

For Immediate Release:
October 8, 2024

Press Contact:
[Hannah Sundwall](#)
312-294-3092

GRAMMY AND TONY AWARD WINNER HEATHER HEADLEY TO PERFORM WITH THE CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ON JUNE 3

Concert Tickets Go On Sale on Thursday, October 10

CHICAGO — The Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association (CSOA) announced today that Grammy and Tony Award winner Heather Headley will perform with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Steven Reineke, on Tuesday, June 3, 2025. Headley will join the CSO to perform selections from her Broadway career, which spans more than 25 years.

The concert is in support of the CSOA's 34th Annual Corporate Night and benefits the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association's artistic, educational and community engagement programs in Chicago and across the globe. The League of the CSOA is offering a ticket package for \$295 per person that includes preconcert drinks and bites and prime seating at the concert. To make a ticket package reservation, visit cso.org/corporatenight. Concert tickets start at \$59 and go on sale to the public October 10 at cso.org or by calling [312-294-3000](tel:312-294-3000).

About Heather Headley

Headley is a Grammy and Tony Award winner, in a multifaceted career. In 1997, Headley won the role of Nala in the original Broadway cast of Elton John and Tim Rice's Tony Award-winning hit musical *The Lion King*. While still in *The Lion King*, she was asked to audition for the title role in the writing duo's next Broadway venture together, Elton John and Tim Rice's *Aida*. Her portrayal of the Nubian princess, Aida, won her the praise of critics and the prestigious Tony Award for Best Actress in a Musical. In addition to other awards, Headley also received the coveted Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Actress in a Musical for her role in *Aida*. In 2012, Headley made a triumphant return to the stage, starring in *The Bodyguard* in London's West End, where she gained praise from critics and a new fan base overseas.

Headley continued her musical success on the pop charts with her 2002 debut album on RCA Records, *This Is Who I Am*, which featured productions by several top-flight producers. Two songs, “He Is” and the album track “I Wish I Wasn’t,” both emerged as Top 5 R&B and Dance chart hits. Headley earned numerous accolades for *This Is Who I Am*, including Grammy Award nominations for Best New Artist and Best Female R&B Vocal Performance. She returned in January 2006 with *In My Mind*, her long-awaited second solo album. The opening title tune single became Headley’s first #1 hit, topping the Dance and R&B charts. In 2009, Headley released *Audience of One*, for which she won the Grammy Award for Best Contemporary R&B Gospel Album.

In 2016, Headley returned to Broadway, starring in the Tony Award-winning *The Color Purple* in the role of Shug Avery. In 2021, she won critics’ praise for her role of the Witch in the New York City Center’s production of *Into the Woods*. Headley can currently be seen as a series regular on the Netflix series *Sweet Magnolias*.

About Steven Reineke

Steven Reineke has proved himself as one of North America’s leading conductors of popular music and is in his second decade as Music Director of The New York Pops at Carnegie Hall. Additionally, he is Principal Pops Conductor of the National Symphony Orchestra at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and Principal Pops Conductor of the Houston and Toronto Symphony Orchestras. Reineke is a frequent guest conductor with The Philadelphia Orchestra, and his extensive North American conducting appearances include Dallas, Detroit and the Ravinia Festival. Previous Reineke-led performances at Symphony Center include Kelli O’Hara Sings Broadway and Cody Fry with the CSO. As the creator of more than 100 orchestral arrangements for the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra, Reineke’s work has been performed worldwide and can be heard on numerous Cincinnati Pops Orchestra recordings on the Telarc label.

Patron Information

Tickets for this performance go on sale to the general public on Thursday, October 10 at 10:00 a.m. Patron Services representatives are available to assist with ticket purchases by web chat at [cso.org](https://www.cso.org) 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.

Artists, programs and ticket prices are subject to change.

#

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](https://www.cso.org/radio). Launched in 2007, [CSO Resound](https://www.cso.org/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](https://www.cso.org/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](https://www.cso.org/civic-orchestra-of-chicago) is a training ensemble for emerging professionals with Ken-David Masur serving as its principal conductor. [Symphony Center Presents](https://www.cso.org/symphony-center-presents) features guest artists and ensembles across an expansive array of genres, including classical, jazz, world and contemporary. The [Negaunee Music Institute](https://www.cso.org/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.