## KIDSBOOK

CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

# Beethoven Celebration

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CSO'S CONCERT SERIES FOR CHILDREN AND BEETHOVEN'S 250TH BIRTHDAY

**CSO SCHOOL CONCERTS**November 22, 2019 • 10:15 & 12:00

CSO FAMILY MATINEES
November 23, 2019 • 11:00 & 12:45



## THE ONE, THE ONLY,

Ludwig van Beethoven is famous. His music is famous (Ba-Ba-Ba-BUMMMM!). His image is famous. Even his eardrums are famous! In fact, Beethoven is so famous, that we still celebrate his birthday. Did you know he would have turned 250 years old in 2020? ...and you thought your grandpa was old?!

Beethoven wrote music that expressed political revolutions, pushed the technical limits of musicians and their instruments and celebrated the extremes of human emotion. Many scholars believe that the *Ode to Joy* from his Symphony no. 9 is the most famous melody in the history of the world! ...and you thought Let It Go was a catchy tune?!

Beethoven was a musical genius. Not only did he write symphonies, he changed the symphony.

> 66 I would rather write 10,000 notes than a single letter of the alphabet. 99

> > **LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN**

#### **PERFORMERS**

Members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Erina Yashima conductor Yerin Yang piano Winner of the 2018 Crain-Maling Foundation CSO Young Artists Competition Brenda Fineberg writer Jen Ellison director

#### **ALL-BEETHOVEN PROGRAM** INCLUDES SELECTIONS FROM:

Symphony No. 5 in C Minor Symphony No. 1 in C Major Piano Concerto No. 3 in C Minor Symphony No. 3 in E-flat Major Symphony No. 6 in F Major Symphony No. 9 in D Minor

## LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN

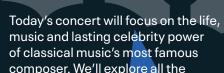
Ludwig van Beethoven was born in Bonn, Germany in 1770. As a boy, he was known as a gifted pianist and took lessons from his father before moving to Vienna in his early twenties, where he would remain for the rest of his life. At nearly the age of thirty, Beethoven realized that he was losing his hearing. At first he was scared and sad about his deafness, but then he decided to turn his disability into a source of strength. He looked inside himself for inspiration and worked extra hard to write groundbreaking music.

<sup>66</sup>To play a wrong note is insignificant; to play without passion is inexcusable."

"V is for Victory!" In Morse code, "V" is dot-dot-dot-dash, or three short clicks and one Iona, Durina WWII, the Allies equated it with the opening of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony.

The first piece on the concert, Symphony no. 5, is Beethoven's most famous symphony. People around the world recognize these opening notes: Ba-Ba-BummmM! Some say these notes symbolize the hand of fate knocking at the door, while others say these notes imitate the song of the yellowhammer sparrow. Whatever the inspiration, this mind-blowing musical opening, which represents victory over hardship, proves that Beethoven's got talent!

Beethoven's teacher, Franz Joseph Haydn, was known as the "Father of the Symphony" and influenced his young student's early work. In his Symphony no. 1, Beethoven proved that he understood the rules of the Classical style, but there were many ways he added his own, creative touch. It was like a comfortable pair of **sneakers** in a fresh new color.



composer. We'll explore all the many ways that ...

BEETHOVEN'S

Did you know that the piano grew up with Beethoven?

When Beethoven began writing music for piano, it only had 48 keys, but by the end of his life, the piano was like today's instrument with 88 keys. The growth of the piano gave it more power and range, and Beethoven loved demonstrating what this instrument could do!

Piano Concerto no. 3 pays tribute to composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, who also wrote a

piano concerto in C minor. While this piece is a compliment to Mozart, Beethoven's concerto

takes the next step. Inspired by Mozart's example, Beethoven allows the soloist to show off his

was his last composition for full orchestra. Even though he was completely deaf when it was written, Beethoven experimented with all sorts of musical ideas. For example, unusual instruments are featured in the ensemble as well as some new and complex rhythms.

Beethoven's Ninth Symphony

In the second movement of this symphony, he gives the timpani a chance to have a real voice in the music, and it sets up a bit of a battle between the different instruments of the orchestra.

The fourth movement of this symphony features the "Ode to Joy" chorus, which will be sung by everyone in the audience! As the orchestra performs, and you sing, think about the difficulty Beethoven had to overcome to compose music without the ability of hearing.

If it feels like no one hears you, listen to your inner voice. Search inside yourself, be brave, and make a new creative choice. Music moves us; be inspired by all those who've come before. Speak your truth and share with others; that's what music was made for!

or her talents in the cadenza, when the rest of the orchestra stops playing.

By the time that Beethoven composed his Symphony no. 3, he had begun to lose his hearing. The second movement is a funeral march, and Beethoven wrote music that expressed intense, personal feelings like sadness and grief. It was a bold new way of composing a symphony!

