

# YOUTH ORCHESTRA, CYCNY

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## For Immediate Release

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**A Holiday Tradition in Queens since 1998!**

**YOUTH ORCHESTRA, CYCNY**

**Presents**

**THE HOLIDAY CONCERT 2023**

on

**Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 4pm**

at

**MS 158**

**46-35 Oceania St. Bayside, NY 11461**

**Free admission, open to the public, no ticket required**

Music Director and Conductor Chijen Christopher Chung will lead 50 young and enthusiastic musicians to perform Holiday Tunes, Classical, Popular, Broadway, Christmas, and Taiwanese Folk Music!

PROGRAM:

GEORGES BIZET – “**Les Toreadors**” from *Carmen*,

J. S. BACH / arr. MATT RILEY -- *Sheep May Safely Graze*

PETER ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY -- Selections from *The Nutcracker Suite*

ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER -- Highlights from *The Phantom of The Opera*

TAIWANESE FOLK SONG -- *Peach Blossom Takes the Ferry*

LEON JESSEL / arr. RALPH FORD -- *Parade of the Wooden Soldiers*

LEROY ANDERSON -- *A Christmas Festival*

This Program is supported, in part, by public funds from The New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council designated by Council Member Sandra Ung; and The Oasis Foundation, The Jatain Foundation, Dr. Song-Hur Foundation, Culture Center and Taipei Cultural Center of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in New York, Overseas Community Affairs Council of Taiwan, Amerasia Bank, East West Bank, Linco Printing, [www.superprism.net](http://www.superprism.net), as well as foundations, corporations, and individuals.

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Website : [YouthOrchestra.com](http://YouthOrchestra.com)

### **YOUTH ORCHESTRA, CYCNY**

The Youth Orchestra is a Queens-based youth orchestra since 1996 and has been a 501 (c) (3) organization since 2002. Our mission is to provide orchestra training and performing opportunities for musical students aged 10 to 18, with a unique repertory that includes Classical, Popular, Jazz, Broadway, Film, and Asian music. The orchestra premieres and commissions work by American and Asian composers, and has organized eleven summer concert tours to Asia, Europe, and the West Coast for global and cultural experiences.

New members are recruited through auditions in September and January. Weekly rehearsals take place at Middle School 158 in Bayside, New York from September to June. Our members perform concerts from local community centers to renowned concert venues, such as Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center.

The faculty directors are Patsy Fang Chen, Artistic Director; Chunsheng Jason Chang, Executive Director; Chijen Christopher Chung, Music Director/Conductor; our instructors are: Chijen Christopher Chung (Strings); Hsinhui Karen Liao and Lovell Park Chang (Woodwind & Brass); ChiChing Grace Lin (Percussion); and Hsinyi Samantha Huang is the Librarian.

For the 2020-21 Season, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the orchestra conducted its weekly education program and performed concerts virtually online. Award-winning musician/engineer Yasuhiko Fukuoka edited the spectacular digital submissions from our members, then the Holiday Concert and Annual Concert were presented on YouTube.

Starting the 2021-22 Season, we have been back in person and performed the Annual Concert in Lincoln Center on June 16, 2022, and on June 17, 2023, and will present it again on June 8, 2024.

We hope you will enjoy the 26th Annual Holiday Concert at MS158 in Bayside on December 17, 2023.

We appreciate the following sponsors: The New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the New York City Council designated by Council Member Sandra Ung; Culture Center of Taipei Economic & Cultural Office in New York; Overseas Community Affairs Council, Republic of China (Taiwan); The Oasis Foundation; The Jatain Foundation; The Dr. Song-Hur Chuang Foundation; Amerasia Bank; East West Bank; Linco Printing; [www.superprism.net](http://www.superprism.net); as well as foundations, corporations, and individuals. For more information, please visit [www.YouthOrchestra.com](http://www.YouthOrchestra.com), e-mail: YouthOrchestraCYCNY@gmail.com, or contact 917.912.8288 Patsy/347.306.2511 Jason.

For audition and more information, please visit [www.YouthOrchestra.com](http://www.YouthOrchestra.com), Email: YouthOrchestraCYCNY@gmail.com, or contact: 917-912-8288 Patsy / 347-306-2511 Jason.



Youth Orchestra, CYCNY concert at Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center on June 17, 2023

Photo: Ronald Ji

**Chijen Christopher Chung, Music Director & Conductor**

**A native of Kaohsiung, Taiwan, Mr. Chung began his musical studies in piano, violin and cello at the ages of five and nine. Following a successful musical career in high school, he attended the National Taiwan Normal University where he majored in cello, minored in piano and was awarded the Certificate of Music Education.**

**Upon moving to the United States, Mr. Chung studied under the tutelage of cellist Peter Wiley (of Guarneri String Quartet), at Conservatory of Music at Purchase College, SUNY, where he received both his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Music Performance.**

**Mr. Chung's wide professional experience encompasses symphony orchestra and chamber music performances, conducting, teaching, studio recording and administration. He served as Associate Principal Cellist of the Taipei Symphony Orchestra, Principal Cellist of the Yin-Qi Symphony Orchestra & Chorus, and the Yin-Qi Chamber Orchestra in Taiwan. He performed with the Chinese Community Chamber Orchestra at Carnegie Hall, New York Symphony Orchestra and the Amadeus String Quartet**

and Piano Trio.

Mr. Chung's teaching positions were at the Guang-Ren High School, Xi-Men Elementary School, and Guan-Du Christian College in Taiwan. He has been serving as the Music Director, cello and piano instructor at the Song of Songs Music School, Eastern School of Music, Amadeus Conservatory of Music, and Melody Time Music Center in the United States.

In 2003, he was the Music Director and featured cellist for the world premiere of an original Chinese-language adaptation of *A Streetcar Named Desire* at the Hwa-Sun Culture Center in Taipei, Taiwan.

With Youth Orchestra, CYCNY, at Alice Tully Hall of Lincoln Center, Chung performed Elgar's Cello Concerto as soloist in 2010, and Chung conducted the World Premiere of Yasuhiko Fukuoka's "*Journey of a Thousand Miles*" in 2012; the World Premiere of Steve Margoshes's "*Symphony Dance from FAME-The Musical*", as well as the US Premiere of Shui-Long Ma's "*Searching*" Concerto for Gu-Zheng and Orchestra, with Hao-Yin Huang as Gu-Zheng soloist in 2013; US Premiere Fu-Tong Wong's *Symphony Condor Hero* in 2014, and World Premiere Justine F. Chen's *Mimesis* Violin Concert with Min Yen Chien as violin soloist in 2016; and Hansol Choi's Higgsion Percussion Concert with Chi-Ching Grace Lin as percussion soloist in 2018.

Mr. Chung has long believed that music has the power to transform lives, to transcend cultures and languages and to bring people together in important and lasting ways. It is for this reason that he dedicates his life toward inspiring a new generation of young musicians to pursue their dreams through the challenging and life-changing process of music education.



Chijen Christopher Chung, Music Director/Conductor  
Photo: Ronald Ji

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