



ICO Awards Committee

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Awards History of the Illinois Council of Orchestras

Orchestra of the Year (Professional, 2001 to present) (Separate awards for professional and community orchestras began in 2000)

| | |
|------|--|
| 2016 | Elgin Symphony Orchestra |
| 2015 | Quad City Symphony Orchestra |
| 2014 | Chicago Arts Orchestra |
| 2013 | Peoria Symphony Orchestra |
| 2012 | No award |
| 2011 | Heartland Festival Orchestra |
| 2010 | Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra |
| 2009 | New Philharmonic |
| 2008 | Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra |
| 2007 | Rockford Symphony Orchestra |
| 2006 | Lake Forest Symphony Orchestra |
| 2005 | Elgin Symphony Orchestra |
| 2004 | No award |
| 2003 | Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra |
| 2002 | Symphony II |
| 2001 | Grant Park Symphony Orchestra and Chorus |
| 2000 | Park Ridge Civic Orchestra |
| 1999 | Elgin Symphony Orchestra |
| 1998 | Knox-Galesburg Symphony Orchestra |
| 1997 | Northbrook Symphony Orchestra |
| 1996 | Evanston Symphony Orchestra |
| 1995 | Music of the Baroque |
| 1994 | Lake Forest Symphony Orchestra |
| 1993 | Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra |
| 1992 | Rockford Symphony Orchestra |
| 1991 | Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra |
| 1990 | Chicago Symphony Orchestra (CSO Centennial Year) |
| 1989 | Chicago Chamber Orchestra |
| 1988 | Elgin Symphony Orchestra |
| 1987 | Peoria Symphony Orchestra |
| 1986 | Knox-Galesburg Symphony Orchestra |
| 1985 | Springfield Symphony Orchestra |
| 1984 | Grant Park Symphony Orchestra |
| 1983 | Springfield Symphony Orchestra |
| 1982 | Danville Symphony Orchestra |
| 1981 | Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra |
| 1980 | Belleville Philharmonic Society |

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Community Orchestra of the Year

| | |
|------|---|
| 2016 | Lakeview Orchestra |
| 2015 | Knox-Galesburg Symphony Orchestra |
| 2014 | No award |
| 2013 | DuPage Symphony Orchestra |
| 2012 | Lake Shore Symphony Orchestra |
| 2011 | The Symphony of Oak Park & River Forest |
| 2010 | Evanston Symphony Orchestra |
| 2009 | Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra |
| 2008 | Knox-Galesburg Symphony Orchestra |
| 2007 | DuPage Symphony Orchestra |
| 2006 | Northbrook Symphony Orchestra |
| 2005 | Northwest Symphony Orchestra |
| 2004 | The Symphony of Oak Park & River Forest |
| 2003 | Evanston Symphony Orchestra |
| 2002 | Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra |
| 2001 | Southern Illinois Symphony Orchestra |
| 2000 | North Shore Chamber Orchestra |

Youth Orchestra of the Year

| | |
|------|---------------------------------------|
| 2016 | Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra |
| 2015 | No award |
| 2014 | No award |
| 2013 | No award |
| 2012 | No award |
| 2011 | McHenry County Youth Orchestras |
| 2010 | Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras |
| 2009 | Midwest Young Artists |
| 2008 | Schaumburg Youth Orchestra |
| 2007 | Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra |
| 2006 | West Suburban Youth Orchestra |
| 2005 | No award |
| 2004 | Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra |
| 2003 | Midwest Young Artists |
| 2002 | Metropolis Youth Symphony |
| 2001 | Schaumburg Youth Orchestra |
| 2000 | Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra |
| 1999 | East Central Illinois Youth Orchestra |
| 1998 | Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra |
| 1997 | Midwest Young Artists |
| 1996 | No award |
| 1995 | McHenry County Youth Orchestra |

Chamber Ensemble of the Year

| | |
|------|-------------------------------|
| 2016 | No award |
| 2015 | No award |
| 2014 | No award |
| 2013 | No award |
| 2012 | No award |
| 2011 | Mendelssohn Chamber Orchestra |

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| | |
|------|---|
| 2010 | No award |
| 2009 | No award (please refer to “Special Awards” below) |
| 2008 | No award |
| 2007 | Chicago Chamber Musicians |
| 2006 | No award |
| 2005 | Midwest Young Artists |
| 2004 | Salt Creek Sinfonietta |
| 2003 | No award |
| 2002 | Baroque Artists of Champaign-Urbana |
| 2001 | Zion Chamber Orchestra |
| 2000 | Lincolnwood Chamber Orchestra |
| 1999 | Midwest Young Artists |
| 1998 | The Prairie Ensemble |
| 1997 | McHenry County Youth Orchestra |
| 1996 | No award |
| 1995 | Woodstock Mozart Festival |

