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CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES PROGRAMMING ANNOUNCED FOR 2026/27 SEASON

CHICAGO — The Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association (CSOA) has unveiled the full lineup for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's (CSO) 2026/27 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 and UChicago Presents.

"We are thrilled to share this season of CSO Chamber Music with audiences across Chicago," said Cristina Rocca, Vice President of Artistic Planning. "These concerts offer an extraordinary opportunity to experience the artistry of CSO musicians in intimate settings, and we are grateful to collaborate with valued partners such as UChicago Presents, the Driehaus Museum, Pritzker Military Museum and Library and the Beverly Arts Center to bring this music to more listeners throughout the city."

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/csochamber.

CSO Chamber Music at Symphony Center

CSO Chamber Music: Trillium Ensemble (October 20)

The members of the Trillium Ensemble — Baird Dodge, Principal Second Violin; Karen Basrak, cello, and Daniel Schlosberg, piano — bring chamber music at its most intimate and expressive. Haydn's elegant Piano Trio opens the evening, showcasing the wit and warmth of the composer's enduring works. Schubert's luminous *Notturmo* follows, unfolding as a serene meditation, its soaring melody suspended over gently pulsing piano chords in music of extraordinary stillness and beauty. The program culminates with Tchaikovsky's Piano Trio, an emotional tour de force that journeys from whispered tenderness to soaring passion. Rich in drama, this is chamber music that invites you to lean in and lose yourself in the moment.

CSO Chamber Music: South Loop Chamber (February 9, 2027)

South Loop Chamber — Danny Yehun Jin, Assistant Principal Second Violin; So Young Bae, violin; Wei-Ting Kuo, viola; Sunghee Choi, viola, and Daniel Katz, cello — features Beethoven's String Quintet in C Minor, one of his earliest Viennese successes. The work began as a bold and ambitious piano trio that he later reimagined for strings, transforming it into a work of even greater richness and dramatic power. Brahms' String Quintet No. 2 reflects a lifetime of craftsmanship by combining rhythmic vibrancy, bittersweet lyricism and a spirited finale inspired by the Hungarian music he cherished throughout his life.

CSO Chamber Music: CSO Brass Quintet (May 11, 2027)

Featuring Esteban Batallán, Principal Trumpet; John Hagstrom, trumpet; David Griffin, horn; Michael Mulcahy, trombone, and Gene Pokorny, Principal Tuba, the CSO Brass Quintet performs music by J.S. Bach, Alvin Etler, Don La Fosse and Aaron Copland in a program that explores the evolution of the brass quintet across more than two centuries of music. Included are selections from *Rodeo* and *Our Town*, two works that helped shape Copland's enduring portrait of American life, from the energy of the frontier to the rhythms of small-town America.

CSO Chamber Music in the Community**Audire Music at Epiphany Center for the Arts** (December 6)

Audire Music — Rong-Yan Tan, violin; Jasmine Lin, violin; Youming Chen, viola; Olivia Jakyoung Huh, cello, and Alexander Horton, Assistant Principal Bass — showcases two masters of musical storytelling in a program filled with memorable melodies, lively musical exchanges and irresistible charm. Beethoven's String Quartet No. 2 earned its nickname, the *Compliments* Quartet, for its gracious, lighthearted spirit. Dvořák's String Quintet No. 2 expands the traditional quartet with the addition of a double bass, adding richness and depth to the ensemble's sound. Written during the composer's rise to international prominence, the quintet displays the melodic ingenuity that would become a hallmark of Dvořák's music.

Meridian Quartet at North Park University (April 25, 2027)

Featuring Cornelius Chiu, violin; Youngji Kim, violin; Paolo Dara, viola, and Daniel Katz, cello, the Meridian Quartet brings together three distinctive compositional voices in this compelling program. Schubert's *Quartettsatz* survives as a single completed movement, yet it is widely regarded for revealing the emotional intensity and dramatic contrasts that would define his later chamber music. Shostakovich's 10th Quartet juxtaposes moments of quiet lyricism with some of the most ferocious music he ever composed. Completing the program is Sibelius' *Voces Intimae* ("Inner Voices"), the only string quartet from his artistic maturity. Through striking contrasts and moments of intimate reflection, the work offers a rare glimpse into the composer's inner world.

Tourte String Quartet at South Shore Cultural Center (June 13, 2027)

The members of the Tourte String Quartet — David Taylor, Assistant Concertmaster; Hermine Gagné, violin; Danny Lai, viola, and Richard Hirschl, cello — explore how the string quartet became a powerful medium for personal expression in the hands of both Smetana and Beethoven. In String Quartet No. 1, *From My Life*, Smetana traces his artistic ambitions, loves

and hardships, including the hearing loss that would eventually leave him deaf. Beethoven's String Quartet No. 7, the first of the celebrated Razumovsky Quartets, similarly broke new ground, expanding the scope and expressive possibilities of the genre.

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, September 29 and Tuesday, November 3; both concerts begin at 6:30 p.m. Visit driehausmuseum.org/programs for tickets and information.

CSO Chamber Music at the University of Chicago

CSO Chamber Music returns to UChicago Presents 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 11 at 3:00 p.m.](#), [Friday, February 26, 2027, at 7:30 p.m.](#), and [Sunday, April 11, 2027, at 3:00 p.m.](#) Information regarding 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 2026/27 Season.

Tickets for individual CSO Chamber Music concerts at Symphony Center go on sale Wednesday, August 5, 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. Jean-Yves Thibaudet is the CSO artist-in-residence for the 2026/27 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 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 Negaunee Music Institute. The [Chicago Symphony Chorus](#), founded by Margaret Hillis in 1957, is the country's largest professional chorus, and Donald Palumbo currently serves as director. Founded by second music director Frederick Stock during the 1919/20 Season, the [Civic Orchestra of Chicago](#) trains the next generation of musicians with Ken-David Masur as its principal conductor. [Symphony Center Presents](#) features guest artists and ensembles across an expansive array of genres, including classical, jazz, global 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 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.