



Florida
Orchestra
Association



**Florida Orchestra Association/FL-ASTA
2026 Fall Conference Schedule**

| THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15 | | |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| 8:00am- 12:00pm | Pre Conference - Conducting Symposium curated by the UCF Orchestra, Dr. Bob Hasty, and featured clinician, Dr. Tiffany Lu (must be registered for Pre-Conference to attend). | |
| 11:30–4:30pm | Registration/Exhibits Open | |
| 1:00–1:30pm | Keynote: Dare to Care: Building Orchestra Classrooms Where Students and Teachers Thrive Prof. Bruce Walker | |
| 1:40–2:15pm | The Conductor’s Rehab Session Dr. Martha Placeres | "It’s Time to Slay the Dragon” with/ Bridgewater Camerata Orchestra Mark Thielen |
| 2:20–3:00pm | Building the Orchestra Engine: Practical Strategies for Programs That Thrive Prof. Bruce Walker, Keynote Speaker | |
| 3:05–3:20pm | Refreshments in the Exhibit Room | |
| 3:25–4:55pm | Excelcia Music Reading Session Mr. Jim Palmer <i>(Please bring a music stand; all conference members are welcome.)</i> | |
| 5:10pm-6:00pm | “Orchestral Bowings: Understanding the technical to achieve the expressive.” Mr. Jim Palmer | |
| 5:30pm | Exhibits Close | |
| 7:00pm – | Informal Gathering, Location: TBD | |

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16

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| 8:30am | Registration/Exhibits Open | |
| 8:45–9:40am | It's OK If You Don't Have _____, You Can Still _____: Creative Strategies for Unbalanced Orchestras Prof. Bruce Walker, Keynote Speaker | |
| 9:45–10:20am | Daring to Care: Building Orchestra Classrooms Where Students and Teachers Thrive: Part 2 Prof. Bruce Walker, Keynote Speaker | Demystifying the Process: Helping Students Navigate College Music Admissions Dr. Kasia Bugaj and Dr. Martha Placeres |
| 10:30–11:30am | FOA & FLASTA General Business Meetings | |
| 11:35–1:05pm | Lunch Break | |
| 1:10–1:50pm | The Complete Studio Teacher: Pedagogy, Practice, and the Business of Private String Teaching Dr. Megan Sahely and Dr. Tian Sanchez-Ballado | |
| 1:55–2:35pm | Every Child Can! Learn about Suzuki TBD | @ChatGPT- How do I make my orchestra sound better? with/Winter Park HS Chamber Orchestra Dr. Keith Dodson |
| 2:40–3:20pm | PERFORMANCE HOUR: Winter Park High School Chamber Orchestra <i>(Performance of FOA Composition Winners)</i> Dr. Laurie Bitters & Mary Lubaroff | |
| 3:30- 5:00p.m | J.W Pepper Reading Session: Prof. Bruce Walker <i>(Please bring a music stand; all conference members are welcome.)</i> | |
| 4:30pm | Exhibits Close | |
| 6:00pm – | Informal Gathering, Location: TBD | |