

GARRICK OHLSSON

Class of 1966

Inducted 1998

Garrick Ohlsson of the White Plains High School Class of 1966 ranks among the world's foremost concert pianists, widely known for both his prodigious technique and extraordinarily broad performance repertoire.

Born in White Plains, Mr. Ohlsson began his piano studies at the comparatively late age of eight. He also studied at the Westchester Conservatory of Music and, at thirteen, entered The Julliard School in New York City.

At White Plains High School, he excelled in mathematics and languages, but chose a career on the concert stage. Soon after graduation, he won first prize at two prestigious venues -- the 1966 Busoni Competition in Italy and the 1968 Montreal Piano Competition.

It was his Gold Medal triumph at the 1970 Chopin Competition in Warsaw that brought him world recognition as one of the finest pianists and preeminent interpreters of Chopin of his generation.

Mr. Ohlsson commands an unusually wide and eclectic repertoire, ranging from Mozart, Beethoven and Brahms to twentieth century masters such as Rachmaninoff, Ravel, and Bartok. He has recorded extensively. The complete sonatas of Carl Maria von Weber was nominated the Solo Instrument Record of the Year by Ovation Magazine, and his recording of the Busoni Concerto was nominated for a Grammy.

In addition to worldwide engagements as a solo recitalist and chamber musician, he performs regularly with the world's major orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic, and the Boston, Chicago and San Francisco symphony orchestras.