



BSO Core Values: Commitment, Creativity, Community, Belonging, Collaboration

Commitment – For over five decades, the Bellingham Symphony Orchestra has pursued our mission to uplift the greater Whatcom County region through inspiring musical experiences. Throughout our 50-year history, the symphony has faced many challenges, during which our commitment to this mission has not wavered. The organization has continually adapted, innovated, and persisted in its commitment to being an ever-growing, community-serving orchestra. As a collective, we are committed to a lifelong learning process.

Creativity – BSO centers progressive musical artistry, excellence, and ambition in our creative pursuits. We continue to expand the perspective on classical music in our region through diverse performers, music, and programming. We remain curious in our creative pursuits and lean into our identity as a learning organization as we make creative choices. Creativity is our organizational engine, drawing us closer to our audience, uniting us in performance with a global roster of collaborators, and challenging us to pursue the power of music to express, unite, heal, and share.

Community – The BSO is privileged to call Bellingham and Whatcom County its home. We value the community that we serve. We seek to welcome all to our performances, to share in the experience of classical music. [We believe in art as a form of community repair.](#) We work to draw closer to the underrepresented populations in our community and learn how best we can serve them. As an organization, we believe in an approach in which every member of the BSO ecosystem can thrive. Community informs our next moves and is a part of setting the destination for what the BSO can become.

Belonging – The BSO is committed to continuing to grow into an ever more inclusive and equitable organization, consistently addressing accessibility in all forms, ensuring all are welcome. The BSO is committed to learning how best to collaborate with all members of our community, and to acknowledge, apologize, and repair when we make mistakes. We believe the orchestra should be something shared and is made whole only when all members of our community are present. The BSO will continue to learn and grow in an effort to foster a deep belonging for all who create and experience our work.

Collaboration – The BSO seeks to be a catalyst for collaboration. We welcome community, performers, audience members, and contributors of all backgrounds. We exist now and grow into the future through our collaborations. We work with trust, respect, integrity, and openness. Our deepest service to our community grows from collaboration.