**#LVB** 

It is impossible to know if he was trying to express his own feelings of loss, but it's pretty amazing that the music can still make us feel that way today.

66 Many assert that every minor piece must end in the minor. Nego!... Joy follows sorrow, sunshine-rain<sup>99</sup>

**LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN** 



As if you needed reminding,

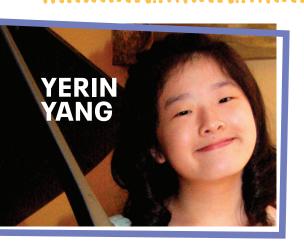
Isn't it amazing how he found bold and innovative ways to share his life with the world?

## MEET THE CONDUCTOR

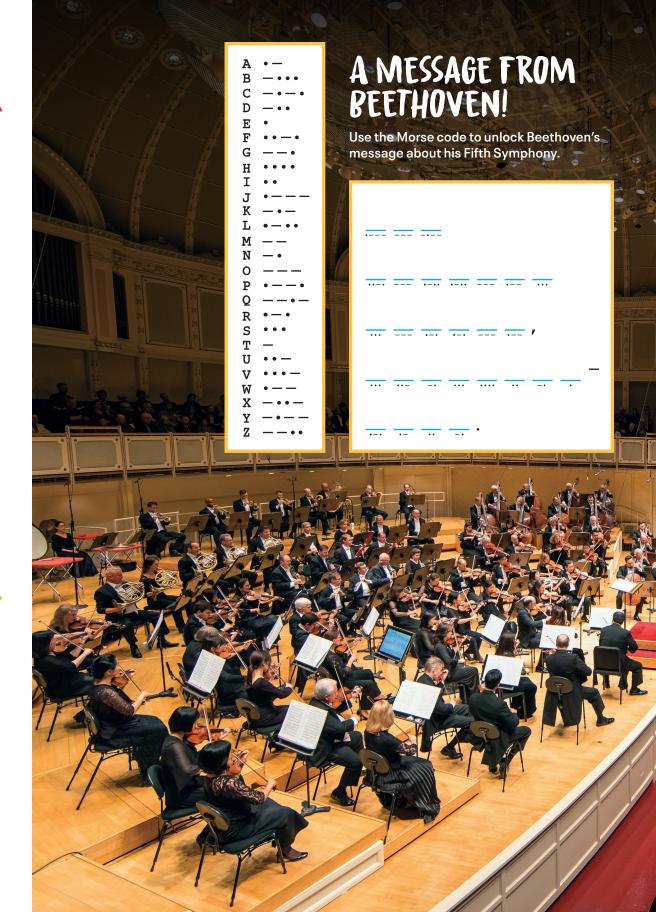


- German-born conductor Erina Yashima was the 2015 winner of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's Sir Georg Solti Conducting Competition.
- As Solti Conducting Apprentice, Yashima assisted CSO Zell Music Director Riccardo Muti as well as guest conductors, such as Esa-Pekka Salonen, and has collaborated with musicians of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.
- In September 2019, she was appointed assistant conductor to the Philadelphia Orchestra.
- Yashima holds a diploma in piano performance and studied conducting in Freiburg and Vienna. She completed her studies at the Hanns Eisler School of Music Berlin under Christian Ehwald and Hans-Dieter Baum.

## MEET THE GUEST ARTIST



Yerin Yang started studying music at age five. An avid fan of Liszt, Ravel and Chopin, Yerin hopes to become a concert pianist like her idols, Daniil Trifonov and Evgeny Kissin. She made her Symphony Center debut on March 3, 2018, winning the Crain-Maling Foundation CSO Young Artists Competition with her performance of the Grieg Piano Concerto. In her free time, she enjoys swimming, playing volleyball, reading and watching TV. Yerin would like to travel to Europe to visit the great sites of history, music, elegance, and—of course—to eat pineapple gelato.



### INSTRUMENTS OF THE ORCHESTRA

**THE STRING FAMILY** includes violin, viola, cello, bass and harp. These instruments are made of wood and strings and are played by vibrating the strings using a bow, or plucking or striking the strings with the fingers.



THE WOODWIND FAMILY includes flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon and saxophone. These instruments all have the same basic shape: a long tube with a mouthpiece at one end. The flute is played by blowing across a mouthpiece to create a vibration. Oboe, clarinet, bassoon and saxophone are all played by blowing air into a single or double reed attached to the mouthpiece, creating a vibration that results in sound.

THE BRASS FAMILY includes horn, trumpet, trombone, euphonium and tuba. Brass instruments make a sound when the players vibrate their lips inside a mouthpiece, which is fitted into the instrument. The players can change pitch on a trumpet, horn or tuba by pressing on valves. Trombone players change pitch by moving the slide back and forth.



THE PERCUSSION FAMILY includes snare drum, bass drum, gong, triangle, xylophone, timpani and piano, among many others. Percussion instruments are struck, scraped or shaken.



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Bassoon