



EMPOWERING MUSICAL AMBASSADORS





NYO-China with Garrick Ohlsson and Ludovic Morlot  
at Shanghai Oriental Art Center on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019







# NYO CHINA

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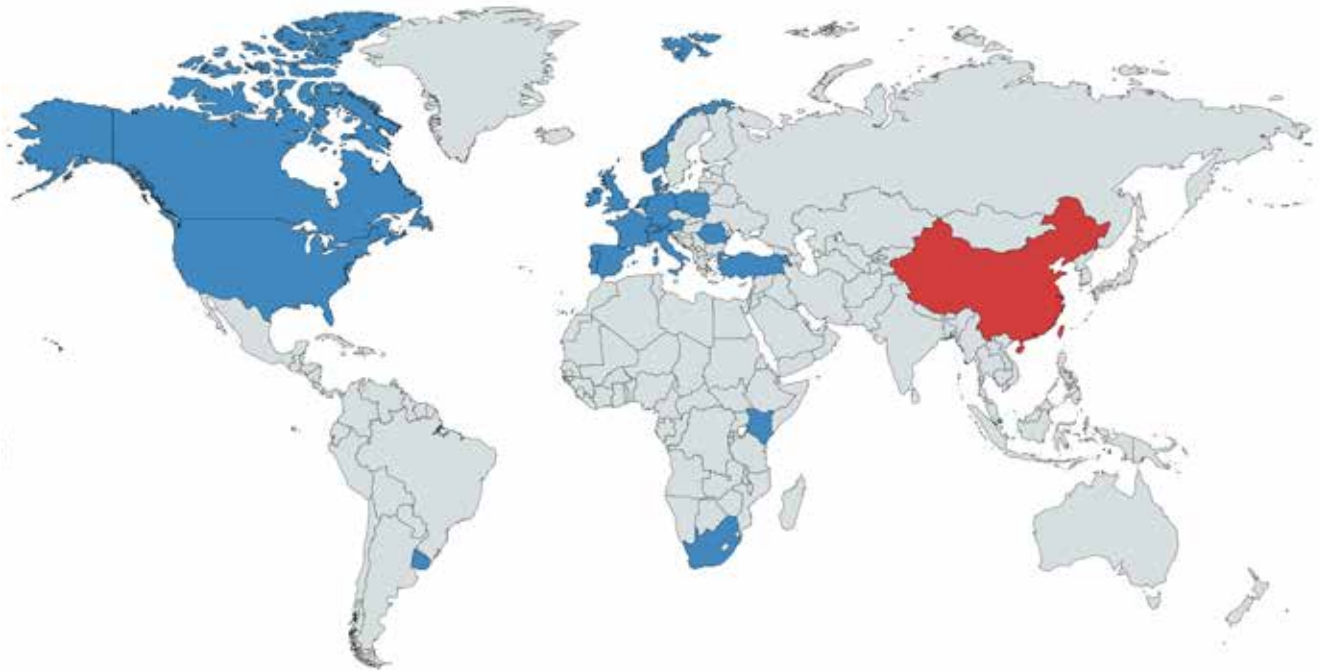
**Website:** [www.NYOChina.org](http://www.NYOChina.org)

# WHAT IS NYO?



National Youth Orchestras (NYOs) have existed around the world for decades. For example, NYO-Great Britain was started in 1948, NYO-Canada in 1960, the South African NYO in 1964, and the Singapore NYO in 1979. Several of these non-governmental orchestras have the same structure as NYO-China, including a training residency and international concert tour. Others serve as a stepping stone between studying music and joining a prestigious professional orchestra. Some of the programs even offer courses for orchestral

musicians all year long. NYO-USA, the inspiration for NYO-China, was started by Carnegie Hall in the summer of 2013 and was the first program of its kind in the United States, offering a training residency and international performance opportunities alongside renowned professional musicians, all at no cost to the students. Despite their differences, all the world's NYOs ultimately have the same core mission: to represent their countries using the language of music and to establish an ever-greater standard of musical excellence.



