

**For Immediate Release:**  
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**Press Contact:**  
[Hannah Sundwall](#)  
[312-294-3083](tel:312-294-3083)

## **CRAIN-MALING FOUNDATION CSO YOUNG ARTISTS COMPETITION FINALS FEATURE FOUR YOUNG PIANISTS FROM CHICAGO AREA**

CHICAGO — On [Saturday, March 22, 2025, at 2:00 p.m.](#), four young artists perform as part of the [Crain-Maling Foundation CSO Young Artists Competition](#), a prestigious platform showcasing Illinois' top young soloists. This year's competition features four exceptional pianists in a free public performance at Orchestra Hall accompanied by the [Civic Orchestra of Chicago](#), led by conductor Jerry Hou. The Crain-Maling Foundation CSO Young Artists Competition provides a unique opportunity for these talented young musicians to showcase their skills on a world-class stage. The finalists were selected through a rigorous audition process, demonstrating exceptional musicality and technical proficiency. The winner will appear with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra as part of CSO for Kids youth concerts in the fall of 2025. Additionally, the four finalists also have the opportunity to participate in a masterclass this spring with CSO Artist-in-Residence Daniil Trifonov.

Joseph Gallwas, 17, of Chicagoland, will perform Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 3 in C Major, I. Andante-Allegro. A junior at York Community High School, Joseph is a seasoned concerto pianist, having performed with ensembles including the Chicago Arts Orchestra and the SEEN Orchestra.

Tong-Bai Deng, 16, of Hinsdale, will perform Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 2 in G Minor, IV. Allegro tempestoso. A junior at Hinsdale Central High School, Tong-Bai has won numerous awards, including first place in the piano division of the 56th Annual Stanger Competition.

Evangeline Wang, 14, of Chicago, will perform Chopin's Piano Concerto No. 2 in F Minor, I. Maestoso. An eighth grader at Skinner West Elementary School, Evangeline began her piano journey at age 2 and has since garnered numerous awards, including first place at the Carmel Klavier International Piano Competition.

Jeremy Liu, 13, of Naperville, will perform Grieg's Piano Concerto in A Minor, I. Allegro molto moderato. An eighth grader at Gregory Middle School, Jeremy made his Carnegie Hall debut at age 7 and is a recent piano winner of the O'Malley Foundation National Concerto Competition.

### **Ticket Information**

Tickets are free; reservations are required and open now at [cso.org](https://www.cso.org).

Contact Patron Services for personalized assistance online at [cso.org/contact](https://www.cso.org/contact) or by calling [312-294-3000](tel:312-294-3000), Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. The walk-up Box Office at 220 S. Michigan Ave. is open Monday-Saturday 12 p.m. – 6 p.m.

All artists and programs are subject to change.

The Crain-Maling Foundation CSO Young Artists Competition is sponsored by the Crain-Maling Foundation.

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association acknowledges support from the Illinois Arts Council.

The 2024/25 Civic Orchestra season is generously sponsored by Lori Julian for the Julian Family Foundation, which also provides major funding for the Civic Fellowship program.

Major support for the Civic Orchestra of Chicago also provided by Robert and Joanne Crown Income Charitable Fund; Nancy Dehmlow; Leslie Fund, Inc.; Judy and Scott McCue; Leo and Catherine Miserendino; Barbara and Barre Seid Foundation; The George L. Shields Foundation, Inc.; the Maval Foundation, and Paul and Lisa Wiggan.

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**Chicago Symphony Orchestra: [cso.org](https://www.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 distinguished 10th music director from 2010 until 2023, became Music Director Emeritus for Life at the beginning of the 2023/24 Season. Daniil Trifonov is the CSO Artist-in-Residence for the 2024/25 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 nationally, and since 1892, has made 64 international tours, performing in 29 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](http://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. 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.