KIDSBOOK

CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

CSO SCHOOL CONCERTS
November 20, 10:15 & 12:00

CSO FAMILY MATINEE SERIES
November 21, 11:00 & 12:45

CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
312-294-3000 | CSO.ORG
220 S. MICHIGAN AVE. | CHICAGO
Welcome to Kidsbook, your guide to the Chicago Symphony Orchestra School Concerts and Family Matinee Concerts!

What kind of birthday party do you throw for an orchestra? A musical one, of course! It’s the 125th birthday of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and you’re invited to the celebration. This concert honors the incredible musical legacy of our orchestra and explores its importance in our community, featuring music that inspires joy and celebration—perfect for a party!

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

We are thrilled to be celebrating 125 years of the CSO. As you listen to Dmitri Shostakovich’s Festive Overture, can you hear how excited everyone is for the festivities to begin? The music is fast and fun and sounds like people are scurrying around preparing for the celebration of a lifetime!

We all like surprises, and every party should have at least one. As you listen to the musical surprise in Joseph Haydn’s Surprise Symphony, notice how dynamics (how loudly or softly the music is played) are used to reveal the big surprise to us.

What kind of surprise would you like to give the orchestra?

Draw your idea in the gift box.
There are more than 100 members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and each one is important! When they play together, all of the different instruments contribute their own unique sound to make a marvelous musical community. Let’s celebrate the amazing instrument families of the CSO.

**BOLD BRASS**

Listen to the power and excitement of the brass section with the horns, trumpets, trombones and tuba all working together. In Fanfare from *La Péri* by Paul Dukas, the bold brass sound grabs our attention and signals a celebration.

**WHIRLING WOODWINDS**

The woodwind section includes flutes, oboes, clarinets and bassoons. In the section sometimes called *Game of Pairs* from Bartók’s Concerto for Orchestra, listen to how pairs of woodwind instruments play together, showing off their talents.

**SWEET STRINGS**

The violins, violas, cellos and basses make up the string section. As the strings play the waltz from Johann Strauss’s *Die Fledermaus*, does the sweet melody of their music make you want to get up and dance?

**PERSUASIVE PERCUSSION**

The percussion section has a lot of instruments including timpani, snare drum, cymbal, xylophone and piano. In the Mambo by composer Leonard Bernstein, listen to the excited energy created by the fast running notes and the jazzy rhythms played by the percussion instruments. “*Mambo!*”

Listen to this version of Happy Birthday by John Williams, in which each instrument family is fittingly featured.

What a party we’ve had! There is no better way to end the festivities than with the celebratory last movement of Ludwig van Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony! Can you believe that this symphony was performed at the CSO’s very first concert in 1891?! The orchestra has also recorded it six times, winning a Grammy Award for its 1975 recording.

How wonderfully triumphant it is that the Chicago Symphony Orchestra has been an important part of our community for 125 years!
**ALASTAIR WILLIS**

- Alastair Willis was born in Acton, Massachusetts. He has lived with his family in Moscow, Russia and Surrey, England.
- He received his bachelor’s degree with honors from England’s Bristol University, an Education degree from Kingstone University, and a Master of Music degree from Rice University’s Shepherd School of Music.
- Alastair is the Music Director for the Illinois Symphony and has served as the Assistant Conductor of the Seattle Symphony Orchestra, Assistant Conductor with the Cincinnati Symphony and Pops Orchestras, and Music Director of the Cincinnati Symphony Youth Orchestra.
- He has conducted the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the San Francisco Symphony, the Philadelphia Orchestra, and the New York Philharmonic, among many others.

**MEET THE CONDUCTOR**

**MEET THE MUSICIANS**

Do you play an instrument? If so, you know that playing in band or orchestra, playing chamber music, or singing in a choir is a fun way to make friends and work with a group to create something amazing!

Did you know that many of the members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra got started in their school’s band and orchestra? Get to know CSO members through Dream Out Loud. Listen to them play, hear their stories and let them inspire you to **stick with music**, even if it is difficult sometimes.

**MEET PRINCIPAL PERCUSSION CYNTHIA YEH**

- Cynthia was born in Taiwan and didn’t speak English when she moved to Canada.
- She began on the piano when she was 4 years old and switched to percussion in high school.
- Cynthia believes that music helped nurture her sense of discipline and determination.

Watch videos and meet more of the members of the CSO by visiting cso.org/dreamoutloud.

