



CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION

220 South Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60604-2559

News

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Press Contacts:  
[Eileen Chambers](#), 312-294-3092

Photos Available By Request  
[PR@CSO.org](mailto:PR@CSO.org)

## MUSIC DIRECTOR RICCARDO MUTI OPENS THE CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA'S 2018/19 SEASON WITH FIVE DISTINCT PROGRAMS

SEPTEMBER 20–OCTOBER 6, 2018

**Muti Leads the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the Civic Orchestra of Chicago  
in Side-by-Side Performance at Concert for Chicago  
in Millennium Park on September 20**

**Shostakovich's Symphony No. 13 (*Babi Yar*) is Focal Point of Opening  
Subscription Concerts with Muti, CSO, Men of Chicago Symphony Chorus and  
Bass Alexey Tikhomirov in his CSO Debut (September 21-25)**

**Muti and the CSO Perform Mozart's Overture to *Don Giovanni* and  
Symphony No. 40 on a Program with Rimsky-Korsakov's *Sheherazade*  
(September 27-29)**

**Muti Leads CSO and Pianist David Fray in Two Programs featuring  
Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3 (October 4 & 5) and) Mozart's Piano Concerto  
No. 24 at Annual Symphony Ball Benefit Concert (October 6)**

CHICAGO—Music Director Riccardo Muti returns to Chicago in September for his first Chicago Symphony Orchestra (CSO) residency of the 2018/19 season—the Orchestra's 128th season and Muti's ninth as its music director—which includes five concert programs September 20–October 6. On [Thursday, September 20, at 6:30 p.m.](#), Muti leads a special side-by-side concert featuring the CSO and Civic Orchestra of Chicago in a program that marks the opening of the Civic Orchestra's centennial season, for the annual free Concert for Chicago, taking place this year in Millennium Park's Pritzker Pavilion. Muti's first subscription concerts of the season take place on [Friday, September 21, at 8:00 p.m.](#), [Saturday, September 22, at 8 p.m.](#) and [Tuesday,](#)

RICCARDO MUTI  
Music Director

HELEN ZELL  
Chair, Board of Trustees

JEFF ALEXANDER  
President

YO-YO MA  
Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant

[September 25, at 7:30 p.m.](#) and include Shostakovich's Symphony No. 13 (*Babi Yar*) and the Orchestra's first performances of Prokofiev's Sinfonietta. Russian composer Rimsky-Korsakov's *Sheherazade*, a work to be featured on the CSO's 2019 Asia Tour programs, is paired with works by Mozart in Muti's second set of subscription concerts [Thursday, September 27, at 8:00 p.m.](#), [Friday, September 28, at 8:00 p.m.](#) and [Saturday, September 29, at 8:00 p.m.](#) Muti's fall CSO residency concludes with subscription concerts on [Thursday, October 4, at 8:00 p.m.](#) and [Friday, October 5, at 8:00 p.m.](#) and the annual Symphony Ball on [Saturday, October 6, at 7:00 p.m.](#) in programs that feature pianist David Fray as soloist in Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3 and Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 24, respectively.

On September 20, Muti leads a special CSO and Civic Orchestra of Chicago side-by-side community concert in Millennium Park that officially opens the Orchestra's 2018/19 season. The program also launches the celebration for the centennial seasons of the Civic Orchestra and the CSO's series of concerts for children established in the 1919/20 season by the Orchestra's second Music Director Frederick Stock. Now part of the set of signature programs of the Negaunee Music Institute at the CSO, the Civic Orchestra is the prestigious training ensemble for emerging professional musicians and the only one of its kind affiliated with a major American orchestra. Since becoming music director in 2010, Muti has regularly worked with the young musicians of the Civic Orchestra each season in free, open rehearsals at Symphony Center. For this concert, Civic musicians share the stage with the CSO to perform Rossini's Overture to *William Tell*, Verdi's *The Four Seasons* from his opera *I vespri siciliani* and Tchaikovsky's *1812 Overture*.

Muti's opening CSO subscription program launches the CSO's season-long theme of reflection and remembrance—*A Time for Reflection, A Message of Peace*—prompted by the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Armistice that ended World War I on November 11, 1918. Programs throughout the 2018/19 season connect listeners to works that remain relevant in a modern world with their timeless messages of hope and peace and that celebrate the triumph of the human spirit through the healing and transformative power of music. More information available at [csosoundsandstories.org](http://csosoundsandstories.org).

