



### 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)

2017	New Philharmonic
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

## ICO Awards History

Page 2

### Community Orchestra of the Year

2017	Evanston Symphony Orchestra
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

2017	No award
2016	Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras
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

2017	No award
2016	No award
2015	No award
2014	No award

**ICO Awards History****Page 3**

2013 No award  
 2012 No award  
 2011 Mendelssohn Chamber Orchestra  
 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)

2017 Jay Friedman, The Symphony of Oak Park & River Forest (community orchestra)  
 2017 No award (professional orchestra)  
 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

**ICO Awards History**

Page 4

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

**College/University Conductor of the Year**

- 2017 No award
- 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**

- 2017 Jim Kidder, Heartland Festival Orchestra
- 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**

- 2017 Lucas D. Wood, Knox-Galesburg Symphony Orchestra
- 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

**ICO Awards History**

Page 5

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 Orchestr
1997	Kevin Hagen, Illinois Symphony Orchestra

**Volunteer of the Year**

2017	Sterling (Stu) Ainsworth, Elgin Symphony Orchestra
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**

2017	No award
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

**ICO Awards History**

Page 6

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)
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**

2017	Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras
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

## ICO Awards History

Page 7

- 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

### 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

- 2017 Lake Shore Symphony Orchestra
- 2016 No award
- 2015 Heartland Festival Orchestra
- 2014 Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras
- 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

- 2017 No award
- 2016 No award
- 2015 No award
- 2014 No award

**ICO Awards History**

Page 8

- 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** 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Quad City Symphony Orchestra
- 2015 **Certificate of Recognition** 60<sup>th</sup> 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, 50<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary  
Frank York, Park Ridge Fine Arts Symphony  
Harvey Treger, North Shore Chamber Orchestra

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