SEARCH PROFILE
For the Position of Executive Director
A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

The Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra's mission is to enhance the quality of life in our community through music and for nearly 70 years we have been the premier musical organization in Louisiana’s Capital City. The quality of the orchestra is unparalleled. We are seeking an Executive Director with strong leadership skills to help guide the organization in implementing our strategic plan, creating new audiences, and continuing the record of performance excellence that our patrons have come to expect.

It is critical to us that our new Executive Director be a person of the highest integrity with a proven track record of addressing financial issues, leading fundraising, and collaborating and partnering with other arts organizations in our vibrant community. In particular, the symphony has close relationships with the music programs at LSU and Southern University, and we expect our Executive Director to continue to build on these partnerships going forward.

The Board of Directors is actively engaged and is committed to and excited about the future. We are passionate about making a difference in our state for this orchestra’s next 70 years and beyond.

Mae Calvin Belton
Board Chair
ABOUT BRSO

Season 2017-18 is the 69th season for the Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra. It reaches an annual audience of more than 120,000 with over 30 orchestra and chamber ensemble performances throughout the greater Baton Rouge area. The orchestra is made up of over 70 professional per-service musicians as well as an auditioned, volunteer Symphony Chorus of over 100 voices. Music Director Timothy Muffitt is in his 18th season with the orchestra. The annual operating budget is approximately $1.9 million.

A typical season includes a mix of classical, pops, and chamber ensemble concerts with usually one or two major offerings monthly in the season running from September to May. In an effort to reach out to new audiences, the orchestra is presenting innovative concert formats such as “Deconstructed Symphony” and “Bachtoberfest” along with more traditional fare. Additional concerts include run-outs to neighboring communities and various educational performances.

Each season also includes a Pennington Great Performers concert that features world-class performers with the orchestra. Previous seasons have included Lang Lang, Yo-Yo Ma, Itzhak Perlman, Renée Fleming, Diana Ross, Johnny Mathis, and Van Cliburn, among others.

Locally, the orchestra embraces partnerships with its sister arts organizations and area universities on a regular basis, including collaborations with local dance companies, the Rural Life Museum, and others. Partnerships with the LSU School of Music have allowed for many wonderful opportunities to bring top-level artists to Baton Rouge to work with both organizations.

The orchestra is also very engaged in the music of our time. Each season includes multiple works by living composers and often multiple premier performances. A recent CD on the Sono Luminus label of the music of Berg, Weill, and Ibert received great critical acclaim and has been broadcast in all 50 states. Plans are under way now for a commission of a major mixed-media work in the 2019-20 season to celebrate the opening of the forthcoming newly renovated concert hall, Maestro Muffitt’s 20th season with the orchestra, and the orchestra’s 70th anniversary.

The Louisiana Youth Orchestra program provides performing opportunities for 180 auditioned students age eight to 20 in four ensembles. The Louisiana Youth Orchestra (LYO) performs several well-attended concerts annually, in the same hall in which the symphony performs.

The Symphony offers a wide range of educational and community engagement programs for all ages, including pre-concert discussions, Symphony Street performances, Young People’s Discovery concerts, and programs with autistic children and adults with Alzheimer’s. A new program called the “Musical Gateways Passports” allows 200 children and their parents, mostly from disadvantaged economic circumstances, to attend all Masterworks and Chamber programs free of charge, including free parking. Passports were used over 400 times during the last season.
SEARCH PROFILE
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BRSO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Timothy W. Muffitt
Music Director/Conductor

David Torns
Associate Conductor
CANDIDATE PROFILE

The Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra (BRSO) is seeking an Executive Director who is a dynamic and visionary leader with a minimum of five, and preferably ten years' nonprofit arts management experience.

The successful candidate will have:

- Strong experience in developing budgets and financial management
- Demonstrated success in achieving annual fundraising goals
- Extensive experience building and leading a team of senior staff
- Superb oral and written communications skills
- Demonstrated ability to build and maintain effective and respected relationships with board members, donors, audience members, other arts organizations, and the general public
- Specific knowledge of presenting and performing arts organizations
- An MBA, while not required, is preferred

The successful candidate will be a self-starter, have a high level of initiative, creativity, and energy. The ability to work independently is a must as well as the ability to work with staff and volunteers to plan and execute a complex program of work. The successful candidate will be willing to relocate to Baton Rouge and commit fully to the community for at least three years. Compensation, including benefits, is competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience.

THE POSITION

The Executive Director has overall accountability and responsibility for the management of BRSO. Reporting to the BRSO Board of Directors, this individual will be instrumental in guiding the organization to achieve the goals set forth in its recent strategic plan; setting budgets and financial policies for the organization; engaging and managing up to six staff members; and serving as the visible representative of BRSO to the broader community. The Executive Director will be actively involved in fundraising and will work in collaboration with the BRSO Music Director/Conductor Timothy Muffitt.
ABOUT THE BATON ROUGE AREA

Baton Rouge is a warm and welcoming community. Located in South Louisiana, the greater Baton Rouge area is known for its unique blend of distinctive cultures, unforgettable cuisine, and endless recreation opportunities. Baton Rouge is home to a diverse economy that celebrates innovation, research and development, entrepreneurship, arts, and culture.

The Baton Rouge Area is a happy place which offers residents a great place to live, work, play, and grow.

- **LIVE** – there is a plethora of housing options, including historic homes, gated neighborhoods, executive apartments, and downtown condos.

- **WORK** – the region is bringing in and growing a diverse economic base with companies ranging from entrepreneurial start-ups to Fortune 100 companies, like ExxonMobil and IBM. Significant job growth has occurred in technology, professional services, advanced manufacturing, and engineering services.

- **PLAY** – residents and visitors can experience nationally recognized public parks and libraries, a vibrant arts and culture scene, over 900+ restaurants, and a celebratory festival almost every weekend. A new children’s museum featuring interactive exhibits is set to open in August 2017.

- **GROW** – there are top-rated K-12 public and private schools; experience all that is available in a college town as Baton Rouge is the home of Louisiana State University, Southern University, and community college campuses.

Downtown Baton Rouge mixes workplaces, homes, shops, theaters, museums, and restaurants. As the capital city of the state, downtown is home to many outdoor murals and sculpture, the Shaw Center for the Arts which houses the LSU Museum of Art and the Manship Theatre, the Louisiana Arts and Science Museum, and the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge. The River Center Theatre for the Performing Arts, where the Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra performs, is also located in the downtown area, and is scheduled for a major renovation starting summer 2018.

Learn more about Baton Rouge at [www.visitbatonrouge.com](http://www.visitbatonrouge.com) and at [www.brac.org/lifeinbr](http://www.brac.org/lifeinbr).
APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The Search Committee is now accepting nominations, inquiries, and applications for the position of Executive Director. This position will remain open until filled by the Board of Directors. Applicant review will begin upon receipt and will continue until the Executive Director is named.

All nominations, inquiries, applications, or requests for additional information should be directed to SSA Consultants via email to search@consultssa.com or call (225) 769-2676 to speak with Landon Corbin, Search Coordinator.

Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra is an equal opportunity employer.