



**CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION**  
**RICCARDO MUTI** Music Director

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# News

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## **CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA NAMES DAVID COOPER AS PRINCIPAL HORN**

CHICAGO— Chicago Symphony Orchestra (CSO) Zell Music Director Riccardo Muti and CSO Association (CSOA) President Jeff Alexander announce the appointment of David Cooper as Principal Horn of the CSO, effective July 8, 2019.

Cooper has previously appeared with the CSO as guest principal horn on several occasions. He first appeared with the CSO under Bernard Haitink in performances of Bruckner's Symphony No. 6 in October 2018 and later under Riccardo Muti during the Orchestra's February 2019 Florida tour, and in May 2019 subscription concerts before being selected for the position in May 2019.

Prior to his appointment to the CSO, Cooper served as Principal Horn of the Dallas Symphony, a position he has held since May 2013 after joining the Dallas Symphony horn section in 2011. He also served as Principal Horn of the Berlin Philharmonic from 2017 to 2018. He has also served as acting Principal Horn with the Victoria Symphony in British Columbia and Associate Principal Horn of the Fort Worth Symphony. He has been guest Principal Horn of the London Symphony Orchestra, Hong Kong Philharmonic, and Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra. Cooper is also an avid chamber musician, and has served as Music Director of the Avant Chamber Ballet in Dallas.

David Cooper began playing horn at a young age in Grand Ledge, Michigan, initially under the tutelage of his uncle and grandmother, who both performed as professional horn players in the Lansing Symphony. He also studied with Dale Bartlett in Lansing, Michigan. Cooper began performing with the Michigan State University orchestra while still in high school, and later went on to attend the Curtis Institute of Music. While at Curtis, Cooper received a Tanglewood Fellowship and attended the Tanglewood Institute, studying with Eric Ruske. He also spent three consecutive summers at Marlboro Music festival in Vermont beginning in 2011.

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**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 Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant, Missy Mazzoli is Mead Composer-in-Residence and Erina Yashima is the Sir Georg Solti Conducting Apprentice.

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 61 international tours, performing in 30 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. 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.