



**Musicians' Association of Hawai'i**  
**LOCAL No. 677, American Federation of Musicians**

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**COMMENTS ON CURRENT HONOLULU SYMPHONY SOCIETY CIRCUMSTANCES**

**HONOLULU: MAY 26, 2005** – In response to calls from the media seeking comment about recently reported occurrences within the Honolulu Symphony Society board and management, Ken Hafner, Chair of the Honolulu Symphony Musicians Orchestra Committee, said, “We continue to hold a high regard for the Honolulu Symphony - now in its second century - and we have continually demonstrated our commitment to the institution. We sincerely hope that the Symphony can work through its current organizational challenges so that we can continue to perform great music for the people of Hawai'i, especially for the thousands of children we reach each year through our education programs.”

Michael J. Largarticha, President of the Musicians' Association of Hawai'i, said, “It is important for the public to understand that these musicians are contracted by the Honolulu Symphony Society for their services as performers. The Society's Board of Directors is responsible for management, fundraising, and marketing of the institution, and these Grammy-nominated artists are responsible for the quality of the performances. This is a very difficult, unsettling situation for us all individually and collectively, and it would serve no useful purpose for the musicians to comment further about these matters, over which they have little or no control.”

*The Musicians' Association of Hawai'i Local 677 AFM was formed in 1923 and enjoys some 500 members. We are composed of mainly professional musicians but anyone with an interest in music may join. We are a statewide organization, part of the American Federation of Musicians of the United States and Canada with some 100,000 members.*

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