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Save Our Symphony Minnesota resonates with locked-out Minnesota Orchestra patrons.

The recently formed grassroots group *Save Our Symphony Minnesota* is hitting a nerve among locked-out Minnesota Orchestra patrons and fans.

SOSMN has received significant and wide-reaching press coverage. Contributor Emily E. Hogstad's <u>article</u> detailing the Minnesota Orchestral Association's preemptive domain name acquisitions in May 2012 ("Domaingate") and *Save Our Symphony Minnesota* have received national and international coverage, including: Minnesota Public Radio, National Public Radio, Daily Kos, the Minneapolis Star Tribune, the St. Paul Pioneer Press, The Twin Cities City Pages, The Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal, MinnPost, and well-respected music industry critics and bloggers such as Alex Ross (from The New Yorker), Drew McManus, and the UK's Norman Lebrecht.

In one week the organization achieved a large, attentive, and rapidly growing audience, with over 6500 "likes" on its Facebook page. SOSMN's website provides links/resources and timeline for background information on the Minnesota Orchestra lockout situation, while the Facebook page connects the community, provides up-to-date news and calls to action. When the August 28th MOA Board meeting was announced, SOSMN readers flooded the MOA Board members with letters/emails to end the lockout. The group's energy and momentum may have influenced the MOA's revision to once again include the words "Minnesota Orchestra" in its Mission Statement.

SOSMN is energized and ready to act. The MOA's August 28 announcement regarding the timeline for the scheduled November Carnegie Hall concerts requires the MOA reach a contract agreement with the musicians by September 15. These dates are also critical for conductor Osmo Vänskä to remain with the Minnesota Orchestra. Consequently, SOSMN will oversee numerous and varied opportunities for individual and group action over the next few weeks. Announcements will be made via SOSMN's Facebook page and Twitter feed.

The members of SOSMN are passionate, informed, and willing to take concrete action to end the Minnesota Orchestra lockout.

Join us at SOSMN!