## NYOs of the World

- Armenia
- Austria
- Canada
- **China**
- Denmark
- France
- Germany
- Great Britain
- Ireland
- Italy
- Kenya
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Scotland
- Singaporean
- South Africa
- Spain
- Switzerland
- Turkey
- Uruguay
- USA





ABOUT  
NYO-CHINA



## INTRODUCING NYO-CHINA

### Mission

To provide China's finest young musicians access to superior training and performance opportunities, empowering them to serve as ambassadors for their country and their generation on a global stage.

The entire program is provided at no costs to students; all expenses, including tuition, travel, and housing, are covered to ensure that no talented musician is ever turned away for lack of funds.

### Overview

The National Youth Orchestra of China (NYO-China) brings together one hundred of China's finest young musicians for a month long summer festival and international concert tour. Students gather for an intensive residency for training and rehearsal with faculty drawn from the first desks of top-tier orchestras before performing in premier international venues alongside a world-renowned conductor and soloist.







# PROGRAM COMPONENTS

## Auditions

NYO-China accepts applications from all Chinese citizens between 14 and 21 years old. Applicants submit videos of their performances of a solo work and several selected orchestral excerpts for their instrument, along with a personal essay and letters of recommendation.

These applications are then judged by program faculty along with multiple independent reviewers in order to provide a complete and unbiased picture of each candidate. The process as a whole is highly selective, and only a very small minority of outstanding applicants gain admission.



## Training Residency

NYO-China's residency brings together its members for two weeks of intensive rehearsal and preparation with a suite of distinguished artist faculty drawn from premier orchestras around the world. Students live and work alongside their peers and mentors, attending full orchestra rehearsals, sectional rehearsals, master classes, private lessons, and numerous supplementary workshops with guest artists and lecturers. This two-week residency is meant to prepare members not only for their forthcoming concert tour, but also their future lives as professional musicians.

## Tour

NYO-China's concert tours give students the opportunity to perform with a world-class conductor and soloist in premier venues throughout China and around the world. At the end of each tour, orchestra members return to their home cities with a uniquely valuable set of experiences and a new network of musical friends and colleagues throughout China. No less important, these concerts are a chance to showcase the quality of the current generation of young Chinese musicians — and to inspire the performers and audience members of the future.



# CULTURAL IMPACT

Each season of NYO-China brings opportunities for global outreach. NYO-China's students regularly represent their country as youth ambassadors by meeting high-level diplomats, performing at world-renowned centers and institutions, and engaging with young musicians from international orchestras around the world.



Vincent Accettola, Managing Director of NYO-China, presenting a photo of the Class of 2017 to Sir Clive Gillingson, Artistic and Executive Director of Carnegie Hall



Former US Ambassador to China Gary Locke at a press conference announcing the NYO-China's inaugural season.



NYO-China and NYO-USA participate in a side-by-side rehearsal at Purchase University.



NYO-China's Class of 2017 and their faculty of Teaching Artists.







NYO-China visits the campus of Yale University in New Haven.

Performing at the Yale Center Beijing.



NYO-China alumni performing with Yo-Yo Ma at the Committee of 100's 30th Annual Gala.



A student rehearsing with his American counterpart at the US Embassy in Beijing.



Ping Pong Diplomacy at Purchase University.



Students from NYO-China meet their American counterparts in Berlin.







Students from NYO-China at the Chinese Embassy in London with Ambassador Liu Xiaoming, following a performance celebrating the 70th anniversary PRC's founding.



Vice Mayor Chen Qun attending NYO-China concert in Shanghai.







NYO-China on stage at the Konzerthaus Berlin with Chinese Ambassador to Germany Wu Ken following the orchestra's European debut.



NYO-China alumni performing at the 40th Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the PRC and the United States.