Conductor of the Year (Professional and Community/Small Orchestra categories since 2004)

| | |
|------|---|
| 2016 | Gregory Hughes, Lakeview Orchestra (community orchestra) |
| 2016 | Steven Larsen, Rockford Symphony Orchestra (professional orchestra) |
| 2015 | Russell Vinick, Lake Shore Symphony Orchestra (community orchestra) |
| 2015 | Andrew Grams, Elgin Symphony Orchestra (professional orchestra) |
| 2014 | Lawrence Eckerling, Evanston Symphony Orchestra (community orchestra) |
| 2014 | Joseph Malmquist, Schaumburg Youth Orchestra (youth orchestra) |
| 2013 | Bruce Briney, Quincy Symphony Orchestra (community orchestra) |
| 2013 | No award (professional orchestra) |
| 2012 | Alan Heatherington, Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra and Lake Forest Symphony Orchestra (professional orchestra) |
| 2012 | Stephen Alltop, Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra (community orchestra) |
| 2011 | David Commanday, Heartland Festival Orchestra (professional orchestra) |
| 2011 | Jay Kenneth Friedman, The Symphony of Oak Park & River Forest (community orchestra) |
| 2010 | Russell Vinick, Lake Shore Symphony Orchestra (small orchestra) |
| 2010 | Bruce Polay, Knox-Galesburg Symphony (professional orchestra) |
| 2009 | Robert Hanson, Elgin Symphony Orchestra (professional orchestra) |
| 2009 | Linc Smelser, Kishwaukee Symphony (small orchestra category) |
| 2008 | Randal Swiggum, Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra (small orchestra) |
| 2007 | Lawrence Eckerling, Evanston Symphony Orchestra (small orchestra) |
| 2006 | Steven Larsen, Rockford Symphony Orchestra (professional orchestra) |
| 2006 | Paul Vermel, Northwest Symphony Orchestra (small orchestra) |
| 2005 | Alan Heatherington, Lake Forest Symphony Orchestra and Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra (professional orchestra) |
| 2005 | Edward Benyas, Chicago Chamber Orchestra and Southern Illinois Symphony Orchestra (small orchestra) |
| 2004 | Harold Bauer, New Philharmonic (professional orchestra) |
| 2004 | Bruce Polay, Knox-Galesburg Symphony (small orchestra) |
| 2003 | Barbara Schubert, DuPage Symphony Orchestra |
| 2002 | Edgar Muenzer, Park Ridge Civic Orchestra |
| 2001 | Robert Hanson, Elgin Symphony Orchestra, and Allan Dennis, Midwest Young Artists |
| 2000 | Jay Friedman, The Symphony of Oak Park & River Forest |
| 1999 | Steven Larsen, Rockford Symphony Orchestra |
| 1998 | Samuel Magad, Northbrook Symphony Orchestra |

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- 1997 Bruce Polay, Knox-Galesburg Symphony Orchestra
- 1996 No award
- 1995 Carmon DeLeone, Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra

College/University Conductor of the Year

- 2016 No award
- 2015 No award
- 2014 No award
- 2013 Donald Schleicher, Music Director & Conductor
University of Illinois Symphony Orchestra
- 2012 No award
- 2011 Michael Luxner, Music Director & Conductor
Millikin-Decatur Symphony Orchestra

Board President of the Year

- 2016 No award
- 2015 Thomas Sharp, Midwest Young Artists
- 2014 No award
- 2013 David J. Leehey, The Symphony of Oak Park & River Forest
- 2012 Kip Pope, Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra
- 2011 No award
- 2010 John Schladweiler, Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras
- 2009 Penelope Sachs, Evanston Symphony Orchestra
- 2008 No award
- 2007 Diane Macewicz, Northwest Symphony Orchestra
- 2006 Louise Sullivan, Elgin Symphony Orchestra
- 2005 Robert B. Clark, Knox-Galesburg Symphony Orchestra
- 2004 Kelly Brest van Kempen, Evanston Symphony Orchestra
- 2003 Gene Bahls, Kankakee Valley Symphony
- 2002 John Totten, Elgin Symphony Orchestra