From [September 21-25](#), Muti leads the CSO, the men of the Chicago Symphony Chorus prepared by Chorus Director Duain Wolfe, and bass Alexey Tikhomirov—in his CSO debut—in Shostakovich's Symphony No. 13 (*Babi Yar*), a powerful response to the World War II massacre of the Jewish population of Kiev in 1941. Performed just days following this year's observance of Yom Kippur during the Jewish High Holy Days, the work is in five movements whose musical character and mood closely follows the text from vivid poems by distinguished Russian poet Yevgeny Yevtushenko—"Babi Yar," "Humour," "In the Store," "Fears," and "A Career." This marks the CSO's fifth set of performances of Shostakovich's landmark work. It was last performed in 2006 at the Ravinia Festival under Music Director James Conlon and previously at Orchestra Hall in 1999 under Mstislav Rostropovich, in 1995 under Music Director Laureate Sir Georg Solti, and in 1979, in its CSO premiere with Gennady Rozhdestvensky on the podium. Muti first led performances of *Babi Yar* in 1970 in Rome in an Italian translation of the work with the RAI National Symphony Orchestra, a male chorus and Italian bass Ruggero Raimondi. This

program opens with the CSO's first performances of Prokofiev's *Sinfonietta*, one of the composer's early symphonic works that is similar in character to the *Classical* Symphony.

In his second week of subscription concerts ([September 27-29](#)), Muti leads the CSO in a program of masterworks by Mozart and Rimsky-Korsakov. The program opens with Mozart's Overture to *Don Giovanni* and Symphony No. 40, one of the composer's final three symphonies and one of his most adventurous in its orchestration and harmonic writing. This is followed by Rimsky-Korsakov's orchestral showpiece *Sheherazade*, a work of great imagination that is loosely based on the tales of *The Arabian Nights* and highlights the composer's great gift as a master orchestrator and musical painter whose palette contained endless colors. Rimsky Korsakov's opening note in the score famously recounts that Sultana Sheherazade "saved her own life by interesting him [the Sultan] in the tales she told him through 1001 nights." A solo violin assumes the role of Sheherazade in the musical voyage which takes listeners to the sea and Sinbad's ship, the fairy-tale realm of a prince and princess, a festival in Baghdad and then back to the sea where the great ship crashes against a cliff.

For Muti's final week of concerts, he leads a program ([October 4 & 5](#)) featuring Hindemith's Symphony, *Mathis der Maler*. Based on his opera about the 15<sup>th</sup>-century painter Matthias Grunewald, Hindemith's three-movement symphony from 1934 carries with it a central message of the importance of freedom of artistic expression pointing to the painter's own personal journey that led him to join a peasant revolution, but ultimately brought him back to art to serve his fellow man. The music is full of drama and heroic qualities as well as colorful orchestration throughout. The program also includes a selection of Brahms' Hungarian Dances (Nos. 1, 3, 5 and 10) and Beethoven's Overture to *Egmont*, which musically depicts a character who stands against oppression. Pianist David Fray joins Muti and the CSO as soloist for Beethoven's Third Piano Concerto in C minor. One of the composer's five piano concertos, it shares a connection in its darker, brooding musical character with Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 24 in C minor, a work that Beethoven greatly admired and one that Fray performs with the CSO and Muti on the October 6 Symphony Ball program. Fray, who was hailed for his "poetic account," of Chopin's Second Piano Concerto with the CSO in 2018 by the *Chicago Tribune*, is celebrated worldwide as a recitalist, soloist and chamber musician. As a soloist, he has performed with orchestras including the Royal Concertgebouw, London Philharmonic, Deutsche Sinfonie Orchester, Orchestra del Teatro alla Scala, and Orchestre de Paris, among others. Fray's 2017 recording of selected Chopin piano works was praised for its "considerable seriousness and beauty" (*Gramophone*).

Muti's fall residency concludes with the annual Symphony Ball benefit concert on Saturday, [October 6, at 7:00 p.m.](#) This year's Symphony Ball program celebrates the timeless appeal of the waltz and heartfelt melodies. Alongside Hungarian dances by Johannes Brahms and Viennese waltzes from Josef Strauss and Johann Strauss Jr., Muti conducts the Intermezzo from Puccini's *Manon Lescaut* and Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 24 in C minor, with David Fray as soloist.

