city-councilwoman-betsy-hodges-elected-minneapolis-mayor-under-ranked-choice-voting/2013/11/07/ca14f4ae-482d-11e3-95a9-3f15b5618ba8_story.html
- Nov 5, 2013 Minnesota Orchestra turns 110 years old.
<http://www.minnpost.com/artscape/2013/11/mn-orchestra-turns-110-edina-film-festival-coming>
- Nov 5, 2013 A St. Paul Pioneer Press editorial appears saying there will be "hard feelings" if the Minnesota Orchestra were to receive additional public subsidies.
http://www.twincities.com/opinion/ci_24461884/spco-figured-it-out-minnesota-orchestra-should-too
- Nov 8, 2013 Blogger and conductor Bill Eddins asks about whether the MOA has acted honorably during the lockout.
<http://www.insidethearts.com/sticksanddrones/2013/11/08/billeddins/14049/>
- Nov 8, 2013 Two new media reports on the Minnesota Orchestra situation appear regarding failed informal talks between the two parties.
<http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/231167621.html>

<http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2013/11/08/arts/minnesota-orchestra-negotiations-collapse-again>

- Nov 8, 2013 Former Governor Arne Carlson is interviewed by John Williams on WCCO radio about the Minnesota Orchestra situation (begins at minute 14 in the podcast link below). He calls for an independent task force appointed by Governor Dayton or new Mayor Betsy Hodges along with a full State Audit of the MOA's finances. <http://cbsloc.al/1iXHqz3>
- Nov 9, 2013 Blogger Scott Chamberlain explores the recent media blitz and questions MOA representative Doug Kelley's claims re: the impact of unions on the negotiations. <http://maskoftheflowerprince.wordpress.com/2013/11/09/and-suddenly-a-media-blitz/>
- Nov 10, 2013 A comprehensive review of the lockout is published in Classical Voice America. <http://classicalvoiceamerica.org/2013/11/07/orchestra-debacle-minnesota-lock-out-deconstructed/>
- Nov 10, 2013 Musicians respond to Karen Bachman and also describe their vision for the future in a Star Tribune op-ed. <http://www.startribune.com/opinion/231219791.html>
- Nov 11, 2013 On the MPR's Daily Circuit, an update on current MOA and Musician negotiations, in which MOA representative Doug Kelley claims that an International Union is involved in the local dispute, and defends Michael Henson's salary and bonuses, while Tim Zavadil presents the Musicians' viewpoint. <http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2013/11/11/daily-circuit-minnesota-orchestra?refid=0>
- Nov 12, 2013 Blogger Scott Chamberlain rebuts Doug Kelley's comments from the previous day's Daily Circuit presentation, including the notion that Michael Henson deserves his salary and bonuses as "combat pay." <http://maskoftheflowerprince.wordpress.com/2013/11/12/a-painful-interview/>
- Nov 12, 2013 Blogger Emily E. Hogstad publishes another piece regarding additional implications of Michael Henson's bonuses in 2011, and reveals that 13% of the MOA's administrative staff were laid off shortly thereafter. <http://songofthelark.wordpress.com/2013/11/12/layoffgate-or-something-like-that/>
- Nov 12, 2013 Attorney Lee Henderson outlines a 7 point plan for the Minnesota Orchestra to become self-sustaining as an entirely new Minnesota Symphony in a Star Tribune op-ed. <http://www.startribune.com/opinion/commentaries/231655011.html>
- Nov 13, 2013 Blogger Drew McManus debunks the notion that the "International Union" is behind the Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra's actions.

