

# LHNCM Big Band Administrative Structure

April 2016



## Leadership and Management:

### Musical Director

Proposed Responsibilities include:

- A) Setting general rehearsal location/dates and time in coordination with all 18 members and the LHNCM Administration
- B) Maintaining communication with all members on a weekly basis to minimize absences.
- C) Working closely with section leaders to schedule at least two sectional rehearsals per concert
- D) Work closely with the LHNCM Administration to set concert dates sponsored by the LHNCM
- E) Ensure regular payment of salaries, and extra pay for the 18 Big Band Members
- F) Work closely with the Artistic Director and all Big band Members in order to choose appropriate repertoire for each concert.
- G) Actively seek out collaboration with Local and International Artists and arrangers
- H) Work closely with fundraisers and sponsors raise extra money needed for equipment such as amps, microphones, stands and studio recordings.
- I) Advocacy: the LHNCM Big Band must serve to demonstrate our vibrancy and prolific contribution to Lebanese Conservatory and its commitment to offering several musical traditions in it curriculum. Hugely successful, fully packed concerts attracting local and international media serve to strengthen the image of the LHNCM, the Ministry of Culture and Lebanon as the Artistic Capital of the Middle East. Equally important is a commitment to diversity that the LHNCM proudly demonstrates in its vigorous support of the Big Band. Concertgoers are always hungry to experience an extraordinary example

of the power music has to cross all barriers and offer a parity of esteem to all musicians, all teachers and all students. Not to be understated or underestimated, the LHNCM Big band is a powerful recruiting tool for LPO members, Teachers and Students.

## **Artistic Director**

Proposed Responsibilities include:

- A) Assisting in helping to achieve the smooth running of rehearsals (Preparing the rehearsal space, print out missing parts, sound system set up and clean up after rehearsals)
- B) Working with the LHNCM Director to propose phrasing alternatives and offer conceptual advice as well as providing info on chord/scale relationships and Jazz harmony when requested.
- C) Shared responsibility for the choice and preparation of repertoire
- D) Will help produce events and performances with all the duties this entails to include assisting in a marketing effort, contacting the press, dealing with sound engineers etc...
- E) Will assist in dealing with guest artists and the logistics involved. (Sponsorship, Housing, fees, meals, repertoire, Master classes...)
- F) Will work closely with arrangers charged with producing commissioned Big Band arrangements usually designed to feature Local artists (Singers and instrumentalists)
- G) Will work in close coordination with Festival Organizers, Charity Organizations fundraisers, promoters, impresarios, Embassies, Government institutions and Non Government Institutions in an effort to successfully produce performances.
- H) Develop and maintain social media platforms in an effort to broadcast up and coming performances and strengthen the reputation of the LHNCM and the LHNCM Big Band.
- I) Will gather information related to availability of sound engineers, possible third party videographers and equipment to be procured for concerts (mixers, side fill speakers, monitors, microphones, recording options, Audio and Video connections for media)

## **Section Leaders**

Proposed Responsibilities include:

- A) Musical Leadership of the section (careful examination and communication of musical choices related to phrasing issues, articulation, dynamics, blend and balance)
- B) Organization of sectionals (section leaders will take responsibility for insuring sectionals happen at regular intervals and will keep track of all absences)

## **Proposed Rules by which our organization will operate**

- A) Rehearsals will be pre-scheduled and mandatory. Absence will result in a proportional deduction in pay.
- B) Students will receive credit towards degree program requirements. After three years of uninterrupted participation students will receive parity in payment with their professional contemporaries.

- C) Permanent members will receive a monthly salary commensurate with their position. The job description will reflect remuneration. Those charged with duties far beyond the extremely rigorous performance goals will be offered a salary that will reflect the distribution of work.
- D) Performances will take place twice a month, on average, throughout the Lebanese territory.
- E) The LHNCM director will have the final word Decisions related to personnel and pay as well critical choice of repertoire, concert dates and venues. Decisions can be over-ridden by the LHNCM President or a majority decision of section leaders and the Artistic Director. Close cooperation and active engagement of all LHNCM members in critical decision making will be the founding principle of the LHNCM. Musical leadership is a requirement of all 18 members. Full engagement of every single member is a musical priority but also essential for sustainable development of the organization.
- F) The primary goal of the LHNCM Big band will be to inspire young Lebanese musicians to become the next generation of Lebanese artists. Where possible, Students will be given the opportunity to join the LHNCM Big Band as part of their education at the National Conservatory. Others will be encouraged to act as substitutes and encouraged to prepare for opportunities to join the ensemble as a soloist on occasion. This close mentorship is an essential part of developing musical maturity. As single experience performing with seasoned musicians can inspire a lifetime of music for Lebanese Youth. Experiencing the immense power of a Big Band performance is truly transformative. A conservatory without a Big Band is a Conservatory with far fewer Lebanese musicians in the long term. We show what is possible!

