



Indianapolis Symphony Society Shares Artistic Highlights, Operating Results at Annual Meeting

(December 4, 2018) – The Indiana Symphony Society (ISS) released its audited financial results during its Annual Meeting held Monday at the Hilbert Circle Theatre.

2017-2018 Season Highlights

- Maestro John Williams generously donated his time and talent to conduct the ISO for two unforgettable performances
- The ISO was one of only four orchestras selected for the Kennedy Center’s SHIFT Festival of American Orchestras
- 15,922 students and their teachers experienced the music of the ISO through the Duke Energy *Discovery Series*
- The orchestra performed live musical accompaniment to screenings of five award-winning films including *La La Land*, *E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial*, and three movies of the *Harry Potter* saga during the Bank of America *Film Series*
- The two-week *Mozart’s Final Year* festival highlighted the versatility of the orchestra through the composer’s haunting Requiem and a fully staged interpretation of *The Magic Flute*
- The *Teddy Bear Series*, supported by the Tobias Family Foundation and PNC, debuted a new concert for young audiences: *Monkey’s Jungle Jam*. More than 2,000 children and their families experienced 15 *Teddy Bear* performances. The ISO also produced its first children’s book from this series, *The Garden Symphony*
- The ISO debuted a new technological endeavor, *ISO Inside*, allowing people all around the world to view the concert on their computers, tablets, or phones in real time in addition to providing interviews with musicians, guest artists, and conductors

Fiscal Year 2018 Financial Summary

- An all-time ticket sales record was set, with revenue topping \$11 million – a 7.8 percent increase over FY17
- Annual fund contributions totaled \$8.7 million
- Total contributed income, which included special project funding, increased by 4.1% over FY17
- Total operating income for FY18 was \$26.9 million, with audited results reporting a general operating loss of \$964,000
- Overall attendance totaled 280,138 patrons
- Nearly 10,000 new households attended ISO concerts during FY18

“The most significant lesson from FY18 is that in recent years, the ISO budget has relied on unrealistically aggressive sales and fundraising goals,” said Chief Executive Officer James Johnson. “For the 2019 fiscal year, we have reset the course. First, the ISO is making more conservative revenue forecasts while reducing expenses. Secondly, we are taking advantage of opportunities to invest in projects that will generate more income for the ISO.”

Johnson and the ISO’s Senior Management Team worked diligently to identify an ambitious yet realistic financial plan for FY19. Programs, events, and projects which use the ISO’s resources without contributing significantly to

the bottom line – or the orchestra’s core mission – were cut. Additionally, a bold new approach to the Kroger *Symphony on the Prairie* summer series will bring in more performances and new enhancements to the patron experience.

Musicians Recognized for 25 Years of Service

The following musicians were recognized for 25 years of service to the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra:

- Victoria Griswold, Violin
- Laura Cones, Assistant Principal Librarian

Election to the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra Board of Directors

The following individuals were elected to the Indiana Symphony Society Board of Directors:

- Levi Garraway – Senior Vice President, Global Development and Medical Affairs, Lilly Oncology
- Liz Huldin – Executive Vice President, The Heritage Group
- William H. Landschulz – Senior Medical Fellow, Patient Safety, Eli Lilly and Company
- Karen Ann P. Lloyd – Executive Vice President and General Counsel, Community Health Network
- Chad Slaughter – Managing Director, Fifth Third Private Bank

The following individuals were re-elected to the ISS Board of Directors: Deborah Ware Balogh, David Morgan, Marianne Williams Tobias, and Ralph Wilhelm.

Election of Indiana Symphony Society Officers

The following individuals were elected as officers of the Indiana Symphony Society: Yvonne H. Shaheen, Chair; Michael Becher, Vice Chair; Greg Loewen, Treasurer; and Charlene Barnette, Secretary.

The complete ISO annual report can be found in the attached document.

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About the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra:

Under the leadership of Music Director Krzysztof Urbanski and Principal Pops Conductor Jack Everly, the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra has become a leading orchestra in the nation with its commitment to artistic excellence, diverse and creative programming inside and outside its historic Hilbert Circle Theatre home, its engagement with communities throughout the state of Indiana and its ambitious approaches to music education, performance and collaboration. In the decades since its founding in 1930, the ISO has presented a range of classical, pops, family and holiday programming to hundreds of thousands of people each year; received national and international acclaim with its radio broadcasts, tours and recordings; and became the first major orchestra with a resident ensemble (Time for Three).

The ISO continues to engage new audiences through innovative programming including the Fifth Third Bank *Lunch Break Series* of casual 45-minute performances each summer, the holiday traditions of the IPL *Yuletide Celebration*, the Stella Artois *Happy Hour at the Symphony Series*, and the popular Bank of America *Film Series*.

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