- <http://www.adaptistration.com/blog/2013/11/13/union-puppet-masters-they-dont-have-that-capacity/>
- Nov 13, 2013 Blogger Robert Levine also counters the notion that the Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra are following orders from an outside Union entity. <http://www.polyphonic.org/2013/11/13/our-conspiratorial-industry/>
- Nov 14, 2013 On Give to the Max Day, the Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra receive over \$50,000 in donations. <http://givemn.razoo.com/story/Minnesota-Orchestra-Musicians>
- Nov 14, 2013 Minnesota Orchestra Conductor Emeritus Stanislaw Skrowaczewski, says that by conducting the locked out Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra, he is sending a message to the MOA management and Board. <http://blogs.mprnews.org/state-of-the-arts/2013/11/skrowaczewski-hopes-locked-out-musicians-concerts-will-send-a-message/>
- Nov 14, 2013 Blogger Scott Chamberlain talks about an alternative “vision” for the Minnesota Orchestra. <http://maskoftheflowerprince.wordpress.com/2013/11/14/vision/>
- Nov 15, 2013 MOA Board member Nicky Carpenter presents the MOA’s vision in a Star Tribune article. <http://www.startribune.com/opinion/commentaries/231982701.html>
- Nov 15, 2013 Blogger Scott Chamberlain responds to MOA Board Member Nicky Carpenter’s op-ed. <http://maskoftheflowerprince.wordpress.com/2013/11/15/a-response-to-nicky-carpenter/>
- Nov 14-15, 2013 Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra perform at Ted Mann Hall to widespread acclaim. <http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/232070771.html>
http://www.twincities.com/music/ci_24527996/review-musicians-minnesota-orchestra-remain-stride
- Nov 16, 2013 State Representative Phyllis Kahn writes a letter to the editor of the Star Tribune questioning the MOA’s manner of dealing with musician negotiations as well as the MOA’s honesty. <http://www.startribune.com/opinion/232135291.html>
- Nov 18, 2013 Alex Ross, in *The New Yorker*, offers a blistering assessment of the MOA management and their lockout of the Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra. http://www.newyorker.com/arts/critics/musical/2013/11/25/131125crmu-music_ross
- Nov 18, 2013 Blogger Scott Chamberlain uses the MOA’s most recent donation letter to critique not only its fundraising strategies but also to question whether it really likes its main product, the orchestra.

<http://maskoftheflowerprince.wordpress.com/2013/11/18/you-have-to-love-your-product/>

- Nov 18, 2013 StarTribune announces SOSMN's special November 20th presentation "The MOA Debacle" at Open Book in Minneapolis.
<http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/blogs/232359251.html>
- Nov 19, 2013 MinnPost discusses the recent Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra concerts and promotes SOSMN's special November 20th presentation at Open Book in Minneapolis.
<http://www.minnpost.com/artscape/2013/11/save-our-symphony-offer-deep-dive-orchestra-finances>
- Nov 20, 2013 Nov 20, 2013. SOSMN gives public presentation "The MOA Debacle: Unlocking the Truth" at Open Book in downtown Minneapolis.
<http://www.saveoursymphonymn.org/presentations.html>
- Nov 21, 2013 Star Tribune covers SOSMN's presentation at Open Book, with MOA official rebuttals. <http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/232768131.html>
- Nov 21, 2013 MinnPost covers SOSMN's presentation at Open Book with additional MOA rebuttals. <http://www.minnpost.com/arts-culture/2013/11/minnesota-orchestra-finances-did-management-manipulate-numbers>
- Nov 21, 2013 Emily E. Hogstad writes a blog post about hopefulness re: the Minnesota Orchestra situation in her review of the Musicians' concerts of Nov. 14 and 15th. <http://songofthelark.wordpress.com/2013/11/21/review-minnesota-orchestra-musicians-in-wagner-mozart-brahms/>
- Nov 21, 2013 Strib announces that Osmo Vänskä will be conducting the Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra as a part of Northrop Auditorium's grand re-opening celebrations on May 2, 2014 in a recreation of the first concert played by the Minneapolis Symphony in the original Northrop Auditorium.
<http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/blogs/232918731.html>
- Nov 21, 2013 Dick Bernard reviews SOSMN's Nov. 20th presentation in the Twin Cities Daily Planet. <http://www.tcdailyplanet.net/blog/dick-bernard/save-our-symphony-mn-speaks-out-day-415-lockout-minnesota-orchestra>
- Nov 22, 2013 Blogger Scott Chamberlain writes a post responding to the MOA's rebuttals to SOSMN's presentation.
<http://maskoftheflowerprince.wordpress.com/2013/11/21/questions-that-deserve-answers2/>
- Nov 23, 2013 Tickets for the May 2, 2014 Northrop auditorium Vänskä / Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra concert officially go on sale at 10am. By that evening, tickets for this event are almost sold out.
- Nov 25, 2013 Drew McManus from Adaptistration discusses SOSMN's presentation re: MOA finances and business plans, the role of community groups in orchestra

