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Press Contact:
[Hannah Sundwall](#)
312-294-3083

CSO FOR KIDS OFFERS THREE FAMILY MATINEE PROGRAMS AT SYMPHONY CENTER FOR THE 2023/24 SEASON BEGINNING IN NOVEMBER

Schools Invited to Share in CSO for Kids Experience with Free Transportation for CPS Schools

CHICAGO — The Chicago Symphony Orchestra's CSO for Kids: Family Matinees series is perfect for families with children ages 5-12. These hour-long performances take place in historic Orchestra Hall featuring fun and engaging kid-friendly programs performed by members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Additionally, parents and caregivers can access [online resources](#) to help prepare for the performance, including learning guides and custom playlists. The three programs presented this season are Global Perspectives ([November 4](#)), Carnival of the Animals ([February 17, 2024](#)) and Sound Waves ([May 11, 2024](#)) with two performances each day at 11:00 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. Tickets and more information for CSO for Kids concerts at Symphony Center are available at [cso.org](#).

Global Perspectives ([November 4](#))

Together with Spanish-American guest conductor and former Dudamel Fellow, François López-Ferrer, members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra embark on a musical journey around the world. Experience how orchestral music celebrates the extraordinary diversity of people, cultures and places across the globe, from Europe to the Americas, Asia, Africa, Australia and beyond!

Carnival of the Animals ([February 17, 2024](#))

Former CSO Solti Conducting Apprentice Lina González-Granados leads members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in Saint-Saëns' humorous and imaginative masterpiece, *The Carnival of the Animals*. Guided by narration from master storyteller Charlotte Blake Alston, the orchestra depicts nature's most amazing creatures — from the mighty elephant to the majestic swan.

Sound Waves ([May 11, 2024](#))

Join distinguished guest conductor Tania Miller and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra for a concert that dives into the wonder and symbolism of water. Flow through majestic rivers, stormy seas and galactic ice as the musicians use sound to convey the source of life.

CSO for Kids School Concerts: Elementary School Concerts and Youth Concerts

Student groups grades K-5 are invited to participate in Friday performances of CSO for Kids. Global Perspectives will be performed for students on Friday, November 3; Carnival of the Animals on Friday, February 16, 2024, and Sound Waves on Friday, May 10, 2024. School concerts occur each date at 10:15 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

In addition to these Elementary School Concerts, a special Youth Concert, [Empowered by Music](#), will be offered to students grades 6-12 with one program on Wednesday, May 8, 2024 (10:15 a.m.), and two programs on Thursday, May 9, 2024 (10:15 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.). Guest conductor Lidiya Yankovskaya leads the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in a program that demonstrates how artists throughout history have been empowered by collaboration and how we can all fulfill our dreams with support from the people around us. The program also features violinist Esme Arias Kim, the winner of the 2023 Crain-Maling CSO Young Artists Competition, as a soloist with the CSO.

Free tickets and transportation are provided to CPS schools attending these performances. To complete a school group reservation form online, visit [cso.org](#), or call the Education Concerts Hotline at [312-294-3076](#) during regular business hours for more information.

Patron Information

Tickets for Saturday performances of CSO for Kids performances start at \$15 per performance. Patron Services representatives are available to assist with ticket purchases by web chat at [cso.org](#) or by calling [312-294-3000](#), Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

All artists and programs are subject to change.

Support for Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association programming for children and families is provided by Abbott Fund, John D. and Leslie Henner Burns, John Hart and Carol Prins, JPMorgan Chase & Co., Kinder Morgan, PNC, Courtney Shea, Megan and Steve Shebik, Michael and Linda Simon, the Walter and Caroline Sueske Charitable Trust and an anonymous family foundation.

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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. Riccardo Muti, the Orchestra's distinguished 10th music director from 2010 until 2023, was recently named Music Director Emeritus for Life beginning with the 2023/24 Season.

Jessie Montgomery is Mead Composer-in-Residence, and Hilary Hahn is CSO Artist-in-Residence.

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 63 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. 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 64 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.