At the conclusion of his final CSO residency of the 2017/18 season in June, Muti traveled to Kiev, Ukraine with the Luigi Cherubini Youth Orchestra, which he founded in 2004, for the first of two programs in *Le vie dell'Amicizia* (The roads of friendship), a project of the Ravenna Festival since 1997. On July 1, Muti and the young musicians along with musicians from the orchestra and chorus of the National Opera Theater of Ukraine, performed in St. Sophia's square in Kiev. The program included Verdi's *Stabat mater* and *Te Deum* from the composer's Four Sacred Pieces and excerpts from *Nabucco*. The program also featured Copland's *Lincoln Portrait* with actor John Malkovich, who also performed the work with Muti and the CSO at Orchestra Hall in April 2018. The program was repeated on July 3 in Ravenna, Italy at the 4,000-seat Palazzo Mauro De André. In keeping with the project's mission, the concerts served as message of peace while promoting dialogue through the shared language of music.

In July, Muti marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his professional conducting debut with Maggio Musicale with performances on July 11 and 13 of Verdi's *Macbeth* in Florence, Italy. Maggio Musicale not only presented the debut of Muti in 1968, it also served as his first professional home, where he was principal conductor and music director from 1969 to 1981. The concert performances of Verdi's *Macbeth* featured a cast of internationally acclaimed soloists including baritone Luca Salsi (*Macbeth*), soprano Vittoria Yeo (*Lady Macbeth*), Francesco Meli (*Macduff*) and Riccardo Zanellato (*Banquo*).

Muti continued his focus on Verdi's *Macbeth* at his fourth annual Italian Opera Academy in Ravenna, Italy in July during two weeks of rehearsals and master class activities with four young conductors and répétiteurs along with distinguished soloists, chorus and the Cherubini Youth Orchestra. The Academy culminated in public performances of selections from Verdi's *Macbeth* led by the four conductors. After the conclusion of the Academy, Muti also participated in special concert programs at Ravenna's penitentiary and in Norcia, an area in central Italy that was devastated by the effects of a 2016 earthquake.

On July 11, the Japan Performing Arts Association, the nation's oldest cultural foundation, announced that Muti was one of five artists selected as recipients of its 2018 Praemium Imperiale awards. The award recognizes "outstanding contributions to the development, promotion and progress of the arts" in the fields of painting, sculpture, architecture, music and theater/film. Muti and this year's other honorees—Pierre Alechinsky (painting), Catherine Deneuve (film), Christian de Portzamparc (architecture) and Fujiko Nakaya (sculpture)—receive their honors from Japan's Prince Masahito at a ceremony Oct. 23 in Tokyo.

In August, Muti returned to the Salzburg Festival to lead the Vienna Philharmonic, chorus and soloists in a program that featured Schumann's *Symphony No. 2* and Schubert's *Mass in E-flat Major, D. 950*. Marking his 48<sup>th</sup> consecutive Salzburg Festival appearance with the Vienna Philharmonic, Muti has had a distinguished history with the Orchestra since Herbert von Karajan first invited him to conduct at the Festival in 1971. Noting the special artistic partnership between Muti and the Vienna Philharmonic, which has no permanent music director, the *Kronen*

*Zeitung* declared, “When the Maestro ... works with Vienna Philharmonic, it’s almost like a very musical family get-together” and as *Die Presse* noted, “‘Sold out’ is not enough — Riccardo Muti is the Philharmonic Maestro par excellence.” Muti, who also led the 2018 New Year’s Concert with the Vienna Philharmonic, his fifth time leading this unique program, joined representatives from the Philharmonic and Sony Classical for a special honors ceremony in Salzburg to celebrate the August announcement of the January 2018 recording’s double platinum status.

The CSO’s music director position is endowed in perpetuity by a generous gift from the Zell Family Foundation.

Bank of America is the Global Sponsor of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

United Airlines is the Official Airline of the CSO.

Northern Trust is the Presenting Sponsor of Symphony Ball.

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

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. Major support for the Civic Orchestra of Chicago is also provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, The Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation, Alphawood Foundation, Pauls Foundation, Robert and Joanne Crown Income Charitable Fund, The Negaunee Foundation, Barbara and Barre Seid Foundation, The Illinois Arts Council Agency and an Anonymous Donor.

The CSO’s Concert for Chicago is generously sponsored by the Kenneth C. Griffin Charitable Fund.

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 performances on September 27, 28 and 29 and October 4 and 5 are made possible by the Juli Plant Grainger Fund for Artistic Excellence.

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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Chicago Symphony Orchestra  
Pritzker Pavilion, Millennium Park  
Concert for Chicago

[Thursday, September 20, 2018, 6:30 p.m.](#)

Chicago Symphony Orchestra  
Civic Orchestra of Chicago  
Riccardo Muti, conductor

ROSSINI	Overture to <i>William Tell</i>
VERDI	<i>The Four Seasons</i> from <i>I vespri siciliani</i>
TCHAIKOVSKY	1812, Overture solennelle, Op. 49

Tickets: Free admission, no tickets required.

