



CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION

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News

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## **CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION CELEBRATES 100<sup>TH</sup> SEASON OF THE CIVIC ORCHESTRA OF CHICAGO AND ITS SERIES OF CONCERTS FOR CHILDREN IN 2018/19**

**Civic Opens Its 100th Season with a Side-by-Side Performance with the CSO  
led by Zell Music Director Riccardo Muti on September 20 in Millennium Park**

**CSOA Announces Extension for Yo-Yo Ma as Judson and Joyce Green  
Creative Consultant Through the Centennial Season**

**Esa-Pekka Salonen Leads Yo-Yo Ma and the Civic Orchestra in a  
Centennial Celebration Benefit Concert in April 2019**

**Guest Conductors for 2018/19 Civic Season Include Michael Christie,  
Cliff Colnot, Edward Gardner, Nicholas Kraemer, Ken-David Masur, Esa-Pekka  
Salonen, Bramwell Tovey, Erina Yashima and Nikolaj Znaider**

**World Premiere of a Concerto for Percussion and Orchestra by  
Christopher Cerrone, Co-commissioned by the Civic Orchestra and  
the Britt Festival Orchestra and Performed by Third Coast Percussion**

**School Concerts Expand to Reach More CPS Students Through  
New Free Ticket and Transportation Program**

CHICAGO— During the 2018/19 season, the Negaunee Music Institute at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra celebrates the centennial milestone anniversaries of the founding of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago and its series of concerts for children through special programming

RICCARDO MUTI  
Zell Music Director

HELEN ZELL  
Chair, Board of Trustees

JEFF ALEXANDER  
President

YO-YO MA  
Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant

and additional investment in the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association's education, training and community engagement initiatives. The CSOA announces performance dates, guest conductors, repertoire and highlights for the Civic Orchestra's 100th season, as well as the extension of Yo-Yo Ma's appointment as Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant for one additional year, in 2018/19, in honor of the centennial.

Founded in 1919 by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's second music director, Frederick Stock, the Civic Orchestra of Chicago and the CSO's series of concerts for children maintain a legacy of serving thousands of people each year through a mission to connect individuals and communities to the extraordinary resources of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Highlights of the 2018/19 season celebration beyond concert programming include an increased frequency and variety of coaching of Civic members by musicians of the CSO, an expansion of partnerships with school and community organizations, and free tickets and transportation for Chicago Public Schools students to attend the Orchestra's school concerts. The season will also deepen community service through music as part of the Initiative for a More Peaceful Chicago, including songwriting workshops at St. Sabina Church, Illinois Youth Centers and other social-service organizations.

### **Yo-Yo Ma Continues as CSO's Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant**

A guiding force for the training of Civic musicians since being appointed to the role of Creative Consultant by Riccardo Muti in 2009, Yo-Yo Ma began serving in this role in 2010 and continues as the CSO's Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant for one additional season, in 2018/19.

During his tenure as creative consultant, Ma has provided visionary leadership for new programming that has enabled the CSOA to engage diverse communities from across Chicago in creative and innovative ways. Over the course of approximately 40 residencies, he has worked closely with the Negaunee Music Institute and its training orchestra for young professionals—the Civic Orchestra of Chicago—to enrich the preparation of Civic members for careers in music. To the Civic he has issued a number of "artistic challenges" including a conductorless performance of Beethoven's Symphony No. 6, an annual marathon of J.S. Bach's *Brandenburg* Concertos, numerous residencies at Chicago Public Schools, a self-directed performance of Richard Strauss' *Don Quixote*, and two residencies at DePauw University School of Music. Ma also led the development of the Civic Fellowship program that has grown to include 14 Civic musicians who annually participate in rigorous training that is designed to build and diversify their creative, entrepreneurial and professional skills.

Beyond his commitment to the young musicians of the Civic Orchestra, Ma worked closely with CSOA staff to design the Once Upon a Symphony concert series for children ages 3 to 5, and he serves as a National Cultural Advisor to the Chicago Public Schools Arts Education Plan. Under Ma's leadership, the Negaunee Music Institute created its Initiative for a More Peaceful Chicago, which uses the musical resources of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association to promote peace in the city, especially in communities impacted by gun violence. The centerpiece of the initiative is a partnership with St. Sabina Church, where Ma has led two Concerts for

Peace and guided the development of a songwriting project with participants in the church's Purpose Over Pain parent support group.

