



CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION

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News

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CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR FOURTH SIR GEORG SOLTI CONDUCTING APPRENTICESHIP

Final Auditions Take Place in Chicago on March 17, 2019

CHICAGO— The Negaunee Music Institute at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra (CSO) announces that applications are now being accepted for the Fourth International Sir Georg Solti Conducting Apprenticeship.

The two-year conducting apprenticeship, which begins in September 2019 and continues through June 2021, includes approximately 10 weeks of study and mentorship each year in Chicago with Music Director Riccardo Muti, and opportunities to work with the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, the CSO's training orchestra for pre-professional musicians. The apprentice receives a \$30,000 annual stipend to support their work and residencies in Chicago.

To apply, candidates should be under the age of 35 at the time of audition and able to demonstrate an advanced skill level in both conducting and rehearsing with professional orchestras and preparing and coaching singers in operatic repertoire from the piano. The application deadline is Monday, December 18, 2018. A \$30 non-refundable application fee applies.

Final auditions, which will require conducting and rehearsing the Civic Orchestra of Chicago and working with singers from The Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center from the piano, take place in Chicago on Sunday, March 17, 2019, before a panel that includes Riccardo Muti and musicians of the CSO.

Application information and further details about the CSO's International Sir Georg Solti Conducting Competition and Apprenticeship are available at cso.org/solticompetition.

The creation of the CSO's International Sir Georg Solti Conducting Apprenticeship was announced by Riccardo Muti in October 2009 as part of his vision for the CSOA while serving as its music director. This vision includes building on the CSO's tradition of training young musicians through the creation of a program that would be a vital investment in the future generation of conductors. The

RICCARDO MUTI
Zell Music Director

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YO-YO MA
Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant

program is named for Sir Georg Solti, who served as music director of the CSO from 1969 to 1991, not only because of the deep and long connection he had with the CSO, but also in honor of his commitment to connecting with young musicians.

Both Solti and Muti developed as conductors through their work in the opera house, and Muti remains passionate about the importance of a conductor's ability to rehearse with an artist at the piano. Muti's expressed hope in establishing this apprenticeship was to identify young conductors who will benefit most from the unique opportunity of having access to his tutelage and rehearsals with the CSO.

The first two Sir Georg Solti Conducting Apprentices were Sean Kubota (2011-2013) and Matthew Aucoin (2013-2015). Erina Yashima is the current Sir Georg Solti Conducting Apprentice and was appointed to the position in 2015 for a two-year term covering the 2016/17 and 2017/18 seasons. Yashima's contract was recently extended through the 2018/19 season by Muti and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association (CSOA) in recognition of her accomplishments in the role.

The International Sir Georg Solti Conducting Competition and Apprenticeship is a program of the Negaunee Music Institute at the CSO.

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

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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 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. 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. More information available at cso.org/institute.

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.