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Chicago Symphony Orchestra

[Friday, September 21, 2018, 8:00 p.m.](#)  
[Saturday, September 22, 2018, 8:00 p.m.](#)  
[Tuesday, September 25, 2018, 7:30 p.m.](#)

Chicago Symphony Orchestra  
Riccardo Muti, conductor  
Alexey Tikhomirov, bass  
Men of the Chicago Symphony Chorus  
Duain Wolfe, chorus director

PROKOFIEV	Sinfonietta, Op. 5
SHOSTAKOVICH	Symphony No. 13 in B-flat Minor, Op. 113 ( <i>Babi Yar</i> )

Tickets: \$35-\$224

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Chicago Symphony Orchestra

[Thursday, September 27, 2018, 8:00 p.m.](#)  
[Friday, September 28, 2018, 8:00 p.m.](#)  
[Saturday, September 29, 2018, 8:00 p.m.](#)

Chicago Symphony Orchestra  
Riccardo Muti, conductor

MOZART	Overture to <i>Don Giovanni</i> , K. 527
MOZART	Symphony No. 40 in G Minor, K. 550
RIMSKY-KORSAKOV	<i>Sheherazade</i> , Op. 35

Tickets: \$37-\$253

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Chicago Symphony Orchestra

[Thursday, October 4, 2018, 8:00 p.m.](#)  
[Friday, October 5, 2018, 1:30 p.m.](#)

Chicago Symphony Orchestra  
Riccardo Muti, conductor  
David Fray, piano

BEETHOVEN	Overture to <i>Egmont</i> , Op. 84
BEETHOVEN	Piano Concerto No. 3 in C Minor, Op. 37
BRAHMS	Hungarian Dances No. 1 in G Minor No. 3 in F Major No. 10 in F Major No. 5 in G Minor, orch. Schmeling

HINDEMITH *Mathis der Maler* Symphony

Tickets: \$37-\$252

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**Chicago Symphony Orchestra  
Symphony Ball**

Saturday, October 6, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

**Chicago Symphony Orchestra**

**Riccardo Muti**, conductor

**David Fray**, piano

BRAHMS	Hungarian Dances No. 1 in G Minor No. 3 in F Major No. 10 in F Major No. 5 in G Minor, orch. Schmeling
MOZART	Piano Concerto No. 24 in C Minor, K. 491
PUCCINI	Intermezzo to Act 3 from <i>Manon Lescaut</i>
JOSEF STRAUSS	<i>Sphärenklänge (Music of the Spheres)</i> Waltz
JOHANN STRAUSS JR.	<i>Rosen aus dem Süden (Roses from the South)</i> Waltz

Tickets: \$40-\$210 concert only; \$1,000-\$50,000, concert and post-concert gala ticket packages. For further information on purchasing Symphony Ball gala tickets, call 312-294-3185.

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**ABOUT THE ARTISTS**

**Riccardo Muti**

Riccardo Muti, born in Naples, Italy, is one of the preeminent conductors of our day. In 2010, when he became the tenth music director of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra (CSO), he already had more than forty years of experience at the helm of the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, Philharmonia Orchestra, Philadelphia Orchestra, and Teatro alla Scala. He is a guest conductor for orchestras and opera houses all over the world: the Berlin Philharmonic, the Vienna Philharmonic, the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Vienna State Opera, the Royal Opera House, the Metropolitan Opera, and many others.

Muti studied piano under Vincenzo Vitale at the Conservatory of San Pietro a Majella in his hometown of Naples, graduating with distinction. He subsequently received a diploma in composition and conducting from the Giuseppe Verdi Conservatory in Milan, also graduating with distinction. His principal teachers were Bruno Bettinelli and Antonino Votto, principal assistant to Arturo Toscanini at La Scala. After he won the Guido Cantelli Conducting Competition—by unanimous vote of the jury—in Milan in 1967, Muti's career developed quickly. In 1968, he became principal conductor of Florence's Maggio Musicale, a position that he held until 1980. In 2017, Muti led the Orchestra of the Maggio Musicale in performances that were part of the historic G-7 Culture Summit which explored the use of culture as an instrument of dialogue among different peoples and nations.