## **Pay scale**

**Director - \$???? per month (a full time position requiring expertise and experience in management, leadership, musicianship, pedagogy and event management, Administration, conflict resolution...)**

**Artistic Director - \$???? per month (a full time position requiring expertise and experience in management, leadership, musicianship, pedagogy and event management, administration, conflict resolution...)**

**Section Leader - \$???? per month (requires organizational skills and very strong musical leadership)**

**Full time Member - \$???? per month (requires many hours of dedication, full engagement and very strong musicianship as well as very strong musical leadership)**

**Student Member – Unpaid (requires many hours of dedication, full engagement and very strong musicianship)**



Charbel Rouhana and the LHNCM Big Band (Al Jazeera News Featur...This Reportage + Live Interview was broadcast on prime time news and features a collaboration that included musicians from around the world. It took two years to come to fruition thanks to a great deal of support from The Lebanese National Conservatory of Music, Dr. Walid Moussalem, Amadis Dunkel, Pierre Doumet (Sponsor), Ghazi Abdel Baki, Jean Gibran, Roger Al Halaby and Theodor Joseph Kim. Participating musicians included: Charbel Rouhana, the (multinational) Lebanese National Conservatory Big Band, Multiple Grammy winner Trumpetist/ Arranger Mike Mossman, Pianist/ Arranger Suhee Choi (South Korea), Lucas Pfiel (Germany), Trumpetist/ Arr. Doug Pierce and Trombonist /Arr. John Yao

<https://www.facebook.com/tomhornig/videos/vb.1235130575/10208919065793968/?type=3&theater>

<https://www.facebook.com/tomhornig/videos/vb.1235130575/10208501004942708/?type=3&theater>

<https://youtu.be/YfNnyzq7Jnw> - LHNCM Big Band "Hunting Wabbits" Arr. G. Goodwin



# Amidst the Chaos and Crisis of War in the Middle East, Music Will Prevail

Jan 22, 2016, 11:59 ET from [Lebanese National Conservatory of Music \(LNCM\)](#)

BEIRUT, January 22, 2016 /PRNewswire/ --

In the most volatile of times, and amidst an increasing fear of all out war in the Middle East, an unprecedented musical collaboration is about to take place in Beirut- as a testimony to the resilience of the human spirit and as a token of peace.

The only Jazz Orchestra in the Middle East, [the Big Band of the Lebanese National Conservatory of Music \(LNCM\)](#), in collaboration with New York-based hard bop jazz trumpeter, and multiple Grammy Award Winner [Michael Mossman](#), and world renowned Oud Master (Middle Eastern Lute) [Charbel Rouhana](#), will present a free Big Band Jazz concert on January 26<sup>th</sup>, as a statement of cooperation between several nationalities all suffering one way or the other from the plight of refugees.

This event will take place at the USJ Abu Khater Theater, near the National Museum, in Beirut Lebanon – a nation now surrounded by the worse refugee crisis in the Middle East since World War II resulting from the ongoing brutal civil war in bordering Syria.

“Music is the meeting place and the common denominator among humanity, even during wartime”, explains lead Alto Saxophone player and Big Band manager [Thomas Hornig](#), a native of Minnesota, USA and longtime Beirut resident. **“Somewhere between Lebanon, the United States, Syria and the rest of the world, people of all stripes will always meet over music. It is our differences which make us strong and give us hope.”**

Hornig, who has toured extensively throughout Lebanon, Syria, the Gulf States, North Africa, Europe and the USA, was initially inspired to organize the concert when meeting many Syrian musicians who are now refugees in Lebanon. Their new life is in stark contrast to the culturally rich history of Syrian society, which before the war enjoyed a robust international arts and music scene.

The unprecedented crisis in Syria has forced over 1 million refugees to flee the brutality and bloodshed of their homeland and take shelter in Lebanon. The Big Band of the Lebanese National Conservatory, whose 19 professional musicians hail from many different nations, was formed just around the start of the Syrian civil war and is a reflection of the extraordinarily cosmopolitan and hospitable nature of Lebanese society.

This world premiere performance of the Oud accompanying a Jazz Orchestra was made possible by

Mr. Pierre Doumet, President of Jabal Moussa, part of the UNESCO Global Network of Biosphere Reserves. Doumet commissioned the music and brought all musicians from around the globe together for this highly unique collaboration.

**Members:**

Charbel Rouhana - Composer, Oud , Vocals  
Thomas Hornig - Band Manager, Alto Saxophone / Flute  
Alin Tataru - Alto Sax / Flute  
Nidal Abou Samra - Tenor Sax  
Bruno Mokbel - Bari Sax  
Elias Mouallem - Tenor Sax  
Ion Todei - Trumpet  
Viaceslav Bilia - Trumpet  
Paissios Metny - Trumpet  
Hayssam Mehbani - Trumpet  
Florinel Barladeanu - Trombone  
Alexandru Tapes - Trombone  
Igor Vataman - Trombone  
Ruslan Plamadeala - Trombone  
Iurie Postolachi - Tuba  
Christopher Ibrahim - Piano  
Joseph Aouad - Guitar  
Ruedi Felder - Acoustic Bass  
Fouad Afra - Drums

**PROGRAM:**

1. Siwar - Arr. John Yao
2. Dangerous Woman - Arr. Suhee Choi
3. Rosana - Arr. Suhee Choi
4. Playful Dream - Arr. Doug Pierce
5. Mada (Co-Composed by Hani Sibli) Arr. Doug Pierce
6. Sleepless Nights - Arr. Lukas Pfeil
7. 13th of July - Arr. Suhee Choi
8. Kenet Lyem - Arr. Suhee Choi
9. Ahla Hdiye - Arr. Suhee Choi
10. Coffee - Arr. Doug Pierce
11. Flamenco - Michael Mossman

For more information and tickets, please contact:

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Lebanese National Conservatory at: +961(0)1489530-1-2

SOURCE Lebanese National Conservatory of Music (LNCM)