### **Civic Orchestra of Chicago's 100th Season**

The Civic Orchestra of Chicago, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association's prestigious training ensemble for emerging professional musicians and the only one of its kind affiliated with a major American orchestra, is a signature program of the Negaunee Music Institute at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. The Civic's unique alliance with the CSO, propelled by an expansive vision, has enabled the Civic Orchestra to produce exceptional musical experiences that engage people of all ages and backgrounds leading to the development of an annual concert schedule of more than 30 performances that reach 14,000 audience members. The 90 young professional musicians of the Civic Orchestra also benefit from the guidance of a world-class faculty that includes Zell Music Director Riccardo Muti, musicians of the CSO, Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant Yo-Yo Ma, and many conductors who work with the CSO regularly and generously conduct Civic during their visits to Symphony Center.

The Civic's 2018/19 centennial season features a seven-concert series at Symphony Center and programming highlights that include a side-by-side concert with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra led by Zell Music Director Riccardo Muti in Millennium Park on Thursday, September 20; appearances by four guest conductors who are also leading the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, including Edward Gardner, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Bramwell Tovey and Nikolaj Znaider; a co-commission by the Civic Orchestra and the Britt Festival Orchestra (Teddy Abrams, music director and conductor) of a new concerto for percussion and orchestra by Christopher Cerrone, which will receive its world premiere by Third Coast Percussion under the direction of Ken-David Masur; a collaboration with the Chicago Center for Contemporary Composition at the University of Chicago that will feature the world premieres of nine new works for full orchestra by current and former students of the University (Rodrigo Bussad, Pierce Gradone, Alison Yun-Fei Jiang, Jack Hughes, Maria Kaoutzani, Joungbum Lee, David Clay Mettens, Ted Moore and Will Myers) under the baton of former Principal Conductor of the Civic Orchestra Cliff Colnot; and a partnership with the Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center at the Lyric Opera of Chicago to present a concert featuring their full company of singers with the Civic Orchestra.

For the 12th consecutive year, Civic returns to the South Shore Cultural Center for a free concert on Sunday, October 21, at 3 p.m. The season also includes the fifth annual Bach Marathon on Wednesday, November 14. This year's Bach Marathon, led by conductor and guest harpsichordist Nicholas Kraemer, brings the *Brandenburg* Concertos of J.S. Bach to audiences in schools and neighborhood venues throughout the day and in a culminating concert at 7 p.m. at Fourth Presbyterian Church (126 E. Chestnut, Chicago).

### **Civic Alumni Weekend and Centennial Celebration Concert**

Since its founding in 1919, there have been more than 5,000 members of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago. Several former and 14 current members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra are alumni of the Civic Orchestra, and many other alumni are members of other leading orchestras.

As part of the centennial celebration, the Civic Orchestra will host an alumni weekend from Friday, March 29, through Monday, April 1, 2019. Activities throughout the weekend include performances in community venues throughout Chicagoland by small ensembles composed of both Civic alumni and current members, as well as a series of alumni engagement events including reading sessions and receptions at Symphony Center.

The weekend culminates with a celebration concert at Symphony Center on Monday, April 1, 2019, at 6:30 p.m., featuring an ensemble composed of notable Civic alumni alongside current members with Yo-Yo Ma as soloist and Esa-Pekka Salonen as conductor. This concert serves as a benefit fundraiser for the Civic Orchestra, and the program includes Salonen's *Pollux*, which received its world premiere in 2018, and Dvořák's Cello Concerto. Additional program and ticket information for this special concert will be announced at a later date.

Beyond the centennial celebration concert, dates, guest conductors and program highlights for the Civic Orchestra of Chicago's 2018/19 season are listed below. Further program details will be announced at a later date.