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**CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA / RICCARDO MUTI ZELL MUSIC DIRECTOR**

**PIERRE BOULEZ** Helen Regenstein Conductor Emeritus

**YO-YO MA** Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant

**DUAIN WOLFE** Chorus Director and Conductor

**SAMUEL ADAMS, ELIZABETH OGONEK** Mead Composers-in-Residence

**VIOLINS**

- Robert Chen
- Concertmaster
- The Louis C. Sudler Chair, endowed by an anonymous benefactor
- Stephanie Jeong
- Associate Concertmaster
- Cathy and Bill Osborn Chair
- David Taylor
- Yu-an Qiu
- Assistant Concertmasters*
- So Young Bae
- Cornelius Chiu
- Alison Dalton
- Gina DiBello
- Kozue Funakoshi
- Russell Hershow
- Jing Hou
- Nisanne Howell
- Blair Milton
- Paul Phillips, Jr
- Sando Shia
- Susan Synnestvedt
- Rong-Yen Tang
- Baird Dodge
- Principal
- Sylvia Kim Kilcullen
- Assistant Principal
- Lei Hau
- Ni Mei
- Fox Fehling
- Hermine Gagné
- Rachel Goldstein
- Mihaela Ionescu
- Melanie Kupchynsky
- Wendy Koons Meir
- Aiko Nodaji
- Joyce Noh
- Nancy Park
- Ronald Satkievicz
- Florence Schwartz-Lee

**BASSOON**

- Charles Pickett
- Principal
- Li-Kuo Chang
- Assistant Principal
- The Louise H. Benton Wagner Chair
- John Bartholomew

**OBES**

- Eugene Izuoz
- Principal
- The Nancy and Larry Fuller Chair
- Michael Henoch
- Assistant Principal
- Gilbert Foundation Chair
- Lora Schaefer
- Scott Hostler

**CELLOS**

- John Sharp
- Principal
- The Eloise W. Martin Chair
- Kenneth Olsen
- Assistant Principal
- The Adele Gidwitz Chair
- Karen Basrak
- Lawren Brown
- Richard Hirschcl
- Daniel Katz
- Katinka Kleijn
- Jonathan Pegis
- David Sanders
- Gary Stucka
- Brant Taylor

**E-FLAT CLARINET**

- Stephen Williamson
- Principal
- John Bruce Yeh
- Assistant Principal
- Gregory Smith
- J. Lawrie Bloom

**CONDUCTOR**

- Alastair Willis
- Music Director for the Illinois Symphony Orchestra, Assistant Conductor with the Seattle Symphony Orchestra, and has served as the Assistant Conductor of the Seattle Symphony Orchestra, the San Francisco Symphony, the Philadelphia Orchestra, and the New York Philharmonic, among many others.
- He loves running, biking and swimming.

**HORNs**

- Daniel Gingrich
- Acting Principal
- James Smelser
- Miles Maner

**ORCHESTRA PERSONNEL**

- John Deverman
- Director
- Anne MacQuarrie
- Manager, CSO Auditions and Orchestra Personnel

**TROMBONES**

- Jay Friedman
- Principal
- Michael Mulcahy
- Charles Vernon

**PERCUSSION**

- Cynthia Yeh
- Principal
- Vadim Karpinos
- Assistant Principal

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- Florence Schwartz-Lee

**FUNCTION**

- The Chicago Symphony Orchestra string sections utilize revolving seating. Players behind the first desk (first two desks in the violins) change seats systematically every two weeks and are listed alphabetically. Section percussionists also are listed alphabetically.

**The Chicago Symphony Orchestra**

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra’s music director position is endowed in perpetuity by a generous gift from the Zell Family Foundation.
**INSTRUMENTS OF THE ORCHESTRA**

**THE STRING FAMILY** includes violin, viola, cello, bass and harp. These instruments are made of wood and strings, and are played by vibrating the strings using a bow or plucking or striking with a finger.

- Violin
- Viola
- Cello
- Bass
- Harp

**THE WOODWIND FAMILY** includes flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon and saxophone. These instruments all have the same basic shape: a long tube with a mouthpiece at one end. The flute is played by blowing across a hole to create a vibration. Oboe, clarinet, bassoon and saxophone are all played by blowing air into a single or double reed attached to the mouthpiece, creating a vibration that results in sound.

- Flute
- Clarinet
- Saxophone
- Oboe
- Bassoon

**THE BRASS FAMILY** includes horn, trumpet, trombone, euphonium and tuba. To make a sound on any brass instrument, the player vibrates his or her lips against a mouthpiece, which is fitted into the instrument. The player can change pitch on a trumpet, horn or tuba by pressing on valves. Trombone players change pitch by moving the slide back and forth.

- Trumpet
- Trombone
- Tuba
- Horn

**THE PERCUSSION FAMILY** includes snare drum, bass drum, gong, triangle, xylophone, timpani and piano, among many others. Percussion instruments are struck, scraped or shaken.

- Timpani
- Snare Drum
- Xylophone
- Cymbal
- Piano