



CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION

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News

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2018 HOLIDAY PROGRAMMING AT SYMPHONY CENTER FEATURES FESTIVE CONCERTS AND FILM FAVORITES

NOVEMBER 23 – DECEMBER 23

**Annual Holiday Favorites Return: *Christmas in Vienna* with the Vienna Boys Choir,
A Chanticleer Christmas and the CSO Brass**

**Vocalist Storm Large Appears in *Merry, Merry Chicago!* Featuring Members of the CSO and
Young Naperville Singers**

**Holiday Film Presentations with Live Orchestra of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets™*
and *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back* Feature Scores By Oscar®-Winning Composer John
Williams**

Conductor Matthew Halls Makes His CSO Debut in Performances of Handel's *Messiah*

CHICAGO—Symphony Center celebrates the 2018 holiday season with programming that offers a wide range of musical experiences perfect for audiences of all ages and tastes, beginning Thanksgiving weekend and continuing through December 23. Complete holiday programming information is available at cso.org/holidays

Conductor Richard Kaufman leads the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in a performance of **STAR WARS: THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK IN CONCERT** for the first concert on the CSO at the Movies series on [Friday, November 23, at 7:30 p.m.](#), and for two CSO Special Concerts on [Saturday, November 24, at 7:30 p.m.](#) and [Sunday, November 25, at 3:00 p.m.](#) George Lucas' 1980 sequel to the sci-fi classic *Star Wars: A New Hope* won two Academy Awards, and John Williams' score received Academy, Golden Globe and Grammy Award nominations. From its triumphant opening fanfare to the ethereal Princess Leia theme, John Williams' memorable score will be performed by the CSO together with the full feature film at these special concerts.

A time-honored tradition returns to Symphony Center for the Thanksgiving holiday weekend when the **VIENNA BOYS CHOIR** performs *Christmas in Vienna* on [Saturday, November 24, at 2:00 p.m.](#) This festive matinee program is filled with classic carols, traditional folk songs and holiday favorites. The choir was founded more than 500 years ago and is known for its polished sound, irresistible charm and mastery of a wide range of repertoire, from music of the Renaissance to contemporary works. Throughout the choir's history, the talented boys of the ensemble have worked with such musical luminaries as Mozart, Gluck and Bruckner, and the choir once counted Franz Schubert as one of its singers. Today's chorus consists of 100 choristers between the ages of 10 and 14, divided into four touring choirs that travel throughout Europe, Asia and North America, performing more than 300 concerts for nearly half a million people each year.

The Grammy® Award-winning vocal ensemble **CHANTICLEER** returns to Chicago for their 18th consecutive year to present *A Chanticleer Christmas* in two special concerts on [Tuesday December 4, at 7:30 p.m.](#) and [Wednesday, December 5, at 7:30 p.m.](#) Performing in the intimate setting of Fourth Presbyterian Church on Chicago's Magnificent Mile (126 E. Chestnut St.), Chanticleer opens each concert in candlelight in what has become a favorite holiday tradition for many Chicago concertgoers. Founded in 1978 and celebrating their 30th anniversary season this year, the San Francisco based 12-voice ensemble has been hailed as "the world's reigning male chorus" by *The New Yorker*. Chanticleer was also named 2008 Ensemble of the Year by *Musical America*, the first time a vocal ensemble was so recognized.

Member of the CSO perform three special, non-subscription presentations of **HARRY POTTER AND THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS™ IN CONCERT** on [Friday, December 7, at 7:00 p.m.](#), [Saturday, December 8, at 2:00 p.m.](#), and [Sunday, December 9, at 2:00 p.m.](#) In *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*, cars fly, trees fight back and a mysterious house-elf comes to warn Harry Potter at the start of his second year at Hogwarts. Adventure and danger await when bloody writing on a wall announces: *The Chamber of Secrets has been opened*. To save Hogwarts will require all of Harry, Ron and Hermione's magical abilities and courage. This concert features members of the CSO performing every note live to picture from *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*. Audiences will be able to relive the magic of the entire film in high definition on a 40-foot screen while experiencing the orchestra performing John Williams' Grammy-nominated, unforgettable score live.

The CSO's holiday tradition, **MERRY, MERRY CHICAGO!** returns for its fourth year at Symphony Center with a celebration of holiday music. This year's festive program is offered in seven performances, [December 14 to 23](#). The program features Members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra along with narrator David Lively narrating "Twas The Night Before Christmas" and the Young Naperville Singers led by guest conductor Michael Krajewski. Special guest vocalist Storm Large is featured in treasured carols such as "The Christmas Song" and "Joy to the World," as well as her own self-penned songs "Hotel Christmas" and "Stand Up for Me." Other program highlights include Members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra performing the lilting *Farandole* and selections from Respighi's whimsical suite *La Boutique fantasque (The Fantastic Toy Shop)*, as well as a visit by a very special guest from the North Pole.

The incomparable **CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA (CSO) BRASS** offers its thrilling annual concert on [Wednesday, December 19, at 8:00 p.m.](#) Known for its breath-taking power

and matchless precision, the CSO Brass performs traditional favorites and symphonic masterworks including works by Holst, Piazzolla and a suite from Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*.

As a finale to the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's 2018 holiday programming, conductor Matthew Halls makes his debut with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Chorus leading four performances of **HANDEL'S MESSIAH**. These concerts take place on [Thursday, December 20, at 8:00 p.m.](#), [Friday, December 21, at 1:30 p.m.](#), [Saturday, December 22, at 8:00 p.m.](#), and [Sunday, December 23, at 2:00 p.m.](#) Soloists featured in these celebratory performances of Handel's oratorio include soprano Amanda Forsythe, mezzo-soprano Sasha Cooke, tenor Nicholas Phan and baritone Joshua Hopkins. The director of the Chicago Symphony Chorus is Duain Wolfe.

