RICCARDO MUTI AND THE CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PERFORM “CHELSEA DAGGER” GOAL SONG IN SHOW OF SUPPORT FOR THE CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS

CHICAGO—Dressed in a personalized #19 Blackhawks sweater, Riccardo Muti, the eminent music director of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra (CSO), today led the musicians of the world-renowned orchestra as they showed their support of the Chicago Blackhawks’ pursuit of another Stanley Cup by performing a classically inspired rendition of “Chelsea Dagger,” the song traditionally played at the United Center after every Blackhawks’ goal.

Leading the Orchestra much like the Blackhawks’ #19, Jonathan Toews, leads his team on ice, Muti and the CSO succeeded in giving the song nuances not heard in the original version. The performance, which was recorded and will be given to the team, preceded today’s rehearsal of Verdi’s Four Sacred Pieces in preparation for upcoming concerts on June 20 through 23 at Symphony Center.

“The CSO musicians and I are happy to honor and support another home team, the Chicago Blackhawks, with our music,” said Muti. “They are a world-class hockey team, and we hope this recording demonstrates our support of them and their desire to bring the Stanley Cup back to this great city. As I keep hearing and seeing everywhere in Chicago, ‘Go Hawks!’”

Watch the Video of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Performing the Blackhawks’ Goal Song (http://bit.ly/HawksCSO)

A musical force in Chicago and around the world, the CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA has been consistently hailed as one of the finest international orchestras since its founding in 1891. Riccardo Muti, one of the world’s most celebrated maestros, began his tenure as the 10th music director of the CSO in September 2010, and the eminent composer-conductor Pierre Boulez continues his service as Helen Regenstein Conductor Emeritus. In collaboration with renowned conductors and guest artists on the international music scene, the CSO performs well over 150 concerts each year at its home, Symphony Center, and in summer residency at the Ravinia Festival. Through the Institute for Learning, Access and Training, which leads the organization’s Citizen Musician initiative, the CSO engages more than 200,000 people each year through the Institute’s more than 20 ongoing programs, as well as other special events and projects. Music lovers outside Chicago enjoy the sounds of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra not only through its Chicago Symphony Orchestra Radio Broadcast Series and best-selling recordings on its acclaimed in-house record label, CSO Resound, but also through sold-out tour performances in the United States and around the globe. Since 1971, the CSO has undertaken 39 overseas tours, most recently visiting Asia in January and February 2013. For more information, visit cso.org.