



INDIANAPOLIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

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Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra presents its annual *Celebration of Black History* concert Feb. 9

Free performance showcases violinist Adé Williams, the First Place Laureate of the Annual Sphinx Competition, the national organization dedicated to transforming lives through diversity in the arts

INDIANAPOLIS – The Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra is proud to present its annual *Celebration of Black History* concert on Tuesday, Feb. 9, at 7:30 p.m. at the Hilbert Circle Theatre.

The ISO's *Celebration of Black History* concert honors the significant impact of African-American culture on classical and symphonic music, as well as the artistry and creativity of black artists, conductors and composers. Making a return appearance to the podium is [Chelsea Tipton, II](#), an accomplished musician and sought-after guest conductor with numerous major symphony orchestras across the U.S. Maestro Tipton has programmed year's musical celebration with masterworks by composers Michael Abels, Duke Ellington, Verdi and J. Rosamond Johnson, plus Barber's stirring *Adagio for Strings* with accompanying narration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream Speech" by guest narrator, King Ro Conley.

Also appearing as a special guest soloist is 17-year-old violin virtuoso [Adé Williams](#), the 2012 First Place Laureate of the Sphinx Competition, who will perform William Grant Still's *Summerland* and Ravel's *Tzigane*. Founded in Detroit, Michigan, the [Sphinx Organization](#) was created to address cultural stereotypes of classical music and to encourage the participation of African-Americans and Latinos in the field. Today, Sphinx programs reach more than 100,000 students nationwide through a variety of education, arts leadership and artistic development programs. Beginning in 2016, the ISO joins the Sphinx Organization's illustrious list of artistic partners that will regularly showcase

Sphinx soloists on stage.

An hour before the concert, patrons can enjoy a special performance by students and family members from the ISO's Metropolitan Youth Orchestra. The MYO is celebrating its [20th anniversary season](#) in 2015-2016.

Admission to the ISO's *Celebration of Black History* concert is free; however, a general admission ticket is required. Patrons can reserve up to 10 tickets online at www.IndianapolisSymphony.org or pick up tickets in advance or on the day of the concert at the ISO Box Office. Seating for this event is on a first-come, first-served basis. The concert is approximately 90 minutes and is performed without intermission.

For information, call (317) 639-4300.

The ISO's *Celebration of Black History* concert is sponsored by Mays Chemical and *The Indianapolis Recorder*. WTLC FM and WTLC AM are media partners. The ISO is dedicating this year's performance to the late Amos Brown, a distinguished community leader, Radio Hall of Fame broadcaster and columnist for the *Indianapolis Recorder*.

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