



CENTRAL ONTARIO
MUSICIANS'
ASSOCIATION

AFM Local 226 (Kitchener)
100 Ahrens Street West
Kitchener, Ontario
Canada N2H 4C3
Phone: (519) 744-4891
Fax: (519) 744-2279

www.centralontariomusicians.org
info@centralontariomusicians.org

Dear Fellow Musician,

July 21, 2010

I invite you to join the Central Ontario Musicians' Association and be part of the finest group of professional musicians in the area. As a member, you will enjoy many benefits not otherwise available – many of which are listed on the back of this letter.

If you're performing locally, we have certified booking agents and many excellent resources to help you get more work. In addition, when you shop locally you can show your membership card at area merchants (including music stores) and receive discounts through our Value Partner Program. These are just a few of the many advantages of membership.

You probably know that it's even more difficult to perform in the United States since September 11, 2001. If you attempt to cross the border without a valid work permit you risk being detained or charged by the US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services, or even barred from ever visiting the US again! Membership in the American Federation of Musicians (AFM) is the only legal way to work in the USA with our P-2 Visa permits.

As a member, you raise your image as a professional musician among employers of live music. They will see you as more qualified and reliable, and when they sign with you on our standard contract forms they'll be confident that your services are fully backed by the AFM.

As a non-member... you're on your own! You have no guarantee of payment from your employers and you may be paying too much for instrument and liability insurance. These days, you can't afford to perform without General Public Liability Insurance to protect you and your band. Hub International group rates are the lowest in the business!

I've been a member of the AFM for many years and have benefitted greatly from this relationship as a jobbing musician, a theatre player and as a session trumpet player as well. Tap into us and we'll help build your success as a professional musician.

Please call us at 519-744-4891, and we'll be happy to answer any questions you have. *We're here for you!*

Sincerely,

Paul Mitchell
President

2010-2011 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES: Only \$129.00*

Renewing dues: if paid by end of January: \$129.00, February: \$134.00, March: \$139.00

*Initiation: \$95.00 (includes Local and Federation Initiation Fees, payable only when joining the AFM for the first time).

*Dues + Initiation for New Members applying: Jan-Mar: \$224, Apr-June: \$191.75, Jul-Sep: \$159.50, Oct-Dec: \$127.25.

Re-instatement Fees will apply to lapsed or expelled members or those with a valid Withdrawal Card from any Local of the AFM.

Youth Members and Student Members

Musicians 20 years of age and under, or attending an accredited university or college pay only the annual membership dues and are exempt from paying Local and Federation Initiation Fees.

Membership applications can be picked up or faxed from our office.

Mail or present your completed application with payment to our office for prompt processing of your membership.

Live Music is Best! – Use Live Musicians



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Benefits of Membership

Top 30 Reasons to Join the AFM!

1. Free Job-Referral service from prospective employers.
2. Free Access to Booking Agents, Managers, and the most reliable professional musicians.
3. Free Listing on our website plus access to your personal website.
4. Free Legal Contract Forms covering all types of engagements.
5. Free Quarterly Bulletins of Local news, meetings, and events.
6. Free Monthly subscription to International Musician magazine.
7. Free Exchange Board for musicians at-liberty and wanted.
8. Free Advertising in our Quarterly Bulletin.
9. Free Legal Counsel and Representation.
10. Discounts at local merchants and clubs through our Value-Partner Program.
11. Co-Sponsored public concerts by the Recording Industries Music Performance Trust Funds.
12. Great Rates on large advertisements or Bulletin inserts.
13. Annual payments from the Special Payments Fund on recordings made with AFM Signatories.
14. Minimum wage scales for all forms of contracted engagements.
15. Assistance in collecting unpaid fees from employers.
16. Assistance with recording contracts and procedures.
17. Access to US markets through P-2 Visa permits recognized by the United States Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services (BCIS).
18. Internationally negotiated agreements for TV, films, records, jingles, etc.
19. Emergency Travelling Assistance Program 24/7 from anywhere in Canada. Providing emergency assistance and up to \$300 cash within 48 hours while on the road.
20. 24-hour Emergency Services in Canada or the USA.
21. Benefit Funds for sick or injured musicians.
22. Group Insurance Plan Rates for Musical Instrument Insurance, General Public Liability, and Out-of-province Medical Insurance. Don't get sued!
23. Group Health Insurance Plan for Dental and Disability Insurance.
24. Pension Plan.
25. Expert advice and assistance from experienced fellow-musicians.
26. Membership Directory available on request.
27. Easy access to reliable musicians via our 24-hour answering service, website and e-mail.
28. The right to perform contracted engagements including concerts, lounges, taverns, tours, and recordings anywhere in Canada, the USA, and over 50 countries worldwide.
29. Professional pride and protection across Canada and the USA.
30. Market exposure through Go Pro Music, Go Pro Web Hosting, Go Pro Auction and Go Pro Lessons.

All these benefits and more are available to you as a member of Local 226 AFM.

All you have to do is call or email our office to start making the AFM work for you!