



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, Musicians' Union fail to reach contract agreement
First two weeks of performances cancelled

INDIANAPOLIS – The Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra and the Indianapolis Musicians, Local #3 of the American Federation of Musicians Union failed to reach agreement on a new contract, despite two days of negotiations to try to reach common ground. The previous contract expired on September 2, 2012.

The ISO worked day and night on a new contract, but regrettably were unable to reach a compromise in last week's ditch effort to maintain the start of ISO's 2012/13 performance season. The gap between what the musicians' union is proposing and what is essential to economically sustain the ISO's future is just too great. The union's proposed extension would only exacerbate the ISO's already difficult financial challenges.

In order to have sufficient time to notify ISO subscribers and single-ticket buyers of the performance schedule, ISO is forced to cancel its first two weekends of performances for the 2012-2013 season (Sept. 14-15 and Sept. 21-23). Additional performances may be cancelled unless an agreement is reached soon.

The ISO's intent all along has been to maintain the artistic quality of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, and to do that in an economically sustainable way. The ISO's proposal, which the musicians' union has rejected, would continue the Orchestra's key music series, including Classical, Pops, Symphony on the Prairie and Yuletide Celebration; aggressively manage all non-artistic expenses; grow the annual giving campaign by raising an additional \$2.5 million per year; develop a more robust planned giving campaign to support the endowment; continue ISO's commitment to quality performances while matching both the orchestra size and performance schedule to actual needs; and ensure that innovation remains an ISO focus for the future.

The ISO will work with the musicians' union to select a new date for talks and is committed to push forward in the hopes of reaching a solution. The ISO board and staff treasure the Symphony Orchestra and all that it means to the City and State.

The ISO will provide updates on its website, www.indianapolissymphony.org, as well as via local news media outlets. Ticketholders can contact the ISO Box Office by calling 317-639-4300. ISO subscribers may email the ISO at subscriber@indianapolissymphony.org.

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