



## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The YOLA National Symposium seeks to foster meaningful conversation between educators, administrators, advocates, and key stakeholders who believe that music education has a powerful role to play in youth empowerment and community development. Proposed sessions should engage all participants in active collaboration and conversation, while sharing best practices and exploring challenges across the greater global community of arts education and creative youth development. For more information about the YOLA National Symposium, visit [laphil.com/yns](http://laphil.com/yns) or email us at [YOLA@laphil.org](mailto:YOLA@laphil.org).

### **Proposal Submission Timeline**

Feb 3, 2020	Call for proposals open
March 16, 2020	Call for proposals closes
April 13–May 4, 2020	Proposal applicants notified on a rolling basis
July 7–10, 2020	YOLA National Symposium Dates

### **Proposal Guidelines**

The RFP process is designed to foster a community of collaborators and a spirit of inquiry amongst presenters and attendees. We believe that the answers to our biggest questions are best approached as a community. In an effort to cultivate this culture, presentations of similar topics will be paired together, and we ask for your flexibility in working with other presenters. The RFP process will also seek submissions that name active ways for attendees to engage with the content of your proposal. Please consider the guidelines below as you develop your proposal:

- Presentations should focus on **one** specific content area listed below
- We encourage that proposals connect with the 2020 theme of Practicing Identity – read more about the theme below.
- Presentations may be between 5 and 30 minutes in length
- Presentations should be hands-on, interactive, and engaging for all attendees
- We encourage proposals in all existing and expanding pathways of pre-k through pre-professional music education, including professional development for teaching artists
- We encourage session formats listed below. While we do not require these formats, we ask that you consider ensure your session format is active for participants
  - Workshops: collaborative learning sessions that emphasize learning-by-doing. Attendees leave with tools, plans, activities, or work-products they can use at home.
  - Fishbowl Demos: interactive sessions involving 1–2 facilitators demonstrating a specific teaching practice with a live ensemble.
  - Lightning Presentations: quick, 6-minute presentations that are gathered into themed clusters
  - Panel Sessions: panel sessions have one facilitator and up to 4 panelists
  - Roundtables: facilitated conversations among all attendees centered on a particular theme or purpose

# YOLA National

## **Symposium Theme: Practicing Identity**

The 2020 Symposium will explore questions of identity. Together, we will ask how who we are impacts the young people and communities we serve. What self-perceptions do teachers and students bring with them into music classrooms? How do intersections of race, class, and culture influence our work? How do we create spaces where young people can bring their full identities to their pursuits in music and leadership? Attendees will collaborate to address core issues affecting the field of music education, hear from world-renown educators, artists, social justice leaders and youth advocates, and receive hands on training in teaching artistry, youth development, and program design. The YOLA National Symposium invites you to build on your practice through a collective exploration of identity.

## **Core Content Areas**

**Youth and Community Voice:** How can we bring the voice of those we serve to the center of our practice, from program design?

**Creativity:** How can we incorporate creativity, improvisation and composition authentically into the orchestral context, from the beginning level through our highest performing ensembles?

**Social Justice:** How can we actively engage our young people in conversations about race, power, identity, and intersectionality, with a goal of developing practical tools for combatting the socio-economic forces that challenge many of the young people and families we serve?

**Artistry:** How can we continue to improve our ability to use the unique benefits and opportunities of intensive music instruction to drive increased socio-emotional growth in the young people we serve?

**Program Design:** How do we create programs that model equity, inclusion, and a true sense of belonging in all aspects of their design and implementation?

**Professional Development:** How can we provide our teaching artists and staff with the best possible training, both as teachers and as artists, as a means of improving program impact?

**Partnerships:** How can we increase collaboration nationally and in our own communities to better leverage the unique strengths and interests of the vast network of organizations and individuals seeking positive social change through arts education?

## **Submission**

The proposal submission will require the information listed below. Please submit your proposal at the link below.

- Basic information about the presenter(s), including bio(s) and headshot(s)
- Session Title
- Session Format
- Selected content area
- A session description
- A description for any activities proposed, visual aids, or handouts involved in your session
- Relevant documents
- Required materials for your session

[CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL](http://bit.ly/YNSProposal2020)

(<http://bit.ly/YNSProposal2020>)