



CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION

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News

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CSOA LATINO AND AFRICAN AMERICAN AFFILIATE GROUPS CONTINUE TO CREATE CONNECTIONS THROUGH MUSIC

**Latino Alliance Marks Fifth Anniversary with Special Program and Celebration
on September 5 and Announces 2019/20 Networking Programs**

**African American Network Opens New Season of Programs on October 25 and
Anticipates February 29 World Premiere of New Work about
Revolutionary Artist Josephine Baker by Composer Renée Baker**

CHICAGO—The Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association (CSOA) remains committed to making the extraordinary musical resources of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra accessible to a diverse range of audiences through the Latino Alliance and African American Network (AAN). Established within the last five years, the affiliate groups are a part of the visionary artistic leadership of the CSO's Zell Music Director Riccardo Muti who has created greater opportunities for audiences across Chicago to connect with the Orchestra in meaningful ways. Both groups seek to create connections through music and have announced details for their 2019/20 season programs, and tickets for these events are on sale now. Events take place at Symphony Center (220 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago) unless otherwise noted.

LATINO ALLIANCE

Established in 2014, the Latino Alliance has continued to grow through an annual series of networking events connected to Chicago Symphony Orchestra concerts. These events bring music enthusiasts together for pre-concert conversation and refreshments, as well as presentations that provide special insights into the concert program. More information available

at [cso.org/latinoalliance](https://www.cso.org/latinoalliance).

The Latino Alliance opens its new season of programs on [September 5](#) with a special event to celebrate the group's fifth anniversary with a rare screening of the landmark 1935 film *Redes* that features a score by master Mexican composer Silvestre Revueltas. The evening opens with a reception at 6:30 p.m. and continues at 7:30 p.m. with performances by Mariachi Herencia de Mexico and members of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago who will play Revueltas' String Quartet No. 2 followed by the film screening of *Redes*. After the film, there will be a Q&A with Angel Gil-Ordóñez, who conducted the PostClassical Ensemble in the recording of the score for the film's 2016 DVD release. Tickets for the Latino Alliance fifth anniversary celebration event are \$25.

The dates for the 2019/20 Latino Alliance Networking Events at CSO concerts have also been announced. Admission to each Networking event is \$40 and includes a pre-concert reception and CSO concert ticket with promotional code: NETWORK.

2019/20 Latino Alliance Networking Events

October 17: Pre-concert reception at 6:30 p.m. and CSO Concert at 8:00 p.m. Concert program features Vivaldi's Four Seasons.

December 14: Noche Navideña pre-concert reception at 1:30 p.m. and *Merry, Merry Chicago!* holiday concert performed by members of the CSO, and featuring the Chicago Symphony Chorus at 3:00 p.m.

April 25, 2020: Pre-concert reception at 6:30 p.m. and CSO Concert at 8:00 p.m. Concert program features Zell Music Director Riccardo Muti leading the Orchestra in a performance of Florence Price's Symphony No. 3.

The April 25 networking event is co-hosted by the Latino Alliance and AAN.

Additional Latino Alliance networking events for the 2019/20 season to be announced at a later date.

AFRICAN AMERICAN NETWORK (AAN)

Established in 2016, the African American Network (AAN) has grown to include more than 3,000 members and presents an annual series of programs to create connections and conversation through music. CSO Director of Community Stewardship Sheila Jones curates and hosts the annual series. Ticket prices for AAN events are \$25. Patrons attending AAN events on October 25, as well as February 25, April 9, May 16 and June 13, 2020 can also purchase CSO concert tickets for a specially-discounted price. More information at [cso.org/aan](https://www.cso.org/aan).

2019/20 African American Network (AAN) Events

October 25, at 5:00 p.m. "Bridge Over Muddied Waters," an original concert work created and performed by African American mezzo-soprano and educator Cynthia Clarey and award-winning concert artist Beckie Menzie.

November 23, at 5:00 p.m. Pre-concert “Meet the Composer” Q&A with James Lee III exploring his new work *Sukkot Through Orion’s Nebula*, featured on the CSO’s subscription program that also includes Holst’s *The Planets* and Barber’s *Two Scenes from Antony and Cleopatra*.

December 21, at 5:00 p.m. “An Evening of Holiday Cabaret Magic” featuring acclaimed Chicago cabaret artists Anne and Mark Burnell.

January 24, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. “Tribute to the Role of Music in the Battle for Civil Rights,” a concert program featuring music of the 1950s and 1960s performed by young musicians from the Chicago West Community Music Center (CWCMC) founded and directed by Darlene and Howard Sandifer.

February 29, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. “A Sovereign Pout: Le Tumulte Noir of Josephine Baker,” the AAN’s fourth annual celebration of National Black History Month featuring the world premiere of a live film score by African American composer, conductor, violist Renée Baker, that celebrates Josephine Baker’s role in the 1927 silent film *Siren of the Tropics*. The cast will include members of the Chicago Modern Orchestra Project, members of the Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians (AACM) and Tsukasa Taiko.

March 14, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. “From Ragtime to Rhapsody: On George Gershwin and Black Composers,” a program hosted by MacArthur Genius award-winner, Ragtime pianist and composer Reginald R. Robinson.

April 9, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. CMOP Contempo Ensemble, featuring members of the Chicago Modern Music Project, performs new and contemporary works by composers Cornelius Cardew, Renée Baker and Isa Yung-Bayun.

April 25, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. “The Role of Negro Spirituals in Orchestral Compositions,” a pre-concert lecture and performance including musical selections by Florence Price and William Grant Still presented by internationally acclaimed baritone and music historian Dr. Robert Sims. *The April 25 networking event is co-hosted by the Latino Alliance and AAN.*

May 2, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. Post-concert “Meet the Conductor” Q&A and pizza party with Thomas Wilkins following his CSO Family concert program “American Voices” featuring music by Aaron Copland, George Gershwin and Jessie Montgomery. *The May 2 event is co-hosted by the AAN and the Negaunee Music Institute at the CSO.*

May 16, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. Recital program featuring former Civic Orchestra of Chicago principal harpist and CSOA League Civic Scholar for the 2017/18 season Jordan Thomas.

June 13, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. “Tribune to National Black Music Month,” a program featuring performances by Keith Hampton’s Chicago Community Choir as well as tenor Cornelius Johnson and soprano Kim Jones.

Additional AAN events for the 2019/20 season to be announced at a later date.

Tickets for all CSOA-presented concerts and events 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.

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Chicago Symphony Orchestra: cso.org and 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. Missy Mazzoli is Mead Composer-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 61 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 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.