



Music Institute of Chicago

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Music Institute Kicks Off 80th Anniversary at Annual Gala Yo-Yo Ma to Receive Dushkin Award at May 11 Celebration

CHICAGO—Celebrating 80 years of promoting lifelong engagement with music through education and performance, the Music Institute of Chicago (MIC) hosts its annual gala Tuesday, May 11 at the Four Seasons Hotel Chicago, 120 East Delaware Place. Highlighting the evening is the presentation of the Dushkin Award to internationally acclaimed cellist Yo-Yo Ma.

The evening begins at 5:30 p.m. with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, followed by an elegant dinner, live auction, and awards presentation. The Dushkin Award, established 25 years ago and named for MIC's visionary founders Dorothy and David Dushkin, honors those who exemplify the spirit of the award as exceptional artists, music educators, and role models for MIC students. This year's recipient, Yo-Yo Ma, who was recently appointed the Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, has a strong commitment to educational programs, while maintaining an extensive career as a performer and recording artist.

Ma commented saying, "I am deeply honored to accept the Dushkin Award and humbled to join the ranks of such a distinguished group of awardees. Throughout its 79-year history, the Institute has focused on individual learning, creativity, and music in the community, and its alumni include many exceptional performers worldwide. I celebrate the Music Institute of Chicago's dedication to providing the foundation for lifelong enjoyment of music."

In addition, on the occasion of this special anniversary celebration, an inaugural "Cultural Visionary Award for Chicago" will be presented to John Bryan, Joan and Irving (posthumously) Harris, and Cindy Pritzker for their respective roles in the creation of what has become an international destination: Millennium Park. Their combined leadership, vision, and unparalleled philanthropy has inspired a new generation of philanthropists who ensure Chicago's strong cultural and civic identity for future generations.

Musical performances throughout the evening will include both MIC faculty as well as community school and Academy students and ensembles.

Honorary Chairs for MIC's 80th Anniversary Gala are Mayor Richard M. Daley and Mrs. Daley. Chairs are Mr. and Mrs. John D. Nichols. Vice Chairs are Mr. and Mrs. Gerhard J. Bette, Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Danoff, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur H. Gantz, Mr. and Mrs. William A. Osborn, and Mr. and Mrs. David B. Speer.

MIC's annual gala is the single largest source of scholarship and financial aid; the generosity of individuals and companies during the past year allowed more than 500 students and clients to receive more than \$500,000 in financial aid and scholarships.

Individual tickets to the event are \$550. For information, please call 847.448.8327.

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Music Institute of Chicago Kicks Off 80th Anniversary at Annual Gala/Add One

MORE ABOUT THE MUSIC INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

The Music Institute of Chicago believes that music has the power to sustain and nourish the human spirit. MIC's mission is to provide the foundation for lifelong engagement with music. Founded in 1931, MIC is one of the oldest community music schools in Illinois. MIC is a member of the National Guild of Community Schools of the Arts and accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music.

Community School

MIC's Community School provides the highest quality music instruction through a dedicated and experienced team of faculty to approximately 5,000 students annually. The Community School offers traditional and Suzuki instruction, private lessons in all instruments and voice, group classes, and ensemble experiences to engage students of all ages, interests, abilities, and economic and ethnic backgrounds in music-making. MIC's campus network includes Evanston, Highland Park, Lake Forest, Lincolnshire, and Winnetka teaching locations. MIC also offers lessons and programs at Steinway of Chicago stores in Northbrook and Downers Grove and early childhood programs at other locations throughout the North Shore. MIC community engagement and partnership programs reach an additional 6,500 people in the Chicago Public Schools and other Chicago locations.

The Academy

A top national center for highly gifted pre-college musicians, The Academy program is located on the Ravinia Festival Campus in the John D. Harza Building. This specially tailored program includes a faculty of internationally recognized teachers and performers with a passion for developing young talent. The Academy offers significant performance and enrichment opportunities to help students excel towards professional careers in music.

Creative Arts Therapy

MIC's Institute for Therapy through the Arts provides clinical services in a nurturing environment designed to help those with psychological needs, developmental delays, and physical challenges express and communicate through comprehensive drama, music, movement, and visual art therapy. As one of the few comprehensive community-based arts therapy programs in the U.S., ITA currently serves 2,500 individuals at 92 sites in Cook, DuPage, Lake, and McHenry counties. In addition to three in-house clinic locations, ITA makes an impact through key partnerships at schools, adult day centers, hospitals, a drug rehabilitation center, and a domestic violence shelter.

Cultural Events

Located in the heart of downtown Evanston, MIC's acoustical and architectural gem, Nichols Concert Hall, provides a superb performance venue designed to enrich the cultural life of the community and provide a performance space and opportunities to MIC students and faculty. As a national leader in music education, MIC hosts world-renowned guest artists, new music and early music initiatives, children's concerts, master classes, lectures, and special events at the hall, reaching approximately 14,000 people each year.

For more information about the Music Institute of Chicago please visit musicinst.org

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