With NYO-USA, Sir Clive Gillinson, and Ambassador Terry Branstad.



Ambassador Zhang Qiyue and Carnegie Hall's Executive Director Clive Gillinson congratulating students and conductor after NYO-China's debut in Carnegie Hall.



Song Xuefang, Consul General of the PRC in Milan and Xu Rong, Cultural Consol of the Chinese Embassy in Rome congratulating NYO-China following their concert in Bolzano.



With NYO-USA at the Great Wall of China.





NYO-China's students come from all over China, representing 28 of the country's provinces / administrative divisions.



## STUDENTS OF NYO-CHINA

NYO-China's students represent over 53 institutions of learning, including some of the most prestigious music conservatories throughout China and around the world.

- Bard College Conservatory of Music
- Beijing Bayi School
- Beijing National Day School
- Beijing Xiqu Vocational Institute of Arts
- Beijing Yuren Secondary Educational School
- Central Conservatory of Music
- Central Conservatory of Music Middle School
- Chengdu No. 7 Yucai Middle School
- China Conservatory of Music
- China Conservatory of Music Middle School
- Cleveland Institute of Music
- Colburn Music Academy
- Curtis Institute of Music
- East China Normal University
- Higher Institute of Music and Pedagogy IMEP
- Humen Foreign Language School
- Idyllwild Arts Academy
- Interlochen Arts Academy
- Jinan Foreign Language School
- Manhattan School of Music
- Mannes School of Music at The New School
- Mannheim University of Music and Performing Arts
- Matthew McNair Secondary School
- Montgomery Blair High School
- Nan Shan Middle School Attached Beijing Normal University
- New England Conservatory of Music
- Oberlin Conservatory of Music
- Paris Conservatory CNSMDP
- Peabody Institute of The Johns Hopkins University
- Peking University
- Professional Children's School
- Renmin University of China
- San Francisco Conservatory of Music
- Shandong Jinan No. 13 Middle School
- Shandong Qingdao No. 7 Middle School
- Shanghai Conservatory of Music
- Shanghai Conservatory of Music Middle School
- Shenzhen Art School
- Shenzhen Longhua Middle School
- Sichuan Conservatory of Music
- Soochow University School of Music
- The Carl Maria von Weber College of Music
- The Juilliard School
- Tianjin Conservatory of Music Middle School
- University of Hartford the Hartt School
- University of Pennsylvania
- Walnut Hill School for the Arts
- Ward Melville High School
- Wuhan Conservatory of Music
- Xi'an Conservatory of Music Middle School
- Xinghai Conservatory of Music
- Xinghai Conservatory of Music Middle School
- Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music





PAST  
SEASONS



# 2017 INAUGURAL SEASON



## Teaching Artists

- Frank Huang** | Violin I  
New York Philharmonic, Concertmaster
- Qing Li** | Violin II  
Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Principal 2nd
- Jay Liu** | Viola  
San Francisco Symphony, Associate Principal
- Qiang Tu** | Cello  
New York Philharmonic
- Daxun Zhang** | Double Bass  
University of Texas
- Sibei Weng** | Flute  
Macao Orchestra, Principal
- Liang Wang** | Oboe  
New York Philharmonic, Principal
- Yao Guang Zhai** | Clarinet  
Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Principal
- Fei Xie** | Bassoon  
Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Principal
- Xiao-Ming Han** | French Horn  
German Radio Philharmonic Orchestra
- Guang Chen** | Trumpet  
Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing
- Wei Zhu** | Trombone  
Bremer Philharmonic
- Haiyu Wang** | Tuba  
Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University
- Gert Mortensen** | Percussion  
The Royal Danish Academy of Music

NYO-China's inaugural season brought together 105 remarkable young musicians, selected from a pool of over a thousand applicants, for a historic training residency and concert tour of the United States and China.

