



CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION
RICCARDO MUTI MUSIC DIRECTOR

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RICCARDO MUTI NAMED MUSIC DIRECTOR EMERITUS FOR LIFE BY CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION

Appointment To Begin in 2023/24 Season with Six Weeks of Concerts with the CSO in Chicago, New York and on tour in Europe

CHICAGO — The Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association (CSOA) has announced that Riccardo Muti, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's prominent 10th Music Director, has been named Music Director Emeritus for Life beginning in the 2023/24 season. Muti, who is currently in Chicago leading concerts that culminate his tenure as Music Director after 13 seasons of celebrated artistic partnership, will assume the new role in September and conduct two weeks of concerts in Chicago to open the CSO's 133rd season, followed by two concerts in New York's Carnegie Hall to open their season on October 4 and 5. Muti will rejoin the Orchestra in January 2024 for three weeks of concerts during its first European Tour since 2020, with performances already announced in Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg, Austria and Italy. In the new role, Muti will maintain a close connection with the Orchestra with an additional six weeks of concerts already planned for the 2024/25 season – four in Chicago and two in tour performances to be announced – with annual weeks of concerts with the CSO in discussion for subsequent seasons.

Muti was recognized with the new artistic title during an onstage ceremony on June 23 at Orchestra Hall following the first of three performances of Beethoven's *Missa solennis* which mark his final subscription concerts as Music Director.

"I am honored to stay with the musicians of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra as their Music Director Emeritus for Life," said Riccardo Muti. "Our artistic collaboration has been one of the great joys of my life and created deep bonds of friendship across my years in Chicago. I look forward to returning regularly to share great music with audiences in the city and on tour."

"The inspired leadership and musicianship of Riccardo Muti has broadened worldwide acclaim for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra during his distinguished tenure," said CSOA Board Chair

Mary Louise Gorno. “We express our endless gratitude to Maestro Muti for accepting this important role that will keep him close to the musicians of the Orchestra and extend a golden era of music making.”

CSOA President Jeff Alexander noted “Riccardo Muti has conducted the Orchestra in transformative performances in Chicago, across the country and around the world, creating musical experiences for audiences who will be forever changed. We are delighted that he has accepted our invitation to continue leading CSO concerts and maintaining artistic continuity and excellence for the musicians during this new chapter for the Orchestra.”

Chicago Symphony Orchestra Members’ Committee Chair James Smelser added, “The Musicians of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra are extremely fortunate to have had Maestro Muti as our Music Director these past 13 seasons, and we look forward to continuing our wonderful music-making experiences with him as our Music Director Emeritus for Life. We are grateful to Maestro Muti for accepting this ongoing role to make music with us at the highest and most inspired level, and we will continue to treasure each and every concert.”

Programming in the 2023/24 Season featuring Riccardo Muti and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra has been announced with more information available at [csso.org](https://www.csso.org).

The CSO’s music director position is endowed in perpetuity by a generous gift from the Zell Family Foundation.

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Chicago Symphony Orchestra: [csso.org](https://www.csso.org)

Founded by Theodore Thomas in 1891, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra is consistently hailed as one of the greatest orchestras in the world. Since 2010, the pre-eminent conductor Riccardo Muti has served as its 10th music director. Jessie Montgomery is Mead Composer-in-Residence, and Hilary Hahn is CSO Artist-in-Residence.

From baroque through contemporary music, the CSO commands a vast repertoire. Its renowned musicians annually perform more than 150 concerts, most at Symphony Center in Chicago and, each summer, at the suburban Ravinia Festival. They regularly tour nationally and internationally. Since 1892, the CSO has made 63 international tours, performing in 29 countries on five continents.

People around the globe listen to weekly radio broadcasts of CSO concerts and recordings on the WFMT radio network and online at [csso.org/radio](https://www.csso.org/radio). Recordings by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Chorus have earned 64 Grammy Awards from the Recording Academy. Two Grammys were awarded in 2011 for Muti’s recording with the CSO and Chorus of Verdi’s *Messa da Requiem* (Muti’s first of eleven releases with the CSO to date). Find details on these and many other CSO recordings at [csso.org/resound](https://www.csso.org/resound).

The CSO is part of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association, which also includes the Chicago Symphony Chorus and the Civic Orchestra of Chicago (Ken-David Masur, Principal Conductor), a training ensemble for emerging professionals. Through its prestigious Symphony Center Presents series, the CSOA presents guest artists and ensembles from a variety of genres — classical, jazz, world and contemporary.

The Negaunee Music Institute at the CSO offers community and education programs that annually engage more than 200,000 people of diverse ages and backgrounds. Through the Institute and other

activities, including a free annual concert led by Muti, the CSO is committed to using the power of music to create connections and build community.

The CSO 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.