Jennifer Koh

Violinist

Violinist Jennifer Koh is recognized for her intense, commanding performances, delivered with dazzling virtuosity and technical assurance. An adventurous musician, she collaborates with artists of multiple disciplines and curates projects that find connections between music of all eras, from traditional to contemporary. She believes that all the arts and music of the past and present form a continuum and has premiered over 70 works written especially for her.

Ms. Koh has been heard with leading orchestras worldwide, including the New York, Los Angeles, and Helsinki Philharmonics; Cleveland, Mariinsky, Minnesota, National, New World, NHK, RAI (Torino), and Singapore Symphonies. This season she returns to the Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Nashville and Sydney Symphonies, and the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra. She also performs a new concerto by Christopher Cerrone, written for her New American Concerto commissioning project, with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. Through commissions from a diverse collective of composers, this multi-season project explores the form of the violin concerto and its potential for artistic engagement with contemporary societal concerns and issues. The project launched at the 2017 Ojai Music Festival with the premiere of Vijay Iyer’s concerto Trouble.

This season, in addition to her New American Concerto project, Ms. Koh launches Limitless, which celebrates the collaborative relationship between composer and performer through duo commissions and contemporary works performed by Ms. Koh and the composers themselves. She also continues such projects as Shared Madness, comprising more than 30 short solo works that explore violin virtuosity in the 21st century; Bridge to Beethoven, a recital series with pianist Shai Wosner exploring the impact Beethoven has had on a diverse group of artists, pairing the composer’s sonatas for violin and piano with new works by composers Anthony Cheung, Vijay Iyer, and Andrew Norman; and Bach and Beyond, which traces the history of the solo violin repertoire from Bach’s six Sonatas and Partitas to works by contemporary composers, including new commissions from John Harbison, Phil Kline, Missy Mazzoli, Kaija Saariaho, and video artist Tal Rosner. She continues all of these projects in recital during the 2017-18 season and also recently expanded Shared Madness with a web series on WQXR’s Q2 Music (q2music.org/sharedmadness), featuring her interviews with project composers.

Ms. Koh’s discography for Cedille Records includes Tchaikovsky: Complete Works for Violin and Orchestra with the Odense Symphony Orchestra conducted by Alexander Vedernikov; Bach & Beyond: Parts 1 & 2; Two x Four with her former teacher, violinist Jaime Laredo; Signs, Games + Messages with Mr. Wosner; Rhapsodic Musings: 21st Century Works for Solo Violin; the Grammy-nominated String Poetic; Portraits with the Grant Park Orchestra under conductor Carlos Kalmar with concerti by Bartók, Martinů, and Szymanowski; Violin Fantasies; and Solo Chaconnes.
Born in Chicago of Korean parents, Ms. Koh began playing the violin by chance, choosing the instrument in a Suzuki-method program only because spaces for cello and piano had been filled. She made her debut with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra at age 11, and went on to win the International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, the Concert Artists Guild Competition, and an Avery Fisher Career Grant. In 2016, she was *Musical America*’s “Instrumentalist of the Year.” She has a degree in English literature from Oberlin College and studied at the Curtis Institute, where she worked with Jaime Laredo and Felix Galimir. She is Artistic Director of *arco collaborative*, an artist-driven nonprofit that fosters a better understanding of our world through a musical dialogue inspired by ideas and the communities around us. For further information, visit [jenniferkoh.com](http://jenniferkoh.com).

**Douglas M. Hagerman**

**Chair**

**League of American Orchestras' Board of Directors**

Douglas M. Hagerman of Milwaukee, WI is the immediate past chair of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra and current chair of the orchestra’s Music Director Search Committee. Joining the MSO Board in 2007, he became chair in 2011, serving in that role through 2014.

Hagerman recently retired after thirteen years as senior vice president and general counsel of Rockwell Automation, Inc. While he was in that role, Rockwell Automation was honored nine times as one of the World’s Most Ethical Companies.

Hagerman graduated from Harvard Law School and Drake University. He studied economics and accounting and is a Certified Public Accountant and former director of the National Association of Manufacturers (2009-2016).

Hagerman is married, with two adult daughters. He is a runner and triathlete and is also an Eagle Scout.
David Polk

Program Director
WFMT

David Polk has been the Program Director of Classical WFMT in Chicago since 2015, overseeing programming on all platforms, including over 250 live broadcasts, specials, documentaries, and series per year. He was the founding producer and host of WFMT’s award-winning local series Introductions, which began in 2008 and features the region’s finest young classical musicians every week. In 2010 and 2015, he produced and co-hosted live coverage of the International Chopin Piano Competition in Warsaw and also co-produced the film “Do You Speak Chopin?” about the competition. Back at home in 2011, he produced a month-long exploration of local arts education programs called Arts After School with a grant from the Chicago Community Trust and is also the winner of a 2010 Fulbright journalism fellowship from the German Fulbright Commission (Berlin).

Before joining WFMT, he worked for “Car Talk” from National Public Radio (Cambridge, MA), the Ravinia Festival, the cultural services of the US Embassy in Paris, the Chicago Council on Global Affairs and the Paris Orchestra. He graduated summa cum laude from Tufts University near Boston in 2005.

Jesse Rosen

President and CEO
League of American Orchestras

Since becoming President and CEO of the League of American Orchestras in 2008, Jesse Rosen has been a leading voice for the League’s more than 2,000 member organizations and individuals, empowering them with knowledge and perspective to navigate a rapidly changing environment.

Under Rosen’s leadership, the League has advocated for orchestras’ deeper engagement with community, renewed efforts to address diversity, greater discipline in relation to fiscal health, increased use of data to inform decision-making, and widespread engagement with composers. He has increased the League’s impact by building partnerships with organizations such as New Music USA, BoardSource, the Thornton School of Music at USC, and the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, and has given voice to America’s orchestras through his public statements, Huffington Post blog, Symphony magazine column, national media interviews, and international appearances.
During his nineteen-year tenure at the League, Rosen has been instrumental in overseeing the League’s renewed focus on developing longitudinal research benefitting the entire orchestra field, and has created new programs and initiatives in the areas of diversity, artistry, leadership development, governance, capitalization, and community engagement, including Ford Made in America, the largest-ever orchestra commissioning consortium; the Ford Musician Awards for Excellence in Community Service; Music Alive, supporting composer residencies; and the American Orchestras’ Futures Fund, promoting experimentation and innovation.

There has been an exponential increase in the number of members benefitting from League programs and initiatives, as well as an upturn in the profile of orchestras among the nation’s cultural, policy, and opinion leaders. Under his direction, the League has been a catalyst for the orchestra field’s collective action around diversity and inclusion, including the drive to increase participation of musicians from underrepresented communities through a number of endeavors – an annual Forum, national task forces, an online resource center, and more.

Rosen serves on the boards of the American Composers Orchestra and the Performing Arts Alliance, and is a member of the National Center for Arts Research Board of Advisors. He speaks regularly at major arts convenings, and is a frequent guest of conservatories and schools of music. Rosen is a lifelong musician and experienced orchestra executive who has served as general manager of the Seattle Symphony, executive director of the American Composers Orchestra in New York City, and orchestra manager of the New York Philharmonic. A trombonist, Rosen received his bachelor’s degree from the Manhattan School of Music and pursued graduate studies at The Juilliard School.