Students arrived on campus at East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania on July 8th, where they were welcomed by NYO-China's staff for an orientation and day of icebreakers. After a seating audition, rehearsals began under the direction of Seattle Symphony Music Director Ludovic Morlot and NYO-China's suite of distinguished Teaching Artists. Students attended full orchestral rehearsals, sectional rehearsals, private lessons, and a variety of workshops hosted by guest speakers such as Juilliard's Alexander Technique Instructor Lori Schiff and improvisation expert Eugene Friesen.

Midway through their residency, NYO-China participated in a joint rehearsal with members of Carnegie



Hall's NYO-USA on site at NYO-USA's residency in Purchase, New York. Students also had the opportunity to perform solo and chamber music works on two iconic radio broadcasts: WQXR's *Young Artist Showcase* and NPR's *From the Top with Christopher O'Riley*.



NYO-China premiered at Carnegie Hall on the evening of July 22, 2017 under the baton of Maestro Morlot and featuring internationally acclaimed pianist Yuja Wang. The 2804-seat Stern Auditorium was fully sold out, and the performance was broadcast live to audiences worldwide via Medici.tv. The New York Times would comment that “if [tonight]’s performance was a test run for this new venture, these Chinese musicians scored big.”

Following this success, the orchestra was joined by pianist Olga Kern for a tour of premier venues across China, including the Beijing Concert Hall, the Shanghai Oriental Arts Center, and the Suzhou Grand Theater. After a thrilling week spent performing for over 5000 Chinese concert-goers, students said an emotional farewell and returned to their home cities with lifelong memories and a new company of friends.

## Program

**The Rhyme of Taigu**  
Zhou Long

**Piano Concerto No. 1 in B-flat Minor**  
Pyotr Illych Tchaikovsky

**Symphony No. 9 in E-flat Minor,**  
“From the New World”  
Antonín Dvořák



## Venues

**Carnegie Hall**  
New York, USA

**Beijing Concert Hall**  
Beijing, China

**Shanghai Oriental Art Center**  
Shanghai, China

**Suzhou Culture and Arts Centre**  
Suzhou, China





# 2018 CHAMBER SERIES

The 2018 NYO-China Chamber Series provided 21 young musicians the opportunity to spend two weeks immersed in the study of chamber performance and thereafter present a series of recitals in premier venues throughout China.

Students began their residency on July 15th on the campus of the Central Conservatory of Music in the heart of Beijing. Under the direction of

Teaching Artists Qing Li, Guang Chen, and Yong Ma, students prepared a selection of chamber works from nearly three hundred years of repertoire, immersing themselves in styles of composers spanning the art form. In their free time, students were able to participate in many of Beijing's cultural offerings, including performances at the National Center for Performing Arts (NCPA).

Halfway through the residency, students had the opportunity to "warm-up" by presenting portion of their program concert held at the Yale Center Beijing. Little did they know... the event was live-streamed to over 150,000 viewers!



## Teaching Artists

**Qing Li | Strings**  
Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Principal 2nd

**Yong Ma | Woodwinds**  
China National Opera, Principal Flute

**Guang Chen | Brass**  
Central Conservatory of Music,  
Professor of Trumpet







After two weeks of preparation, the Chamber Series began with a sold-out debut in CCOM's Opera and Concert Hall in which students performed side-by-side along with their faculty mentors. The concert was praised as "a huge success, of high artistic quality" by the Chinese Literary Critics Society.



Two days later, several of this year's chamber groups performed alongside members from NYO-USA in a program presented in the United States Embassy in Beijing, with United States Ambassador Terry Branstad in attendance. The tour continued on to sold-out performances at NYU-Shanghai, the Chuansha International Piano Festival, and the Eurochestries Festival in Qingdao. At tour's end, students, mentors, and staff enjoyed a final dinner in Qingdao by the sea; a fitting conclusion for a wonderful three weeks spent making music together.