disputes, and whether an ombudsman is needed for oversight of orchestral managements in these cases.

<http://www.adaptistration.com/blog/2013/11/25/minnesota-patron-stakeholder-group-gets-aggressive/>

- Nov 25, 2013 Blogger Scott Chamberlain revisits and asked further questions about the MOA's "new" business plan.
<http://maskoftheflowerprince.wordpress.com/2013/11/25/so-about-that-new-business-plan/>
- Dec 2, 2013 Minnesota Orchestral Association releases report to City of Minneapolis for Sep-Nov 2013 operations of Orchestra Hall as a "government program" under the Lease and Use Agreement, claiming revenue from Symphony Ball and Crash the Ball fundraising events as public performances. MOA also sends City a legal opinion that its performance is excused under the Agreement's force majeure clause, claiming a lockout is just like a strike as outside MOA's control.
<http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/234515361.html>
<http://www.minnpost.com/politics-policy/2013/12/minnesota-orchestra-association-offers-artistic-report-orchestra-hall-lease>
- Dec 3, 2013 Blogger Scott Chamberlain expresses astonishment, frustration and anger as he dissects and counters MOA's Dec 2 report.
<http://maskoftheflowerprince.wordpress.com/2013/12/03/the-orchestras-report-to-the-city-of-minneapolis/>
- Dec 3-5, 2013 Blogger Emily Hogstad dissects MOA's Dec 2 report in three parts.
<http://songofthelark.wordpress.com/2013/12/03/happy-fun-exciting-hall-operations-analysis-part-1-of-3/>
<http://songofthelark.wordpress.com/2013/12/04/happy-fun-exciting-hall-operations-analysis-part-23/>
<http://songofthelark.wordpress.com/2013/12/05/happy-fun-exciting-hall-operations-analysis-part-33/>
- Dec 6, 2013 Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra announce a second concert with Osmo Vänskä at Northrop Auditorium on May 4, after their May 2 concert sold out within 48 hours.
<http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/blogs/234783641.html>
- Dec 6, 2013 Osmo Vänskä and the Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra earn their second Grammy award nomination in a row, this time for their recording of Sibelius Symphonies 1 & 4.
<http://www.grammy.com/nominees?genre=5>
<http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/234839841.html>
- Dec 7, 2013 Rolf Erdahl, author of the *Low Rumbings* blog, posts article discussing upcoming musicians' community meeting and saying MOA is still "playing chicken" while the musicians are no longer doing so.

