



INDIANAPOLIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



2022-2023 SEASON OVERVIEW

**OUR COMMITMENT
TO THE ARTS
IN INDIANA**

THANK YOU

from James M. Johnson

Dear friend,

Your support for the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra allows us to continue our vital work connecting the community with life-changing musical experiences. As you read about the ISO's impact in this report, I hope you'll feel a sense of pride in knowing your essential role in this success.

This season brought encouraging growth and new opportunities for audience engagement at Hilbert Circle Theatre, Conner Prairie, and throughout central Indiana.

- » Through our Education and Community Engagement initiatives, the ISO served more than 9,000 youth in central Indiana with music education experiences.
- » The ISO also established a new relationship with IndyGo through the award-winning Music in Transit Series featuring the ISO Cello Ensemble.
- » Additionally, the second year of our initiative with the Sphinx Organization brought performances to the Madam Walker Legacy Center, Butler University, and Arts for Lawrence as part of our work to galvanize diversity and inclusion in classical music.

As we look ahead to the 2023-24 season, the ISO will embark on a strategic planning process to assess the evolving landscape and establish a framework for resilience and growth. The strategic plan will identify a path forward that positions the ISO as a thriving cultural organization that meets the changing needs of the community we serve. As a supporter and patron, you will receive updates and opportunities to participate in the discussions as we plan the future of the ISO.

I look forward to seeing you at Kroger *Symphony on the Prairie* this summer and at Hilbert Circle Theatre starting in September. Thank you for your belief in our mission.

With gratitude,



James M. Johnson, CEO



2022-2023 Season Highlights

128

performances

102,738

attendees at HCT

95,000

expected attendance at SOTP

133

rehearsals

309

rehearsal hours

300+

guest conductors
and artists

13

composers who
have never had
their music played
at the ISO

Thanks to the
Unheard Voices
initiative, **20**
pieces by women
and composers
of color were
performed
by the ISO

5,575

subscriptions

2,795

household
subscribers

13%

increase in
ticketing revenue
from FY22.
*Highest percentage
increase since FY18.*

5,622

student tickets sold

The performance of a piece by Pavel
Haas featured the most musicians on
stage, with **94 musicians**

The People of the ISO

49

full-time
administrative staff

76

current
musicians

5,200+

volunteer hours

60+

corporate
sponsors

2,200+

individual
donors

200+

nonprofit and community organizations
received ticket donations



AES Indiana Yuletide Celebration

AES Indiana *Yuletide Celebration* celebrated the gifts of Principal Pops Conductor **Maestro Jack Everly**, guest host **Frank Moreno**, and over **85** singers, artists, puppeteers, dancers, production assistants, choreographers, writers, stage crew members, wardrobe assistants, and more.

DID YOU KNOW...

38,650

total tickets
sold

30

shows in three
weeks

6

full days to build
the set

130

hours of rehearsals
in two weeks



Scenes from the Shakespeare Festival

During the final two weeks of the classical season, the ISO welcomed stage director **Kim Martin-Cotten** and twelve actors to perform scenes from Shakespeare's plays while Artistic Advisor **Jun Märkl** and the ISO performed music from Prokofiev's ballet *Romeo and Juliet* and Mendelssohn's Incidental Music to *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Each concert featured an abbreviated presentation of the plays interspersed with music. The results were two unique musicodramatic experiences, complete with swords, elixirs, fairies, and a donkey head! Bringing a new type of concert experience to our audience is an important part of the ISO's mission.