## Concert Hall & Festivals

Opera and Concert Hall  
Central Conservatory of Music  
Beijing

NYU-Shanghai  
Shanghai

Chuansha International Piano  
Festivals  
Chuansha, Shanghai

Qingdao Eurochestries Festival  
Qingdao



# 2019 EUROPE TOUR

In 2019, NYO-China assembled 101 especially talented musicians for the ensemble's first venture to the birthplace of classical music: Europe.

To prepare for their European debut, the orchestra gathered at Shanghai University for a two-week residency with faculty drawn from the principal players of leading international orchestras. There, students underwent an intensive

regimen of sectional rehearsals, master classes, and one-on-one lessons with their section's Teaching Artist, as well as full orchestral rehearsals with the season's featured conductor Ludovic Morlot. Students also assembled a variety of chamber music performances that were performed at an open recital near the end of the residency.

The ensemble made their 2019 premiere on August 1 at the Shanghai Oriental

Art Center with a sold-out concert led by Maestro Morlot and featuring Garrick Ohlsson, the first and so far only American to win the International Chopin Piano Competition. The next day, the orchestra embarked on their tour of Europe, with stops at some of the most prestigious festivals across the continent: Germany's Young Euro Classic (in a lineup that included fellow youth orchestras including NYO-USA, NYO-Germany, and the European



## Teaching Artists

**Wen Qian** | Violin I  
Metropolitan Opera Orchestra

**Qing Li** | Violin II  
Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Principal 2nd

**Nibg Shi** | Viola  
Liège Royal Philharmonic Orchestra Principal

**Yunyin Gu** | Cello  
Seattle Symphony Orchestra

**Daxun Zhang** | Double Bass  
The Tianjin Juilliard School

**Yong Ma** | Flute  
China National Opera, Principal

**Chengwen Lai** | Oboe  
Seattle Symphony Orchestra

**Yao Guang Zhai** | Clarinet  
Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Principal

**Fei Xie** | Bassoon  
Minnesota Orchestra, Principal

**Xiao-Ming Han** | French Horn  
German Radio Philharmonic Orchestra, Principal

**Guang Chen** | Trumpet  
Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing

**Wei Zhu** | Trombone  
Bremer Philharmonic, Principal

**Haiyu Wang** | Tuba  
China NCPA Orchestra, Associate Principal

**She-e Wu** | Percussion  
Northwestern University

**Jieyin Wu** | Harp  
Concert Harpist





Union Youth Orchestra), the United Kingdom's Snape Proms, and Italy's Bolzano Festival Bolzen. All throughout, the orchestra was warmly received by both audiences and critics alike.

Of special significance was the orchestra's performance in Germany, where the ensemble performed not only for audiences inside the historic Berlin Konzerthaus, but also for millions of viewers from all across Europe on account of its performance being live broadcast via ARTE. While in London, a select number of students were also invited to the Embassy of the People's Republic of China of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; there, members of NYO-China performed a series of chamber pieces following a speech from Ambassador Liu Xiaoming welcoming the students to the Embassy.



## Venues

**Shanghai Oriental Art Center**  
Shanghai, China

**Berlin Konzerthaus**  
Young Euro Classic  
Berlin, Germany

**Snape Maltings Concert Hall**  
Snape Proms  
Snape, United Kingdom

**Fondazione Teatro Comunale**  
Bolzano Festival  
Bolzano, Italy



## Program

**Tianjin Suite,**  
Movements 1 (Sunlight)  
and 3 (Twilight)  
Ye Xiaogang

**Piano Concerto No. 5 in E-flat Major**  
Ludwig van Beethoven

**Symphony No. 5 in D Minor**  
Dmitri Shostakovich



“Ms. Liu, 19, an utterly disarming presence in her Snoopy T-shirt, played the melody as beautifully and soulfully as I have ever heard it.”

*In These Orchestras, Youth Meets Beauty* (July 18, 2017)

By James R. Oestreich, *The New York Times*



PRESS &  
MEDIA



# IN THE NEWS

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NYO-China's program and concert tours attract coverage from prominent media outlets throughout China and around the world. A selection of these can be found here.

