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CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES PROGRAMMING ANNOUNCED FOR 2025/26 SEASON

CHICAGO — The Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association (CSOA) has unveiled the full lineup for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's (CSO) 2025/26 Chamber Music series. The season features six concerts, including three performances in Orchestra Hall at Symphony Center (220 S. Michigan Ave.) presented on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. and three free performances in community venues throughout Chicago including Epiphany Center for the Arts, Anderson Chapel at North Park University, and South Shore Cultural Center. Additional CSO Chamber Music concerts are presented by the Driehaus Museum, Northeastern Illinois University and UChicago Presents.

For Symphony Center performances, tickets are "pay what you wish," with a minimum price of \$15. The three concerts presented by the CSOA at community venues are free, though advance reservations are required and become available two weeks prior to each performance.

More information is available at cso.org/cs Chamber.

CSO Chamber Music at Symphony Center

CSO Chamber Music: Elysian Trio ([December 2](#))

The Elysian Trio (John Sharp, Principal Cello; Stephen Williamson, Principal Clarinet, and Umi Garrett, piano) explores the richly expressive world of clarinet, cello and piano trios. Audiences will experience the spectrum of chamber music expression, from Beethoven's precise structures to the expansive narratives of Bruch and Brahms.

CSO Chamber Music: Winter Quartet ([March 24, 2026](#))

The Winter Quartet (Ni Mei, violin; Gabriela Lara, violin; Danny Lai, viola, and Katinka Kleijn, cello) brings together three distinct 20th-century voices in a program charged with intensity and atmosphere. The program features works by Thorvaldsdóttir, Schulhoff and Bartók, highlighting their distinctive compositional voices.

CSO Chamber Music: CSO Brass Quintet ([June 16, 2026](#))

The CSO Brass Quintet (Esteban Batallán, Principal Trumpet; John Hagstrom, trumpet; David Griffin, horn; Michael Mulcahy, trombone; and Gene Pokorny, Principal Tuba) and Patrick

Godon, organ, present a program highlighting the power and pageantry of brass music as part of Symphony Center's tribute to America's 250th anniversary. The concert features works including Ives' popular variations, ceremonial fanfares and iconic American melodies.

CSO Chamber Music in the Community

On [Sunday, November 2, at 2:00 p.m.](#) at the Epiphany Center for the Arts (201 S. Ashland Ave.), the Guadagnini String Quartet (David Taylor, Assistant Concertmaster; Cornelius Chiu, violin; Wei-Ting Kuo, viola, and Richard Hirschl, cello) contrasts two striking works of the repertoire. Cherubini's rarely heard Quartet No. 1 opens the program, followed by Beethoven's Quartet in C Minor, a taut and emotionally charged piece.

On [Sunday, February 22, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.](#), the Civitas Ensemble (Yuan-Qing Yu, Assistant Concertmaster; So Young Bae, violin; Teng Li, Principal Viola; Kenneth Olsen, Assistant Principal Cello, and Winston Choi, piano) performs at Anderson Chapel at North Park University (5159 N. Spalding Ave.). The ensemble traces an arc from the shadowed intensity of Bartók to the radiant lyricism of Fauré. The program features Bartók's early piano quintet and Faure's late one — a blend of youth and serenity with a subtle and inexplicable sense of mystery and revelation.

On [Sunday, June 7, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.](#) at South Shore Cultural Center (7059 S. South Shore Dr.), the Lincoln String Quartet (Qing Hou, violin; Lei Hou, violin; Lawrence Neuman, viola, and Daniel Katz, cello) offers a program that moves from charm to revelation. The program features two string quartets by Haydn and Beethoven, pairing vibrant charm and flair with immense lyrical beauty.

CSO Chamber Music at the Driehaus Museum

CSO Chamber Music at the Driehaus Museum continues with two concerts in the historic Murphy Auditorium. The programs take place on [Tuesday, July 22](#) and Tuesday, October 21; all concerts begin at 6:30 p.m. Information regarding series subscriptions and more is available at driehausmuseum.org/programs.

