

For Release: Tuesday, July 17, 2012

Contact:

[Tim Northcutt](#) – (317) 262-4904

[Jessica Di Santo](#) – (317) 229-7082

## **Legendary Glenn Miller Orchestra Returns to Perform in Marsh *Symphony on the Prairie* Concerts with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra July 27-28**

INDIANAPOLIS – One of the great ensembles of the Big Band era, the Glenn Miller Orchestra will return to perform with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra in Marsh *Symphony on the Prairie* Series concerts Friday and Saturday, July 27 and 28, at 8 p.m. at the Conner Prairie Amphitheater. This weekend's instrumentation, consisting of the Glenn Miller Orchestra plus full strings and French horns, represents the original orchestration that Glenn Miller used in his Army/Air Force Band while performing overseas for troops during the Second World War.

Under the direction of its new bandleader, Nick Hilscher, the Glenn Miller Orchestra and the ISO will perform many of the band's timeless hits and signature works, such as "In The Mood," "Moonlight Serenade," "Tuxedo Junction," "Chattanooga Choo Choo," "Elmer's Tune" and "(I've Got a Gal in) Kalamazoo," among others. Big Band music was meant for dancing, and audience members are encouraged to dance under the stars on the concrete pad in front of the stage. This is the first time that the Glenn Miller Orchestra will perform on stage with the Orchestra since it made its Marsh *Symphony on the Prairie* debut in 2007 (previous occasions did not include the ISO).

Tickets are priced at \$22 in advance and \$27 at the gate for adults, with children's prices (ages 2-12) at \$11 in advance and \$13 at the gate. Tickets may be purchased at any Marsh, MainStreet or O'Malia's supermarket location, by calling the Hilbert Circle Theatre Box Office at (317) 639-4300, toll free at (800) 366-8457, or by visiting the ISO's website at [www.IndianapolisSymphony.org](http://www.IndianapolisSymphony.org). Premium Parking passes may be purchased for \$20 each exclusively through the Hilbert Circle Theatre Box Office.

Patrons can bring their own food, beverages (including alcohol) and blankets or lawn chairs to enjoy picnicking to the music on the beautiful natural grass amphitheater or reserve a table for only \$59 with seating for up to 10 people near the stage. With the exception of the limited Premium Parking spaces, all other parking is free.

If rain is possible on concert days, the public can stay up-to-date by listening to radio station WIBC (93.1 FM), the official station for Marsh *Symphony on the Prairie* weather and traffic, or through the ISO's mSymphony weather text message service by texting WEATHER [date of performance] (e.g. WEATHER JULY 27) to 24025. This service will be available on every concert date and will be updated by the ISO as conditions change.

Due to road construction projects on the northeast side of the Indianapolis metropolitan area, please "Know Before You Go" where construction projects are in progress and allow plenty of time to get to Conner Prairie for the concert. Patrons can listen to WIBC-FM for the latest traffic updates when en route to the concerts.

Marsh Supermarkets is the Title Sponsor of the entire 2012 Marsh *Symphony on the Prairie* season and St. Vincent Health is the Premiere Sponsor for the summer series. Barefoot Wine is the official wine sponsor of Marsh *Symphony on the Prairie*. Associate Sponsors for this weekend are MacAllister Machinery and Erie Insurance.

### **Artist Biographies:**

Bandleader Glenn Miller formed the original **Glenn Miller Orchestra** in 1938. The band had a unique sound unlike any other in the era, becoming extremely popular and recording a number of chart successes, including the song that became its theme song, "Moonlight Serenade." After Miller's disappearance in 1944, the band was re-formed under the direction of Tex Beneke, the band's lead tenor saxophonist, singer and one of Miller's long-time close friends. A few years later, the Miller Estate parted ways with Beneke and hired Ray McKinley, principal drummer

in Miller's Army Air Force Band, to organize a new band in 1956. Hollywood contributed to the band's immortality and its founder and original members with the 1953 release of *The Glenn Miller Story*, starring James Stewart and June Allyson. Its popularity garnered award nominations and box office success, as well as top-hit status for its soundtrack album in 1954. The Glenn Miller Orchestra has been touring consistently since, playing an average of 300 dates a year around the globe to millions of fans.

A native of Atlanta, **Nick Hilscher** began his career in his teens by playing piano and singing and in 1998, took a year off from college to become the featured vocalist for the Glenn Miller Orchestra. After graduating from school in 2000 with a degree in piano performance, he returned to the famed band to perform at prestigious venues such as the Hollywood Bowl and New York City's Birdland. He is featured on several of the Orchestra's albums, including *On The Air and Steppin' Out* and in 2002, he recorded his first solo album, *Nick Hilscher Sings with the Glenn Miller Orchestra*. Over the years, he has collaborated various bands and artists such as Louie Bellson, the Gene Krupa Orchestra, The Four Aces and The Mills Brothers. He also was the featured vocalist with the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra and served as its director in 2011. Last January, he returned to the Glenn Miller Orchestra to begin his tenure as the new Music Director and is celebrating his inaugural season in that post.

**In Brief:**

The ISO and legendary Glenn Miller Orchestra will perform many of its signature works from the Big Band era.

Performers: Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra & Glenn Miller Orchestra  
Bandleader: Nick Hilscher, Leader  
Location: Conner Prairie Amphitheater – 13400 N. Allisonville Rd., Fishers, IN  
Date & Time: Fri. & Sat., July 27 & 28, 8 p.m.

**Repertoire:**

The ISO and the Glenn Miller Orchestra will perform many of the band's timeless hits, such as "In The Mood," "Moonlight Serenade," "Tuxedo Junction," "Chattanooga Choo Choo" and "(I've Got a Gal in) Kalamazoo," among others, under the direction of bandleader Nick Hilscher.

**Tickets:**

Adults - \$22 (Advance); \$27 (At Gate)  
Children (Ages 2-12) - \$11 (Advance); \$13 (At Gate)  
Hilbert Circle Theatre Box Office by calling (317) 639-4300; Toll Free (800) 366-8457; in-person at all Marsh, MainStreet and O'Malia's stores, or online at [www.IndianapolisSymphony.org](http://www.IndianapolisSymphony.org)

###