The Musicians' Union and Tourism – November 8<sup>th</sup> 2023

The Austin Federation of Musicians is the local chapter of the American Federation of Musicians of the U.S. and Canada. The Austin Local was founded in 1907 by local musicians who have achieved improvements to wages, working conditions and other issues relating to their employment by working together.



## FROM OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

We are the Austin Federation of Musicians, professional musicians united so that: \*We can live and work in dignity

\*Our work will be fulfilling and compensated fairly

\*We will have a meaningful voice in decisions that affect us

\*We will have the opportunity to develop our talents and skills

\*Our collective voice and power will be realized in a democratic and progressive union \*We can oppose the forces of exploitation through our union solidarity

## **On Tourism**

The Austin Federation of Musicians has been involved with developing the Austin Music Labor Market for over 115 years and is the longest running arts organization in Austin. The Musicians of Austin produce the primary cultural export of the city and are the basis for most tourism attractions. From Small Venues, Bars, Dance Halls, and Recording Studios, to Conventions, Concert Halls, Arenas, and Film Studios, Austin Musicians make it happen every day. Our Union also administers contracts for Broadway Shows, Orchestras, Opera, Ballet, The Austin Jazz Workshop, and the Austin City Limits TV Show. The Governor's Office reported that The Music Industry generated over 26 Billion Dollars in economic activity in Texas for 2022 alone. Union Musicians have achieved contracts and agreements that continue to secure a piece of the pie, along with decent working conditions, for the workers that actually create the music: the musicians. Revenue generated in the present as well as residual income from the use of our recorded performances in the future are of paramount concern. As you can imagine, this process, like the industry itself, is continuous.

Musician testimony to be announced

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