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## **NMSO Announces Leadership Change**

### ***NMSO General Manager Assumes Position as Interim President***

**(ALBUQUERQUE, NM, Feb. 24, 2010)** - The New Mexico Symphony Orchestra (NMSO) Board of Trustees has appointed the NMSO general manager, Ruth Silva-Hernández, as interim president of the NMSO.

The position of NMSO president had been open since Eric Meyer left the post in December 2009.

"With her solid experience in a variety of positions with other music organizations, Ruth will be a real asset to the NMSO as she fulfills the responsibilities of both general manager and interim president," said Coleman Travelstead, NMSO Board of Trustees chair. "We are blessed to have such a skillful leader, especially at this challenging time as we work through our financial challenges."

Silva-Hernández joined the NMSO as general manager in July 2009. Before moving to New Mexico, she served as director of the music division for Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña, the arts agency of Puerto Rico. She also has held executive director, director of development and consultant positions for a number of international music organizations.

Silva-Hernández has a master's degree in arts administration and a bachelor's degree with music and Spanish majors from Indiana University and has taught at the University of Puerto Rico.

"I'm excited about working with the NMSO Board of Trustees, musicians and patrons in making the 2009/2010 Season one to remember. Through our vigorous fundraising efforts, new partnerships and our new Shared Success Initiative, we are laying the foundation for a more stable and viable organization," said Silva-Hernández.

“The appointment of Ruth Silva-Hernández as president has brought forth a new collaborative spirit within the organization,” said Carla Lehmeier-Tatum, NMSO Orchestra Committee chair. “The musicians realize that it is the collaboration within the community and the organization that is the crucial component in the stabilization and future of the NMSO.”

*The New Mexico Symphony Orchestra is the official orchestra of the State of New Mexico, serving more than 130,000 people each year through its Classics, Pops and Symphony Under the Stars series, as well as many free NMSO Family Concerts. The NMSO is the largest non-governmental provider of music education in New Mexico and has also been recognized by the Mellon Foundation for its innovative community engagement efforts. The NMSO is under the baton of Music Director Guillermo Figueroa and Resident Conductor and Chorus Director Roger Melone. For more information about the NMSO, visit [nmso.org](http://nmso.org).*

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