Executive Director or General Manager of the Year

- 2016 Laura Evancho, Executive Director, Heartland Festival Orchestra
- 2015 No award
- 2014 Susan Lape, Executive Director, Lake Forest Symphony Association
- 2013 Jeffrey Farlow-Cornell, Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra
- 2012 David Ellis, Evanston Symphony Orchestra
- 2011 No award
- 2010 No award
- 2009 Brian Ritter, Rockford Symphony Orchestra
- 2008 Jane Polett, Quincy Symphony Orchestra
- 2007 Pearl Strickland, Executive Director, Knox-Galesburg Symphony
- 2006 Michael Pastreich, Executive Director, Elgin Symphony Orchestra
- 2005 No award
- 2004 Beth Hoover Gavriel, The Symphony of Oak Park & River Forest
- 2003 Justine Burlson, Senior Suburban Orchestra
- 2002 No award
- 2001 Lynn Klingler, Classical Symphony Orchestra
- 2000 Pearl Strickland, Knox-Galesburg Symphony
- 1999 J. C. Wacholz, Northbrook Symphony Orchestra
- 1998 Jeannette Kreston, Chicago Youth Symphony Orchest

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1997 Kevin Hagen, Illinois Symphony Orchestra

Volunteer of the Year

2016 Taylor Scott, Lakeview Orchestra
 2015 Sarah Flax, Evanston Symphony Orchestra
 2014 Richard & Dorothy DuSold, Park Ridge Civic Orchestra
 2013 David Moller, Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra
 2012 Kenneth Bade, Kankakee Valley Symphony Orchestra
 2011 No award
 2010 No award
 2009 Joyce McFarland Dlugopolski, Elgin Symphony Orchestra
 2008 Walter Wolodkin, Northwest Symphony Orchestra
 2007 No award
 2006 Julie Westbrook, Evanston Symphony Orchestra
 2005 Gilbert R. Demange, Salt Creek Sinfonietta
 2004 Rita Gentry, Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra
 2003 William Simpson, Illinois Symphony Orchestra
 2002 James Bataille, Northwest Symphony Orchestra
 2001 Paul Keser, Knox-Galesburg Symphony Orchestra
 2000 Barbara Bowermaster, Illinois Valley Symphony Orchestra
 1999 Barbara Lukancic, Illinois Valley Symphony Orchestra
 1998 Midwest Young Artists
 1997 John Hayes, Illinois Symphony Orchestra
 1996 No award
 1995 No award
 1994 Ray Pensinger and Elizabeth Wester, Woodstock Mozart Festival
 1993 No award
 1992 No award
 1991 No award
 1990 Edward and Pearl Brody, Elgin Symphony Orchestra, and
 Lorene Dettlehouser, Illinois Valley Symphony Orchestra

Guild of the Year

2016 Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra
 2015 No award
 2014 No award
 2013 The Guild of the Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra
 2012 Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra Associates
 2011 Lake Forest Symphony Association
 2010 No award
 2009 Midwest Young Artists Parent Volunteer Organization
 2008 The Guild of the Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra
 2007 Kankakee Valley Symphony Orchestra Women's Board
 2006 Lake Forest Symphony Association
 2005 No award
 2004 No award
 2003 No award
 2002 No award
 2001 No award
 2000 No award
 1999 Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra Guild
 1998 Millikin-Decatur Symphony Orchestra Guild (Frank Beaman)

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1997 Danville Symphony Orchestra Guild

Contributor of the Year (discontinued)

2001 Ralph Bowermaster, Illinois Valley Symphony Orchestra; and
Wells Fargo Bank and Knox-Galesburg Symphony Orchestra
2000 Maytag Corporation, Knox-Galesburg Symphony Orchestra
1999 Granger Cook, Lake Forest Symphony
1998 Kraft Foods, Inc., Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra
1997 First Chicago Bank of Park Ridge, Park Ridge Civic Orchestra

1996 No award
1995 Maytag Corporation, Knox-Galesburg Symphony Orchestra
1994 Richard and Roseann Noel, Sinfonia da Camera
1993 No award
1992 No award
1991 Maytag Corporation, Knox-Galesburg Symphony Orchestra
1991 Mitchell Brothers Realty, Evanston Symphony Orchestra

