

## HISTORY

The origins of the Ukrainian National Tchaikovsky Academy of Music stem from 1863 with the Kyiv Society of Music and Drama Lovers establishing the Music Department and the famous Ukrainian composer Mykhailo Verbytskyi becoming its first director.

A significant contribution to the transformation of the Kyiv Music College into a conservatory was made by Petro Tchaikovsky. Ukraine held an important place in his life and creative destiny.

One of the frequent guests of the College was Serhii Rachmaninov. In one of his letters to the emperor, he wrote about the institution as follows:

"The Kyiv Music College I visited made the most pleasant impression on me. I attended the lessons of six piano and two violin teachers, the cello class, the classes of harmony, theory, flute, double bass and the classes of two singing teachers."

The Kyiv Music College has always attracted famous statesmen and patrons who were fond of art and cheered for the development of Kyiv's musical culture. Thus, in 1912, Mykhailo Tereshchenko, a well-known Kyiv businessman, donated a significant amount of funds for the maintenance of the institution. Also among the prominent figures associated with the history of the Kyiv Conservatory were Anton Rubinstein and Serhiy Rachmaninov.

In 1913, with the assistance of Serhiy Rachmaninov and at his request, the Kyiv Music College was renamed into the Kyiv Conservatory. This decision was followed by numerous congratulations sent by representatives of delegations from various leading musical institutions: the Royal Music Institute of Berlin, the Dresden Royal Conservator, the Royal Court Theatre in Dresden, the Conservatory of the Music Society (Cracow Conservatory), etc.

Volodymyr Puhalskyi, who defended the principles of high professionalism in the Kyiv's musical art, became the first rector of the new conservatory.

In 1940, the Conservatory was named after P. Tchaikovsky, a famous composer and teacher.

In 1992, the establishment was transformed into the Ukrainian National Tchaikovsky Academy of Music, which nowadays occupies a leading position in the field of art and education, providing high-quality training for young musicians and teachers.

On September 5, 1995, by Decree of the President of Ukraine No. 817/95, the Kyiv State Conservatory was reorganized into the Ukrainian National Tchaikovsky Academy of Music for high pedagogical, and scientific and creative

achievements, a significant contribution to the development of the musical culture of the state. Academy was the first among the higher art institutions of Ukraine to acquire the status of a national art institution.

The cultural and artistic cooperation of the Academy was effectively developed, forging partner relations with various embassies of foreign countries – France, Great Britain, the Czech Republic, Poland, Argentina, etc. The Academy also participated in the UN artistic programmes: *Music of All Generations* (1999); the UN High Commissioner for Refugees programme (2000); *March of Peace*, the artistic projects of the President of Ukraine; etc.

Today, the Ukrainian National Tchaikovsky Academy of Music is a leading institution of professional musical higher education in Ukraine, which is additionally emphasized by the wonderful team of honorary professors. Among the famous personalities:

- **RICARDO MUTI**

Famous Italian conductor. From 1986 to 2005, he was the artistic director of the La Scala Theatre. Conductor of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the Luigi Cherubini Youth Orchestra. Since 2011, he has held the position of the Lifetime Honorary Director of the Rome Opera House. Since 2018, he has been the Honorary Professor of the Ukrainian National Tchaikovsky Academy of Music.

- **PLÁCIDO DOMINGO**

A world-famous opera singer and conductor. One of the most famous tenors of his time and the most influential singers with outstanding acting skills in the history of opera. From 2003 to 2011, Domingo was the artistic director and the general director of the Washington National Opera. Since 2000, he has been the general director of the Los Angeles Opera. Plácido Domingo was awarded the Birgit Nilsson Prize for outstanding achievement in classical music. His repertoire includes 150 roles and more than 3,900 performances. Domingo has conducted major symphony and opera orchestras in the United States and Europe. On February 14, 2019, Plácido Domingo was awarded the title of the Honorary Professor of the Ukrainian National Tchaikovsky Academy of Music.

- **JACK MA**

Jack Ma is a Chinese entrepreneur, founder, and chairman of the board of directors of Alibaba Group. One of the richest people in the world. Since 2019, he is the Honorary Professor of the Ukrainian National Tchaikovsky Academy of Music.