- [Thursday, September 20, at 6:30 p.m.](#), led by Riccardo Muti, performed side-by-side with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in Millennium Park. The program includes Rossini's Overture to *William Tell*, Verdi's The Four Seasons from *I vespri siciliani* and Tchaikovsky's 1812, *Overture solennelle*.
- [Tuesday, October 23, at 8 p.m.](#), led by Erina Yashima, CSO Sir Georg Solti Conducting Apprentice, in Orchestra Hall at Symphony Center. The program, which will be announced at a later date, will also be performed at the South Shore Cultural Center on October 21.
- [Wednesday, December 12, at 8 p.m.](#), led by Edward Gardner, in Orchestra Hall at Symphony Center. The program includes Janáček's Sinfonietta, Lutosławski's Symphony No. 4 and Ravel's Suite No. 2 from *Daphnis and Chloe*.
- [Tuesday, January 15, 2019, at 8 p.m.](#), led by Bramwell Tovey, in Orchestra Hall at Symphony Center. The program includes Vaughan Williams' Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis, Elgar's In the South (*Alassio*) and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4.
- [Tuesday, February 5, 2019, at 8 p.m.](#), led by former Principal Conductor of the Civic Orchestra Cliff Colnot, in Orchestra Hall at Symphony Center. The program includes the world premieres of nine new works for full orchestra by current and former students of the Chicago Center for Contemporary Composition at the University of Chicago.
- [Tuesday, April 30, 2019, at 8 p.m.](#), led by Nikolaj Znaider, in Orchestra Hall at Symphony Center. The program includes selections from Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet* and Beethoven's Symphony No. 7.
- [Sunday, May 12, 2019, at 8 p.m.](#), led by Ken-David Masur, featuring Third Coast Percussion as soloists, in Orchestra Hall at Symphony Center. The program includes the world premiere of a new percussion concerto by Christopher Cerrone, co-commissioned by the Civic Orchestra and the Britt Festival Orchestra, and R. Strauss' *An Alpine Symphony*.

- [Wednesday, June 5, at 8 p.m.](#), led by Michael Christie, in Orchestra Hall at Symphony Center, featuring the full company of singers from the Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center at the Lyric Opera of Chicago. The soloists and program will be announced at a later date.

Prior to all Civic Orchestra concerts at Symphony Center, audience members can learn about that evening's program in free, guided conversations led by guest speakers and musical experts. The conversations begin 90 minutes prior to the performance in Grainger Ballroom.

### **CSO School and Family Concerts 2018/19 Season**

Through the CSO's School and Family concerts, the Negaunee Music Institute offers 40 performances each year that reach 150 schools and 40,000 audience members. These concerts for school and family audiences are supported by a suite of school and community partnerships, curricular and preparatory resources, and other activities. Additionally, each season, the CSO opens four of its working rehearsals led by guest conductors for groups of high school music students.

The 2018/19 season—the 100th season of the CSO's concert series for children—highlights the longstanding commitment by the Orchestra to bringing thousands of young people to Symphony Center each year to experience the Orchestra. A banner season will engage guest conductors who have been integral to the series' success in recent years while educational and artistic collaborations will enhance audiences' understanding and enjoyment of the orchestra's performance.

Each program connects with the season long theme “Reflect, Respond, Remix,” exploring where great orchestral music comes from, what it means to listeners in the 21st century and how composers, musicians and audiences are the architects of its future. Each program on the series will approach this theme in a unique way.

Dates, programs and guest conductors for the CSO School and Family Concerts for the 2018/19 season at Symphony Center, as previously announced, are listed below.

#### **Once Upon a Symphony, for Children Ages 3 to 5**

*The Ugly Duckling*

[Saturday, November 17 and Monday, November 19](#)

[Saturday, December 8 and Monday, December 10](#)

[Saturday, January 12](#)

*The Boy and the Violin, a Brazilian folktale*

[Saturday, March 23 and Monday, March 25](#)

[Saturday, April 13 and Monday, April 15](#)

[Saturday, May 11](#)

### **CSO Family Concerts, for Children Ages 5 and Up**

*The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*

[Saturday, December 1, at 11 a.m. and 12:45 p.m.](#), featuring the Chicago Symphony Orchestra led by Edwin Outwater, conductor

*Flash Back, Flash Forward*

[Saturday, March 30, 2019, at 11 a.m. and 12:45 p.m.](#), featuring members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra led by Scott Speck, conductor

*Pictures from an Exhibition*

[Saturday, May 18, 2019, at 11 a.m. and 12:45 p.m.](#), featuring members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra led by Thomas Wilkins, conductor

### **CSO School Concerts, for Grades K-5 and 4-8**

The School Concerts for student groups in grades K-5 offer weekday performances of each of the CSO Family programs in the 2018/19 season. These take place on the Friday preceding each Family Concert, on November 30, March 29, 2019, and May 17, 2019. Additionally, a set of concerts for older students, grades 4-8, will be offered on November 28 and 29.

As part of the celebration of the 100th season of the CSO's concert series for children, and in an effort to make the orchestra's performances more accessible to Chicago-area students, admission will be free in 2018/19 for CPS student groups. Understanding that transportation costs are also a barrier for many schools, the Institute will also provide free transportation for CPS schools to travel to/from Symphony Center. More information about CSO School Concerts is available at [cso.org/schoolconcerts](http://cso.org/schoolconcerts).

