ICSOM Awards and Honors

The George Zazofsky ICSOM Archives are now maintained by ICSOM Secretary Laura Ross. Previous archivists were Robert Levine and Tom Hall. In 2003 the archives were named after George Zazofsky, a violinist for many years with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, a strong force in the formation of ICSOM, and ICSOM's first chairman. The honorarium given annually to the archivist is provided in the name of George Zazofsky. Formerly, ICSOM provided a $500 scholarship annually to the Congress of Strings in the name of George Zazofsky, one of three scholarships ICSOM provided until that organization's discontinuation. ICSOM installed a plaque in Boston’s Symphony Hall honoring George Zazofsky.

The Mendelson Fund memorializes the late Ralph Mendelson, a violist in the New York Philharmonic for 26 years and chairman of ICSOM from 1970 to 1974. In 1982 and 1984 ICSOM and the Association of Arts Administration Educators (AAAE) gave the Mendelson award for the best paper written by a graduate student on labor relations in the symphonic or operatic field. Winners received a cash award of $500, and copies of the winning paper were distributed to the memberships of ICSOM and the AAAE, to selected libraries and foundations, and to others supportive of symphony and orchestra musicians. The Mendelson Fund was subsequently used to annually provide a $500 scholarship to the Congress of Strings until that organization's discontinuation. The Mendelson Fund is now maintained by contributions mandated by ICSOM bylaws ($1.00 per capita from dues) and provides scholarships for winners of the Sphinx Competition; nine $500 scholarships have been awarded each year since 2003. The Sphinx Organization supports young African-American and Latino musicians. The Mendelson Fund currently contains approximately $30,000.00 and is self-perpetuating.