Program and Ticket Details

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.

Discounted student tickets for select concerts can be purchased, subject to availability, online in advance or at the box office on the day of the concert. For group rates, please call 312-294-3040.

Artists, programs and prices are subject to change.

Bank of America is the Global Sponsor of the CSO.

United Airlines is the Official Airline of the CSO.

The CSO at the Movies series is generously sponsored by Megan and Steven Shebik.

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**Chicago Symphony Orchestra
CSO at the Movies**

[Friday, November 23, 2018, 7:30 p.m.](#)

Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Richard Kaufman, conductor

WILLIAMS *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back*

Tickets: \$88-\$222

**Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Special Concerts**

[Saturday, November 24, 2018, 7:30 p.m.](#)

[Sunday, November 25, 2018, 3:00 p.m.](#)

Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Richard Kaufman, conductor

WILLIAMS *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back*

Tickets: \$71-\$198

**Symphony Center Presents
Special Concert**

[Saturday, November 24, 2018, 2:00 p.m.](#)
Vienna Boys Choir

Christmas in Vienna

Tickets: \$25 - \$85

**Symphony Center Presents
Special Concerts**
Fourth Presbyterian Church
126 East Chestnut Street

[Tuesday, December 4, 2018, 7:30 p.m.](#)
[Wednesday, December 5, 2018, 7:30 p.m.](#)
Chanticleer

A Chanticleer Christmas

Tickets: \$39 - \$61

**Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Special Concerts**

[Friday, December 7, 2018, 7:00 p.m.](#)
[Saturday, December 8, 2018, 2:00 p.m.](#)
[Sunday, December 9, 2018, 2:00 p.m.](#)
Members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Justin Freer, conductor

WILLIAMS *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*

Tickets: \$55 - \$145 (Limited availability)

**Chicago Symphony Orchestra's
Merry, Merry Chicago!
Special Concerts**

[Friday, December 14, 2018, 7:00 p.m.](#)
[Saturday, December 15, 2018, 3:00 p.m.](#)
[Sunday, December 16, 2018, 1:00 p.m.](#)
[Sunday, December 16, 2018, 4:30 p.m.](#)
[Friday, December 21, 2018, 7:00 p.m.](#)
[Saturday, December 22, 2018, 3:00 p.m.](#)
[Sunday, December 23, 2018, 7:00 p.m.](#)

Members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Michael Krajewski, conductor
Storm Large, vocalist
David Lively, narrator
Young Naperville Singers, choir
Angie Johnson, artistic director

AMUNDSON	<i>On Christmas Day</i>
BIZET	<i>Farandole</i> from <i>L'arlésienne</i> Suite No. 2
TRADITIONAL	<i>The First Noel</i>
SMETANA	<i>Dance of the Comedians</i> from <i>The Bartered Bride</i>
J. STRAUSS, JR.	<i>Thunder and Lightning</i> Polka, Op. 324
CAHN & STYNE	<i>The Christmas Waltz</i>
TORMÉ	<i>The Christmas Song</i>
TRADITIONAL	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>
OFFENBACH	<i>La Vie parisienne</i> : Overture and

CAREY
BASS
RESPIGHI

ANDERSON
LARGE
LARGE
TRADITIONAL

Themes by Offenbach
Unending Flame
The Night Before Christmas
Selections from *La Boutique fantasque*
(*The Fantastic Toy Shop*)
Sleigh Ride
Hotel Christmas
Stand Up for Me
Joy to the World

Tickets: \$38 - \$150

**Symphony Center Presents
Special Concert**

[Wednesday, December 19, 2018, 8:00 p.m.](#)
The Chicago Symphony Orchestra Brass

Program to Include:

TCHAIKOVSKY Suite from *The Nutcracker*

Tickets: \$33 - \$130

This concert is presented in collaboration with the Midwest Clinic, an international band and orchestra conference.

Chicago Symphony Orchestra

[Thursday, December 20, 2018, 8:00 p.m.](#)
[Friday, December 21, 2018, 1:30 p.m.](#)
[Saturday, December 22, 2018, 8:00 p.m.](#)

Chicago Symphony Orchestra

Matthew Halls, conductor
Amanda Forsythe, soprano
Sasha Cooke, mezzo-soprano
Nicholas Phan, tenor
Joshua Hopkins, baritone
Chicago Symphony Chorus
Duain Wolfe, chorus director

HANDEL *Messiah*

Tickets: \$37 - \$254

**Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Special Concert**

[Sunday, December 23, 2018, 2:00 p.m.](#)

Chicago Symphony Orchestra

Matthew Halls, conductor
Amanda Forsythe, soprano
Sasha Cooke, mezzo-soprano
Nicholas Phan, tenor
Joshua Hopkins, baritone
Chicago Symphony Chorus
Duain Wolfe, artistic director

HANDEL *Messiah*

Tickets: \$37 - \$221

Featured Artists and Conductors

[Richard Kaufman](#)

[Vienna Boys Choir](#)

[Chanticleer](#)

[Justin Freer](#)

[Michael Krajewski](#)

[Storm Large](#)

[Young Naperville Singers](#)

[Angie Johnson](#)

[The Chicago Symphony Orchestra Brass](#)

[Matthew Halls](#)

[Amanda Forsythe](#)

[Sasha Cooke](#)

[Nicholas Phan](#)

[Joshua Hopkins](#)

[Chicago Symphony Chorus](#)

[Duain Wolfe](#)

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra: www.cso.org and 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 preeminent 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. 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.

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. 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.