### **Supporters**

The Centennial Campaign for the Civic Orchestra of Chicago and Chicago Symphony Orchestra Concerts for Young People is supported with a generous lead gift from the Julian Family Foundation.

The 2018/19 Civic Orchestra of Chicago season is generously sponsored by The Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation.

The Civic Orchestra of Chicago's side-by-side performance with the CSO in the Concert for Chicago is generously sponsored by The Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation, in celebration of the Civic Orchestra's 2018/19 centennial season.

The Civic Orchestra of Chicago's Centennial Celebration Concert is generously sponsored by The Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation, honoring the Civic Orchestra's 2018/19 centennial season.

Major support for the Negaunee Music Institute is provided by Allstate Insurance Company, The Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation, Judson and Joyce Green, The Julian Family Foundation, The

James and Madeleine McMullan Family Foundation, The Negaunee Foundation, the Polk Bros. Foundation, the Rose Shure Trust, and an anonymous donor.

The CSOA's Creative Consultant position is underwritten by a generous gift from Judson and Joyce Green.

### **Program & Ticket Details**

All Civic Orchestra of Chicago performances at Symphony Center and in community locations are free, but tickets are required. Seating is general admission, and there is a nonrefundable \$5 per ticket service fee for all performances. There is a maximum of six tickets allowed per concert, per household.

Ticket information for the Civic Centennial Celebration Concert on April 1, 2019, will be announced at a later date. Proceeds benefit the Civic Orchestra of Chicago.

Subscriptions for the CSO Family Concert series are available now and start at \$15. Single tickets go on sale August 10.

Tickets for all CSOA-presented concerts can be purchased or reserved by phone at **800-223-7114** or **312-294-3000**, online at [cso.org](http://cso.org), or at the Symphony Center box office: 220 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60604

Artists, programs and prices are subject to change.

For more information about the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, visit [cso.org/civic](http://cso.org/civic).

For more information about the CSO School and Family concerts, visit [cso.org/schoolconcerts](http://cso.org/schoolconcerts).

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### **Civic Orchestra of Chicago ([cso.org/civic](http://cso.org/civic))**

Since 1919, young artists have sought membership in the Civic Orchestra of Chicago to develop their talents and to further prepare for careers as professional musicians. Founded by Frederick Stock, second music director of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Civic Orchestra is the only training orchestra of its kind affiliated with a major American orchestra.

The Civic Orchestra offers emerging professional musicians unique access to the Chicago Symphony Orchestra (CSO) through immersive training with the musicians of the CSO and some of today's most sought-after conductors, including world-renowned CSO Zell Music Director Riccardo Muti. With additional guidance from CSO Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant Yo-Yo Ma, Civic Orchestra musicians develop as exceptional orchestral players and engaged artists, cultivating their ability to succeed in the rapidly evolving world of music in the twenty-first century.

The importance of the Civic Orchestra's role in Greater Chicago is underscored by its commitment to present concerts of the highest quality at no charge to the public. In addition to the critically acclaimed live concerts at Symphony Center, excerpts from Civic Orchestra performances at Symphony Center can be heard locally on WFMT (98.7 FM).

Civic musicians also expand their creative, professional, and artistic boundaries and reach diverse audiences through performances at Chicago Public Schools, “artistic challenges” led by Yo-Yo Ma, and a series of chamber concerts at various locations throughout the city including Chicago Park District field houses, the National Museum of Mexican Art, and Zhou B Art Center.

To further expand its musician training, the Civic Orchestra launched the Civic Fellowship program in the 2013–14 season. Now engaging fourteen members of the Civic Orchestra, Fellows participate in a rigorous curriculum above and beyond their orchestral activities that is designed to build and to diversify their creative and professional skills.

The Civic Orchestra’s long history of presenting full orchestra performances without charge includes concerts at the South Shore Cultural Center (in partnership with the South Shore Advisory Council), the Apostolic Church of God, Cristo Rey Jesuit High School, the New Regal Theater, Benito Juarez Community Academy, Senn High School, Schurz High School, Northside College Preparatory High School and Kenwood Academy.

The Civic Orchestra is a signature program of the Negaunee Music Institute at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. The Negaunee Institute offers a wide range of education and community programs that engage more than 200,000 people of diverse ages, incomes, and backgrounds each year, in Chicago and around the world. For more information on the Institute and its programs, please visit [cso.org/institute](http://cso.org/institute).

#### **About the Artists**

**[Riccardo Muti, Zell Music Director](#)**

**[Yo-Yo Ma, Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant](#)**

**[Erina Yashima, Sir Georg Solti Conducting Apprentice](#)**