



For immediate release March 1, 2020

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Illinois Council of Orchestras Announces Annual Awards

The Illinois Council of Orchestras is pleased to announce the 2020 recipients of its annual awards for excellence in the field of music performance and for support of musical organizations. An awards panel of judges drawn from the Illinois Council of Orchestras Board of Directors and independent professional conductors and musicians reviewed nominations representing orchestras, youth orchestras, and chamber ensembles from throughout Illinois.

The 2020 ICO Awards:

Professional Orchestra of the Year

Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra
Stilian Kirov, *Music Director*

Community Orchestra of the Year

Quincy Symphony Orchestra
Bruce Briney, *Music Director*

Board President of the Year

David Leehey, *President*
The Symphony of Oak Park & River Forest

Executive Director/General Manager of the Year

Donna Milanovich
Chicago Philharmonic

Programming of the Year

New Philharmonic
Kirk Muspratt, *Artistic Director & Conductor*

Community Relations of the Year

Evanston Symphony Orchestra
Lawrence Eckerling, *Music Director*

Volunteer of the Year

Anthony Riani
Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra

Cultural Leadership Award

Allen Dennis, *Found & Director*
Midwest Young Artists Conservatory

The Illinois Council of Orchestras was founded in 1974 with a mission:

- to encourage, promote, and assist orchestras throughout the State of Illinois
- to promote an exchange of information among members, including providing consultants and speakers
- to hold educational conferences for member organizations, including musicians, staff, boards, volunteers, and audiences.

Presentation of the ICO Awards will take place during March through July 2020 at local concerts and other events of the winning orchestras.

Information about the Illinois Council of Orchestras is available at: www.ilcouncilorchestras.org



This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council