Herbert von Karajan invited him to conduct at the Salzburg Festival in Austria in 1971, and Muti has maintained a close relationship with the summer festival and with its great orchestra, the Vienna Philharmonic, for more than forty-five years. When he conducted the philharmonic's 150th anniversary

concert in 1992, he was presented with the Golden Ring, a special sign of esteem and affection, and in 2001, his outstanding artistic contributions to the orchestra were further recognized with the Otto Nicolai Gold Medal. He is also a recipient of a silver medal from the Salzburg Mozarteum for his contribution to the music of W.A. Mozart. He is an honorary member of Vienna's Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde (Society of the Friends of Music), the Vienna Hofmusikkapelle, the Vienna Philharmonic, and the Vienna State Opera. In 2015, he founded the Riccardo Muti Italian Opera Academy in Ravenna, Italy, to train young conductors, répétiteurs, and singers in the Italian opera repertoire.

Muti succeeded Otto Klemperer as chief conductor and music director of London's Philharmonia Orchestra in 1973, holding that position until 1982. From 1980 to 1992, he was music director of the Philadelphia Orchestra, and in 1986, he became music director of Milan's Teatro alla Scala. During his nineteen-year tenure, in addition to directing major projects such as the Mozart–Da Ponte trilogy and Wagner Ring cycle, Muti conducted operatic and symphonic repertoire ranging from the baroque to the contemporary, also leading hundreds of concerts with the Filarmonica della Scala and touring the world with both the opera company and the orchestra. His tenure as music director, the longest of any in La Scala's history, culminated in the triumphant reopening of the restored opera house with Antonio Salieri's *Europa riconosciuta*, originally commissioned for La Scala's inaugural performance in 1778.

Throughout his career, Muti has dedicated much time and effort to training young musicians. In 2004, he founded the Orchestra Giovanile Luigi Cherubini (Luigi Cherubini Youth Orchestra), based in his native Italy. He regularly tours with the ensemble to prestigious concert halls and opera houses all over the world.

Since 1997, as part of *Le vie dell'Amicizia* (The paths of friendship), a project of the Ravenna Festival in Italy, Muti has annually conducted large-scale concerts in war-torn and poverty-stricken areas around the world, using music to bring hope, unity, and attention to present day social, cultural, and humanitarian issues.

Muti has received innumerable international honors. He is a Cavaliere di Gran Croce of the Italian Republic, Officer of the French Legion of Honor, and a recipient of the German Verdienstkreuz. Queen Elizabeth II bestowed on him the title of honorary Knight Commander of the British Empire, Russian President Vladimir Putin awarded him the Order of Friendship, and Pope Benedict XVI made him a Knight of the Grand Cross First Class of the Order of Saint Gregory the Great—the highest papal honor. Muti also has received Israel's Wolf Prize for the arts, Sweden's prestigious Birgit Nilsson Prize, Spain's Prince of Asturias Award for the Arts, and the gold medal from Italy's Ministry of Foreign Affairs for his promotion of Italian culture abroad. In March 2017, the Italian government recognized Muti with its prestigious Presidente della Repubblica award, presented to Muti for his exceptional contribution to Italian culture in the field of music. He has received more than twenty honorary degrees from universities around the world.

Considered one of the greatest interpreters of Verdi in our time, Muti wrote a book on the composer, *Verdi, l'italiano*, published in Italian, German, and Japanese. His first book, *Riccardo Muti: An Autobiography: First the Music, Then the Words*, also has been published in several languages, including Chinese.

Riccardo Muti's vast catalog of recordings, numbering in the hundreds, ranges from the traditional symphonic and operatic repertoires to contemporary works. His debut recording with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Chorus of Verdi's *Messa da Requiem*, released in 2010 by CSO Resound, won two Grammy awards. His second recording with the CSO and Chorus, Verdi's *Otello*, released in 2013 by CSO Resound, won the 2014 International Opera Award for the Best Complete Opera.

During his time with the CSO, Muti has won over audiences in greater Chicago and across the globe through his music making as well as his demonstrated commitment to sharing classical music. His annual free concerts for the city of Chicago attract tens of thousands of people. He regularly invites subscribers, students, seniors, and people of low incomes to attend, at no charge, his CSO rehearsals. Muti's commitment to artistic excellence and to creating a strong bond between an orchestra and its

communities continues to bring the Chicago Symphony Orchestra to ever higher levels of achievement and renown.

<http://www.riccardomutimusic.com/>

### **Other Featured Artists for these Performances**

[Civic Orchestra of Chicago](#)

[Alexey Tikhomirov, bass](#)

[Chicago Symphony Chorus](#)

[Duain Wolfe, chorus director](#)

[David Fray, piano](#)

### **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 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. 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.