CSO Chamber Music at Northeastern Illinois University

Musicians from the CSO perform chamber music at Northeastern Illinois University on [Friday, September 26, at 7:30 p.m.](#) The ensemble includes Danny Yehun Jin, Assistant Principal Second Violin; Matous Michal, violin; Danny Lai, viola; Daniel Katz, cello, and John Bruce Yeh, Assistant Principal Clarinet. Information regarding tickets to this program is available at neiu.edu.

CSO Chamber Music at the University of Chicago

CSO Chamber Music returns to UChicago Presents series for three programs that spotlight dynamic collaborations, pay homage to musical trailblazers, and bridge classical and contemporary styles. The programs take place on [Sunday, October 12 at 3:00 p.m.](#), [Sunday,](#)

[February 6, 2026, at 7:30 p.m.](#), and [Sunday, April 19, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.](#) Information regarding series subscriptions and more is available at chicagopresents.uchicago.edu.

Tickets and Patron Information

Tickets for CSO Chamber Music concerts at Symphony Center are available now for \$15 each as part of a Create Your Own subscription package of three or more programs across the 2025/26 Season.

Individual tickets for CSO Chamber Music concerts at Symphony Center will go on sale Wednesday, August 6, offered as pay what you wish, starting at \$15. Free tickets for CSO Chamber Music programs at the three community venues can be reserved two weeks prior to the concert dates at cso.org. Representatives are available to assist with ticket packages by web chat at cso.org, by calling [312-294-3000](tel:312-294-3000) (Tuesday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.), or by emailing patronservices@cso.org.

All artists and programs are subject to change.

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Chicago Symphony Orchestra: cso.org

Founded by Theodore Thomas in 1891, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra is consistently hailed as one of the world's great orchestras. In April 2024, Klaus Mäkelä was named the Orchestra's 11th music director, and he will begin an initial five-year tenure as Zell Music Director with the 2027/28 Season. Riccardo Muti, the Orchestra's 10th music director from 2010 until 2023, became Music Director Emeritus for Life at the beginning of the 2023/24 Season. Joyce DiDonato is the CSO Artist-in-Residence for the 2025/26 Season.

The CSO commands a vast repertoire, from baroque through contemporary music. Its renowned musicians perform more than 150 concerts annually, in Orchestra Hall at Symphony Center in downtown Chicago and each summer at the Ravinia Festival in suburban Highland Park. The ensemble regularly tours domestically, and since 1892, has made 65 international tours, performing in 30 countries on five continents.

Patrons around the globe enjoy weekly radio broadcasts of CSO concerts and recordings via the WFMT Radio Network and online at cso.org/radio. Launched in 2007, [CSO Resound](#) is the ensemble's Grammy Award-winning independent record label, featuring live performances with world-class conductors and guest artists. Since 1916, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Chorus have amassed an extensive discography that has earned 65 Grammy awards from the Recording Academy.

The CSO is part of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association (CSOA), which also includes the Chicago Symphony Chorus, Civic Orchestra of Chicago, Symphony Center Presents, and the Negaunee Music Institute. The [Chicago Symphony Chorus](#), founded by Margaret Hillis in 1957, is the country's largest professional chorus. Donald Palumbo is the Director of the Chicago Symphony Chorus. Founded by second music director Frederick Stock during the 1919/20 Season, the [Civic Orchestra of Chicago](#) is a training ensemble for emerging professionals with Ken-David Masur serving as its principal conductor. [Symphony Center Presents](#) features guest artists and ensembles across an expansive array of genres, including classical, jazz, world and contemporary. The [Negaunee Music Institute](#) offers community and

educational programs that annually engage more than 200,000 people of diverse ages and backgrounds throughout the Chicagoland area.

Through the Institute and numerous other activities — including annual free community concerts in Chicago neighborhoods — the CSO is committed to using the power of music to strengthen bonds with its longtime patrons and create connections with new audiences.

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association is supported by thousands of patrons, volunteers and institutional and individual donors. The Negaunee Foundation provides generous support in perpetuity for the work of the Negaunee Music Institute.