Musician Notes

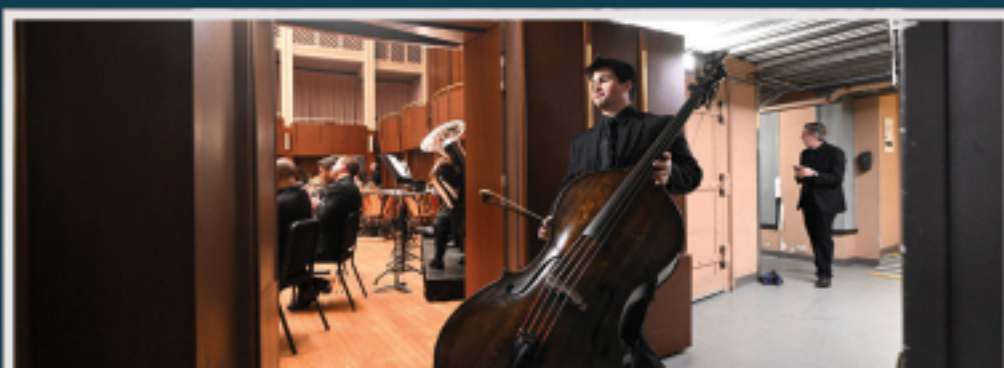
MUSICIANS GIVING BACK

ISO musicians give at least 6 hours to the community through numerous opportunities throughout Central Indiana. This year, ISO musicians donated **over 300 hours** through their volunteer efforts.

You can find ISO musicians teaching and performing around town at Newfields, Boys and Girls Club, ArtMix, IU Hospital, Eskenazi Hospital, Butler University, Indiana University, Arts for Lawrence, Madam Walker Theatre, IndyGo buses, Indy Parks, high schools, retirement centers, and so much more!

FORMER MYO STUDENT JOINS THE ORCHESTRA!

Double bassist **Sharif Ibrahim** is familiar with the educational opportunities the ISO provides and the doors they can open. After participating in the Metropolitan Youth Orchestra, Sharif studied double bass performance and received his Bachelor of Music from Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music. This past season through a competitive audition, Sharif joined the ISO as a professional musician!



"I feel very privileged to be a part of the ISO. Aside from the high level of music making that I get to be a part of week after week, it also feels like a family. It's a very warm place to come to work, and I am grateful for that and all my amazing colleagues."

—JULIE BECKEL, HORN



"Our Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra has earned its place as a trend-setter, a priceless treasure in the life of our community, and a balancing point in the ever-growing cultural enhancement of Indiana and beyond. Its very existence demands our continuing financial support—as well as our attendance—to enjoy the fruits of our musicians' labor and to enhance our own lives."

—CAROL DENNIS, ISO SUPPORTER



METROPOLITAN YOUTH ORCHESTRA (MYO)

Highlight of the year: The MYO played side-by-side in concert with ISO musicians and received a standing ovation!

163
students
K-12

8
partnerships with
local nonprofits
and universities

\$15,000

in outgoing scholarships to
graduating seniors

Investing in the Community

The ISO is committed to serving the community through experiences and programs that create a lifelong relationship with orchestral music. The ISO collaborated with 39 nonprofits and events around Central Indiana this past season.



DISCOVERY CONCERTS

Discovery Concerts returned in person this past season with Assistant Conductor **Su-Han Yang** and narrator **Sampson Levingston**.

7
concerts

54
volunteers

7,600+
students
attended

11
counties
represented in
the audience

TEDDY BEAR SERIES

9 Teddy Bear concerts in **5** counties
with over **1,400** kids served



ISO in the News

1,194

news stories featuring the ISO

74,300

total social media
followers

424,489

unique website
visits

1,199

broadcast (TV, radio, etc.) mentions
featuring the ISO

Upgrades to the Musician Practice Rooms at Hilbert Circle Theatre

An ISO musician made a generous gift to improve the musician practice rooms at Hilbert Circle Theatre. Thanks to their generosity, the ISO is repainting the practice rooms and the support spaces, and the new carpet installed last fall has created a better and more comfortable environment for the musicians.

The symphony is undertaking other improvements for the comfort and performance of our musicians, conductors, and guest artists, such as upgrading the HVAC unit and installing new controls for our practice rooms, dressing rooms, and backstage area.





INDIANAPOLIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

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“The ISO is such a great orchestra that I am lucky to be a part of. Keeping our artistic level high and being present in the community would be impossible without our amazing donors! I am always humbled to have such amazing support from our community. Thank you for helping the ISO.”

—JENNIFER CHRISTEN, PRINCIPAL OBOE