CELLIST YO-YO MA JOINS MUSICIANS FROM THE CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, CIVIC ORCHESTRA OF CHICAGO, CHICAGO CHILDREN’S CHOIR AND ST. SABINA BAND IN A CONCERT FOR PEACE AT ST. SABINA CHURCH

Program Includes Chamber Music and Vocal Music Including New Songs Written by Parents of Purpose Over Pain

Proceeds Support St. Sabina’s Strong Futures Program

Sunday, June 10, at 4 p.m.

CHICAGO—The Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association (CSOA) announces its second Concert for Peace on Sunday, June 10, at 4 p.m., at St. Sabina Church (1210 W. 78th Pl., Chicago). The concert features performances by internationally acclaimed cellist and CSO Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant Yo-Yo Ma, as well as musicians from the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Civic Orchestra of Chicago, Chicago Children’s Choir, St. Sabina Band, and vocalists Sarah Ponder and Takesha Kizart. The program features classical chamber music, as well as songs written by—with guidance from Sarah Lee of the Irene Taylor Trust and composer Josh Fink—parents who have lost children to gun violence and are affiliated with the Purpose Over Pain program at the church. All donations and net ticket proceeds will benefit the Strong Futures Program at St. Sabina.

The Concert for Peace is produced by the Negaunee Music Institute at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra (CSO) and marks an ongoing effort to deepen the CSOA’s presence in and support of communities across the South Side of Chicago. The Institute’s partnership with St. Sabina Church has resulted in projects that support people whose lives are affected by gun violence while advocating for a more peaceful city. Across Chicago and around the world, the CSO’s Negaunee Music Institute connects individuals and communities to transformative musical
experiences. Under the visionary leadership of the CSO’s Zell Music Director Riccardo Muti and Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant Yo-Yo Ma, the Institute’s programs focus on education, training, accessibility and service. The Concert for Peace, which was developed with guidance from Father Michael Pfleger of St. Sabina Church, builds on the belief of Muti and Ma that art and music play a vital role in not only addressing, but helping to solve the serious issues that confront our society. In partnership with the CSOA, St. Sabina Church will provide complimentary concert tickets to more than 100 members of its community.

On August 1, 2016, St. Sabina began a pilot program called “Strong Future” with a grant from the City of Chicago. The program engaged 50 at-risk youth between the ages of 17-28, providing them with support, life skills, mentoring, job preparation and employment opportunities, while helping them to sustain a stable living situation. Currently, the program has expanded to 95 young people. Fifty-one of these young people are employed full time, 24 are in permanent part time positions, and the other 20 are pending employment.

Since 2010, Yo-Yo Ma has served as the CSO’s Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant, a role he was appointed to by Music Director Riccardo Muti. Now in his eighth season as Creative Consultant, Ma has been a frequent and active participant in the life of many Chicago neighborhoods through his regular performances and visits with young students and community groups across the city. In addition, his innovative leadership and mentorship of the musicians of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago have led to interactive and accessible music programming, most notably an annual, free Bach Marathon that features performances of all six Bach Brandenburg concertos by Civic Orchestra musicians with participation by Ma, as well as a rigorous education and community engagement fellowship program for select Civic members.

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

Artists, programs and prices are subject to change.

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Concert for Peace
St. Sabina Church
1210 W. 78th Pl., Chicago

Sunday, June 10, 2018, at 4:00 p.m.
Yo-Yo Ma, cello
Musicians from the Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Musicians from the Civic Orchestra of Chicago
Chicago Children’s Choir
St. Sabina Band
Takesha Kizart, soprano
Sarah Ponder, mezzo-soprano

Program to be announced

Tickets: $25 (plus $5 ticket fee)
**Featured Artists for this Performances:**

Yo-Yo Ma, Jusdon and Joyce Green Creative Consultant  
Musicians from the Chicago Symphony Orchestra  
Musicians from the Civic Orchestra of Chicago  
Chicago Children’s Choir  
St. Sabina Band  
Takesha Kizart  
Sarah Ponder

**About Father Michael Pfleger and St. Sabina Church**
Under the unique leadership of Rev. Michael Pfleger, St. Sabina has become a progressive force in the city of Chicago and has served as an example of active faith for the entire nation. Giving witness to the Christian doctrines of love, peace, and justice, Rev. Pfleger has used his spiritual gifts of faith and vision to fight the sins of injustice in every form: racism, the retail sale of drug paraphernalia and grain alcohol, and the proliferation of alcohol and tobacco billboards in the African-American community.

St. Sabina has received both national and international attention for its spirit-filled worship and impact on social justice issues. St. Sabina has been the host to numerous national and international leaders who have come to experience the vibrant church with a liturgy rich in African tradition. St. Sabina is recognized in the community as a beacon of hope and an outpost of love. St. Sabina is a meeting place where God inhabits the praise of His people and where His people embrace the wonder of His awesome presence. It is Holy Ground. More information about St. Sabina Church is available at saintsabina.org.

**The Chicago Symphony Orchestra:** [www.cso.org](http://www.cso.org) and [www.csosoundsandstories.org](http://www.csosoundsandstories.org)

Founded by Theodore Thomas in 1891, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra is consistently hailed as one of the greatest orchestras in the world. Since 2010, the pre-eminent conductor Riccardo Muti has served as its 10th music director. Yo-Yo Ma is the CSO’s Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant, and Samuel Adams and Elizabeth Ogonek are its Mead Composers-in-Residence.

From baroque through contemporary music, the CSO commands a vast repertoire. Its renowned musicians annually perform more than 150 concerts, most at Symphony Center in Chicago and, each summer, at the suburban Ravinia Festival. They regularly tour nationally and internationally. Since 1892, the CSO has made 60 international tours, performing in 29 countries on five continents.

People around the globe listen to weekly radio broadcasts of CSO concerts and recordings on the WFMT radio network and online at [cso.org/radio](http://cso.org/radio). Recordings by the CSO have earned 62 Grammy Awards, including two in 2011 for Muti’s recording with the CSO and Chorus of Verdi’s *Messa da Requiem* (Muti’s first of eight releases with the CSO to date). Find details on these and many other CSO recordings at [www.cso.org/resound](http://www.cso.org/resound).

The CSO is part of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association, which also includes the Chicago Symphony Chorus (Duain Wolfe, Director and Conductor) and the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, a training ensemble for emerging professionals. Through its prestigious Symphony Center Presents series, the CSOA presents guest artists and ensembles from a variety of genres—classical, jazz, world and contemporary.

The Negaunee Music Institute at the CSO offers community and education programs that annually engage more than 200,000 people of diverse ages and backgrounds. Through the Institute and other activities, including a free annual concert led by Muti, the CSO is committed to using the power of music to create connections and build community.

The CSO is supported by thousands of patrons, volunteers and institutional and individual donors. Bank of America is the Global Sponsor of the CSO. The CSO’s music director position is endowed in perpetuity.
by a generous gift from the Zell Family Foundation. The Negaunee Foundation provides generous support in perpetuity for the work of the Negaunee Music Institute.