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**The New York Times**

*"If Saturday's performance was a test run for this new venture, these Chinese musicians scored big."*

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**HUFFPOST**

*"provides exceptional young musicians with an opportunity to ... lay the foundation for strong state-to-state relationships"*

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**npr**

*"Fantastic sound!"*

---

**WQXR**

*"very impressive playing"*

---

**CCTV**

*"The concert was a euphoric experience for audiences, with all of them craving another encore."*

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**Listen**  
LIFE WITH MUSIC & CULTURE

*"marks an opportunity for Chinese and American people to surprise themselves and come together"*





# IN THE NEWS



*“NYO-China will surely transform music education in China”*



*“this program shows its students the power of team work, the value of listening to each other, and the rewards of friendship, and brings inestimable wealth to their lives”*



*“NYO-China offers a path for all young musicians to pursue their dream, no matter their background or their finances”*



*“When these young musicians play, China speaks; when they listen, China listens”*



*“These young musicians are heroes – for China, and for classical music around the world”*



*“NYO-China allows young Chinese to build bridges with other cultures as music ambassadors”*







NYO-China's Managing Director Vincent Accetola hosting a press conference in Shanghai to announce the inaugural National Youth Orchestra of China. (12/10/2016)



Guest Conductor Ludovic Morlot speaking to a reporter from China Daily. (7/26/2017)



Vincent Accetola speaking to News China Magazine at its studio in New York City. (7/7/2019)



NYO-China's Director of Operations Peggie Zhong at an event at the Yale Center Beijing. (7/23/2018)



Vincent Accetola announcing details about the 2019 residency at Shanghai University School of Music. (4/26/2019)



Peggie Zhong at a pre-concert reception for NYO-USA at the National Center for Performing Arts in Beijing. (7/29/2019)



NYO-China's Honorary Tuanzhang Ye Xiaogang speaking with reporters from CCTV, iQiyi, and Fenghuang TV at the Yale Center Beijing. (7/23/2018)



Vincent Accetola and NYO-China's Director Emeritus Nicholas Brown being interviewed by CCTV prior to a chamber concert at the Central Conservatory of Music's Opera & Concert Hall. (7/28/2018)



Dean of the Yale School of Music Robert Blocker speaking to reporters from CCTV, Tencent Video, and Beijing TV at the Central Conservatory of Music. (7/28/2018)



## IN THE NEWS

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*“The orchestra personifies not only the aggressive power of Shostakovich’s Fifth Symphony, but also the sorrow of being alone in a world full of violence. They savor all the bitterness of this piece, with not just the most combative of marches but the most delicate of solos.”*

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*“The orchestra performed flawlessly, with every section playing precisely, responding to the conductor without hesitation to create a sound that is full and touching.”*

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*“Listening to NYO-China’s young musicians performing Shostakovich’s Symphony No. 5, you would fully hear the sorrow and grief of the third movement, and the clear but progressive structure of the fourth. It was clear that they were not merely rushing through a performance, but rather telling a story with music.”*

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*“Throughout the course of the concert, the orchestra led audiences deeper and deeper into a world of musical beauty. This performance was a demonstration of excellence, and an exhibition of these young musicians’ superb skills.”*

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*“NYO-China shows a bright future of classic music in China.”*





SPECIAL  
THANKS



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

## Sponsors



## Supporting Organizations



## Media





# FRIENDS & ALLIES

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NYU Shanghai

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Shanghai Conservatory of Music

Sichuan Conservatory of Music

SupChina

The United States Embassy in Beijing

Xinghai Conservatory of Music

Yale Center Beijing



2019 Presenter in China

2019 Residency Co-Host

2018 Residency Co-Host











NYO-China with Yuja Wang and Ludovic Morlot  
at Carnegie Hall on July 22, 2017



*Photo Credit to Chris Lee*

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