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## **Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra to Receive National Endowment for the Arts Grant for Community Concert Series Launched this Year**

*ISO's 317 Series is among 1,023 awards made nationally by NEA*

INDIANAPOLIS – Through its grant-making to thousands of non-profits each year, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) promotes opportunities for people in communities across America to experience the arts and exercise their creativity.

In the second major grant announcement of fiscal year 2015, the NEA will make a \$30,000 award to the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra to fund the *317 Series* of concerts in the Hendricks County and Greater Greenwood communities next season. Launched this year, the *317 Series* aims to bring the ISO's music, educational opportunities and neighborhood activities to underserved areas outside of central Indiana.

The NEA will make 1,023 awards totaling \$74.3 million nationwide in this funding round.

NEA Chairman Jane Chu said, "The NEA is committed to advancing learning, fueling creativity, and celebrating the arts in cities and towns across the United States. Funding these new projects like the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra's *317 Series* represents an investment in both local communities and our nation's creative vitality."

"We are grateful to the NEA for recognizing the ISO's commitment to broadening our reach with this new concert series," said Gary Ginstling, CEO of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra. "The NEA grant will help ensure the *317 Series* will continue to help us build audiences for the ISO in greater Indianapolis."

Also funded locally by a grant from The Margot L. and Robert S. Eccles Fund, a charitable fund of Central Indiana Community Foundation, the *317 Series* in Hendricks County and Greater Greenwood included

seven ISO performances featuring masterworks by Brahms, Mozart, Ravel and Rimsky-Korsakov with renowned guest artists. Within each area, the ISO musicians provided mentorship opportunities, master classes and audition workshops to hundreds of music students from Avon Community High School (Hendricks County) and Center Grove Community High School (Greenwood) and performed in small chamber groups at various public events. In addition, the ISO led two “Behind the Music” education programs in both communities, which allowed adults to interact directly with musicians and staff and to learn more about symphonic music.

The final *317 Series* concert this season will be held at Center Grove High School in Greenwood on Sunday, June 7, at 3 p.m. For that performance, ISO Music Director Krzysztof Urbański and the ISO will present Gustav Mahler’s Symphony No. 5. Single tickets are \$20 for adults, \$10 for students. For information, go to [www.IndianapolisSymphony.org](http://www.IndianapolisSymphony.org) or call the ISO Box Office at (317) 639-4300.

Next year’s performances in the *317 Series* will be announced in the coming weeks.

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