- <http://lowrumblings.wordpress.com/2013/12/07/playing-chicken-or-not/>
- Dec 9, 2013 The Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra hold their first community meeting where they review the past locked-out year and give their vision for the future in a report to the community and video presentation.
- <http://www.scribd.com/doc/190484719/Musicians-of-the-MN-Orchestra-Community-Report>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-33-l2NtQy8&feature=youtu.be>
- <http://www.minnpost.com/arts-culture/2013/12/overflow-crowd-cheers-locked-out-orchestra-musicians-and-plans-more-concerts>
- Dec 10, 2013 Ten Minnesota State Legislators write a letter to the Board of the Minnesota Orchestral Association demanding the resignation of MOA President/CEO Michael Henson, Board Chair Jon Campbell, and immediate past-Chair Richard Davis, charging them with deceiving the Legislature about the organization's financial status when requesting state bonding funds and overall financial mismanagement of the MOA.
- <http://blogs.mprnews.org/state-of-the-arts/2013/12/lawmakers-call-for-resignation-of-minnesota-orchestral-association-leaders/>
- Dec 10, 2013 Blogger Scott Chamberlain claims that the MOA suffers from a lack of creative thinking (relying on risk-averse and familiar solutions) and explains why this is a problem for the organization.
- <http://maskoftheflowerprince.wordpress.com/2013/12/09/creative-solutions/>
- Dec 10, 2013 The Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra's Sibelius #4 recording is listed by NPR as one of the top 100 'songs' of 2013. It is one of the few classical recordings to be so honored.
- <http://www.npr.org/blogs/bestmusic2013/2013/12/11/249734685/npr-musics-100-favorite-songs-of-2013>
- Dec 11, 2013 The MOA has their Annual Meeting, reports a \$1.1 million deficit for 2012-13 and retains Jon Campbell as Chair and Richard Davis as immediate past-chair. The board also chose to take a 5% endowment draw in a year when they presented no concerts.
- <http://www.minnpost.com/arts-culture/2013/12/minnesota-orchestral-association-stands-pat-leadership-reports-11-million-opera>
- <http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/235446141.html>
- Dec 11, 2013 Oh her blog *Iron Tongue of Midnight*, Lisa Hirsh provides her viewpoint of the MOA's press release re: their meeting and annual report (the MOA's media Press Release is included within the text of her blog).
- <http://irontongue.blogspot.com/2013/12/declaring-victory.html?spref=tw>
- Dec 11, 2013 Blogger Scott Chamberlain discusses the implications of the MOA Board's

annual meeting decisions.

<http://maskoftheflowerprince.wordpress.com/2013/12/11/votes-of-confidence/>

- Dec 12, 2013 Doug Grow of MinnPost asks whether the MOA and the Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra are any closer to a settlement.
<http://www.minnpost.com/arts-culture/2013/12/weeks-events-minnesota-orchestra-settlement-any-closer>
- Dec 12, 2013 Blogger and The New Yorker music critic Alex Ross says that “words fail” re: the Minnesota Orchestral Association’s annual report and their ability to spend \$13 million in a performance-free year.
<http://www.therestisnoise.com/2013/12/words-fail.html>
- Dec 12, 2013 The Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra announce their spring season which includes more Sibelius conducted by Osmo Vänskä, Joshua Bell, and Itzhak Perlman. <http://www.minnesotaorchestramusicians.org/season-listing-on-sale-dates/#newyork>
- Dec 12, 2013 Blogger and conductor Bill Eddins likens the Minnesota Orchestra situation to “The Hobbit,” equating Henson/Davis/Campbell to Smaug.
<http://www.insidethearts.com/sticksanddrones/2013/12/12/billeddins/14053/>
- Dec 12, 2013 Blogger Scott Chamberlain scrutinizes the MOA’s reported numbers from their annual report released on December 11, and especially MOA Board Chair Jon Campbell’s claim to the press that “The fact that the organization’s deficit is substantially smaller in a year without any performances indicates the degree to which this business model is out of alignment.”
<http://maskoftheflowerprince.wordpress.com/2013/12/12/what-that-deficit-really-means/>
- Dec 12, 2013 Robert Levine discusses the “missed opportunity” of the MOA’s annual meeting in his piece for Polyphonic. He concludes that “The story of how the board of the Minnesota Orchestra Association allowed three men to drive one of the great American orchestral institutions into a deep, deep ditch will be studied – with fascination and horror – for as long as there is an American nonprofit sector.” <http://www.polyphonic.org/2013/12/12/another-missed-opportunity/>

For additional information, updates, and opportunities to help, visit

www.SaveOurSymphonyMN.org