



**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)**

- 2019 Lake Forest Symphony
- 2018 Chicago Philharmonic
- 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

**Community Orchestra of the Year**

2019 Lake Shore Symphony Orchestra  
2018 The Symphony of Oak Park & River Forest  
2017 Evanston Symphony Orchestra  
2016 Lakeview Symphony 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**

2019 Midwest young Artists Conservatory  
2018 Rockford Symphony Youth Orchestra  
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**

2012 - 2019	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)

2019	Vladimir Kulenovic, Lake Forest Symphony (professional orchestra category)
2019	Allen Tinkham, Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras (youth orchestra category)
2018	Kirk Muspratt, New Philharmonic (professional orchestra category)
2018	No award (community orchestra category)
2017	Jay Friedman, The Symphony of Oak Park & River Forest (community orchestra category)
2016	Gregory Hughes, Lakeview Orchestra (community orchestra)
2016	Steven Larsen, Rockford Symphony Orchestra (professional orchestra)
2015	Russell Vinick, Lake Shore Symphony Orchestra (community orchestra category)
2015	Andrew Grams, Elgin Symphony Orchestra (professional orchestra category)
2014	Lawrence Eckerling, Evanston Symphony Orchestra (community orchestra category)
2014	Joseph Malmquist, Schaumburg Youth Orchestra (youth orchestra category)
2013	Bruce Briney, Quincy Symphony Orchestra (community orchestra category)
2012	Alan Heatherington, Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra and Lake Forest Symphony Orchestra (professional orchestra category)
2012	Stephen Alltop, Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra (community orchestra category)
2011	David Commanday, Heartland Festival Orchestra (professional orchestra category)
2011	Jay Kenneth Friedman, The Symphony of Oak Park & River Forest (community orchestra category)
2010	Russell Vinick, Lake Shore Symphony Orchestra (small orchestra category)
2010	Bruce Polay, Knox-Galesburg Symphony (professional category)
2009	Robert Hanson, Elgin Symphony Orchestra (professional category)
2009	Linc Smelser, Kishwaukee Symphony (small orchestra category)
2008	Randal Swiggum, Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra (small orchestra category)
2007	Lawrence Eckerling, Evanston Symphony Orchestra (small orchestra category)
2006	Steven Larsen, Rockford Symphony Orchestra (professional category)
2006	Paul Vermel, Northwest Symphony Orchestra (small orchestra category)
2005	Alan Heatherington, Lake Forest Symphony Orchestra and Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra (professional category)
2005	Edward Benyas, Chicago Chamber Orchestra and Southern Illinois Symphony Orchestra (small orchestra category)
2004	Harold Bauer, New Philharmonic (professional category)

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2004	Bruce Polay, Knox-Galesburg Symphony (small orchestra category)
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
1997	Bruce Polay, Knox-Galesburg Symphony Orchestra
1996	No award
1995	Carmon DeLeone, Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra

**College/University Conductor of the Year**

2014 - 2019	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**

2019	Ann Tucker, Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra
2018	Vince P. Flood, Evanston Symphony Orchestra
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**

- 2019 No award
- 2018 Beth Hoover, The Symphony of Oak Park & River Forest
- 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
- 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 Orchestra
- 1997 Kevin Hagen, Illinois Symphony Orchestra

**Volunteer of the Year**

- 2019 Cheryl Flinn, The Symphony of Oak Park and River Forest
- 2018 Karen Hoag, Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras
- 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**

2019	No award
2018	No award
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
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**

2019	Chicago Philharmonic
2018	Lake Shore Symphony Orchestra
2017	Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra
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

**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**

2019	Chicago Philharmonic
2018	Senior Suburban Orchestra
2017	Lake Shore Symphony Orchestra
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**

- 2018 Jay Friedman, Chicago Symphony Orchestra and The Symphony of Oak Park & River Forest
- 2017 No 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** 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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