



# ILLINOIS COUNCIL OF ORCHESTRAS

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## Illinois Council of Orchestras Announces Annual Award Recipients

The Illinois Council of Orchestras is pleased to announce the 2024 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 musicians reviewed nominations representing orchestras, youth orchestras, and chamber ensembles from throughout Illinois.

### 2024 ICO Award Winners:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Board President of the Year:</b>                 | <b>Margaret Gergen,</b><br><i>Evanston Symphony Orchestra</i>       |
| <b>Conductor of the Year (Youth Orchestra):</b>     | <b>Daniella Valdez,</b><br><i>Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras</i> |
| <b>Conductor of the Year (Community):</b>           | <b>David L. Crane,</b><br><i>Southwest Symphony Orchestra</i>       |
| <b>Education Program of the Year:</b>               | <b>EMA Youth Orchestra</b>  |
| <b>Orchestra of the Year (Community Orchestra):</b> | <b>Evanston Symphony Orchestra</b>                                  |
| <b>Orchestra of the Year (Youth):</b>               | <b>Quad City Symphony Orchestra</b>                                 |
| <b>Programming of the Year:</b>                     | <b>Lakeview Orchestra</b>   |
| <b>Volunteer of the Year:</b>                       | <b>Alexandra Newman,</b><br><i>Lakeview Orchestra</i>               |
| <b>Cultural Leadership:</b>                         | <b>Greg Clemons</b>   |

### 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 May 2024 through July 2025 to the winning orchestras.

Information about the Illinois Council of Orchestras is available at: [www.ilcouncilorchestras.org](http://www.ilcouncilorchestras.org)