Programming of the Year

2016 No award
2015 Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra
2014 No award
2013 Northbrook Symphony Orchestra
2012 Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras
2011 Lake Shore Symphony Orchestra
2010 Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra
2009 No award
2008 Rockford Symphony Orchestra
2007 Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras
2006 Knox-Galesburg Symphony Orchestra
2005 Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra
2004 The Prairie Ensemble
2003 Northwest Symphony Orchestra
2002 No award
2001 Metropolis Youth Symphony
2000 Northbrook Symphony Orchestra
1999 The Prairie Ensemble
1998 The Symphony of Oak Park & River Forest
1997 Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra
1996 Elgin Symphony Orchestra

Season Brochure of the Year (discontinued)

2002 Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra
2001 Rockford Symphony Orchestra
2000 Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra
1999 Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra
1998 No award
1997 Lake Forest Symphony Orchestra
1996 No award
1995 Elgin Symphony Orchestra

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Marketing Program of the Year (discontinued)

| | |
|------|--------------------------------|
| 2000 | Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra |
| 1999 | Music Institute of Chicago |
| 1998 | Evanston Symphony Orchestra |
| 1997 | Park Ridge Civic Orchestra |
| 1996 | Evanston Symphony orchestra |

Community Relations of the Year

| | |
|------|--|
| 2016 | No award |
| 2015 | Heartland Festival Orchestra |
| 2014 | Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra |
| 2013 | Knox-Galesburg Symphony Orchestra |
| 2012 | Senior Suburban Orchestra |
| 2011 | Quincy Symphony Orchestra |
| 2010 | Illinois Symphony Orchestra |
| 2009 | Southwest Symphony Orchestra |
| 2008 | No award |
| 2007 | Evanston Symphony Orchestra |
| 2006 | Senior Suburban Orchestra |
| 2005 | Skokie Valley Symphony Orchestra |
| 2004 | Illinois Symphony Orchestra |
| 2003 | Knox-Galesburg Symphony Orchestra |
| 2002 | The Symphony of Oak Park & River Forest |
| 2001 | Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra |
| 2000 | Lake Forest Symphony Orchestra |
| 1999 | Park Ridge Civic Orchestra |
| 1998 | McHenry County Youth Orchestra, and Evanston Symphony Orchestra |
| 1997 | Park Ridge Civic Orchestra |

Cultural Leadership Award

| | |
|------|---|
| 2016 | No award |
| 2015 | No award |
| 2014 | No award |
| 2013 | No award |
| 2012 | No award |
| 2011 | Dieter Kober, Chicago Chamber Orchestra |
| 2010 | Alan Heatherington, Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra and the Lake Forest Symphony Orchestra |
| 2009 | No award |
| 2008 | Bruce Polay, Knox-Galesburg Symphony |
| 2007 | Walfrid Kujala, Chicago Symphony Orchestra (retired) |
| 2006 | No award |
| 2005 | No award |
| 2004 | Robert Hanson, Elgin Symphony Orchestra |
| 2003 | Jeanette Kreston, Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra |

Special Awards

- 2016 **Certificate of Recognition** Brian Groner, Music Director, Harper Symphony Orchestra
- 2015 **Certificate of Recognition** 100th Anniversary of the Quad City Symphony Orchestra
- 2015 **Certificate of Recognition** 60th Anniversary of the DuPage Symphony Orchestra
- 2014 **Certificate of Recognition** Edgar Muenzer, Park Ridge Civic Orchestra
- 2013 **Honorable Mention, General Manager of the Year** Amanda Nelson, Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra
- 2012 **Honorable Mention, Volunteer of the Year** Helen Jahn, Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra
- 2011 **Honorable Mention, Conductor of the Year** Terrance Oliveras Gray, Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras
- 2010 **Arts Leadership Award** The Chicago Symphony Orchestra
- 2009 **Honorable Mention, Volunteer of the Year** Robert Clark, Knox-Galesburg Symphony
- 2009 **Honorable Mention, Chamber Orchestra of the Year** FullScore Chamber Orchestra
- 2008 **Honorable Mention, Youth Orchestra of the Year** Merit School of Music
- 2007 **Special Recognition in Chamber Music** Merit School of Music
- 2002 **Festival Events of the Year** Zion Chamber Orchestra
- Outreach Program of the Year** Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra
- 2001 **Festival Events of the Year** Salt Creek Sinfonietta
- 1999 **Special Events of the Year** The Symphony of Oak Park & River Forest
- 1998 **Festival Events of the Year** Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, Northwestern University

Lifetime Achievement Award (Discontinued)

- 2002 Dieter Kober, Chicago Chamber Orchestra, 50th Year Anniversary
Frank York, Park Ridge Fine Arts Symphony
Harvey Treger, North Shore Chamber Orchestra

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