

*Source: Joint release from the ISO and the ISO Orchestra Committee*

For Immediate Release  
Tuesday, September 8, 2020

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### **Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra and Musicians Reach Accord**

Indianapolis...In a joint commitment to the long-term financial stability of the organization, the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra and the ISO's musicians have announced a 1-year agreement, providing both health benefits at no cost to the musicians and a financial stipend as part of a pathway to return world-class music to Central Indiana.

"Together, we are committed to bringing symphonic music back to downtown," said James Johnson, CEO of the ISO. "We are deeply appreciative of the understanding and commitment of our talented musicians and pledge to work collaboratively to engage our patrons and greater community in new and meaningful ways.

"With today's news, we can state unequivocally that the ISO is here to serve, and to stay," Johnson added.

"As we work to re-emerge from this challenging period, the musicians wish to express our sincere appreciation to the ISO's loyal patrons and donors for their past and ongoing support of our orchestra," said Brian Smith, Orchestra Committee Chair. "We look forward to once again bringing great music to our beloved city as soon as possible."

Terms of the agreement, which continues through August 29, 2021, include health coverage for musicians paid for by the ISO; a weekly payment of \$500 to musicians beginning in January; and a commitment by the musicians to provide six weeks of performances and community engagement activities to connect the ISO with audiences. Musicians and staff will work together to come up with innovative, reimagined programming to continue to bring music to Central Indiana during the upcoming year. More details will be forthcoming.

"While working toward a long-term contract, we look forward to our continuing collaboration with the musicians to build community engagement and educational activities that will connect with current and future patrons to support our efforts during these difficult times," Johnson concluded. "As the anchor of the arts community, the ISO will move forward with renewed optimism and, in concert with our musicians, confront the challenges our organization and our community face."