

MARGARET HILLIS AWARD FOR ARTISTIC AND ORGANIZATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT CRITERIA AND SCORING



The **Margaret Hillis Award for Artistic and Organizational Achievement** is given in memory of Margaret Hillis, founder of the Chicago Symphony Chorus and its conductor for 37 years, for her more than 40 years of professional achievement and outstanding contributions to the choral art. This award is presented to a member chorus that demonstrates both artistic achievement and a strong organizational structure with financial stability for a significant period of time. The awardee also exhibits a commitment to access, diversity, equity, and inclusion, community engagement, and education.

CRITERIA – 35 POINTS MAX

The organization demonstrates exceptional artistic achievement, supported by a thoughtful programming philosophy, repertoire highlights, and the provided recordings.	10 Points Highly Compelling	8 Points Very Compelling	6 Points Compelling	4 Points Somewhat Compelling	2 Points Minimally Compelling	0 Points Not Compelling
The organization exhibits a strong organizational structure, supported by their sound fiscal policy and provided financial statements. Any deficits are explained, as well as efforts towards debt management.	10 Points Highly Compelling	8 Points Very Compelling	6 Points Compelling	4 Points Somewhat Compelling	2 Points Minimally Compelling	0 Points Not Compelling
The organization demonstrates a strong commitment to access, diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts.	5 Points Highly Compelling	4 Points Very Compelling	3 Points Compelling	2 Points Somewhat Compelling	2 Points Minimally Compelling	0 Points Not Compelling
The organization demonstrates a strong commitment to their community through education programs, community engagement, and/or initiatives that reach new audiences	5 Points Highly Compelling	4 Points Very Compelling	3 Points Compelling	2 Points Somewhat Compelling	2 Points Minimally Compelling	0 Points Not Compelling
A letter of support from an external stakeholder contributes evidence from the community in favor of the organization and further demonstrates their strong artistic and organizational standing.	5 Points Highly Compelling	4 Points Very Compelling	3 Points Compelling	2 Points Somewhat Compelling	2 Points Minimally Compelling	0 Points Not Compelling