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## **ISO Announces Family-Friendly Programs for the Very Young, Debuts Third Original Story Written by ISO Violinist**

### *Teddy Bear Concert Series Expands to Include Carmel Library Performance*

INDIANAPOLIS (Jan. 23, 2017)—The Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra announced its spring line-up of family-friendly concerts and programs for its youngest audiences today. The ISO will take the popular [Teddy Bear Concert Series](#) to the Carmel Clay Public Library for the first time, also returning to Avon, Indianapolis, and Johnson County libraries. The [ISO Learning Community](#) also hosts *SymFUNy Sundays* performances, designed for preschool and elementary school students and their parents, and Early Childhood Educator Workshops designed for teachers of young children.

**New Original Story** *The Garden Symphony*, written by ISO violinist [Victoria Griswold](#), will debut as the newest addition to the series on Jan. 30 at the Central Library in Indianapolis. The story follows a ladybug's search through the garden for her own special song and invites students to engage in movement activities. Five ISO musicians will perform musical excerpts, including Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* and *The Flight of the Bumblebee*. Like all stories in the Teddy Bear Concert Series, this new story is tailored for 3- to 6-year-olds.

The full line-up of [Teddy Bear Concert Series](#), presented by Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield and underwritten by Friends of Ava Button, includes:

- Monday, Jan. 30, 10:30 a.m. - Central Library, *The Garden Symphony*
- Wednesday, Feb. 8, 10:30 a.m. - Central Library, *The Garden Symphony*
- Saturday, March 4, 11 a.m. - Carmel Clay Public Library, *Giant's Violin*
- Saturday, March 18, 11 a.m. - Johnson County Public Library, White River Branch, *The Garden Symphony*

- Saturday, March 25, 10:30 a.m. - Central Library, *The Garden Symphony*
- Saturday, April 1, 11 a.m. - Johnson County Public Library, Franklin Branch, *The Giant's Violin*
- Tuesday, April 18, 10:30 a.m. - Central Library, *The Garden Symphony*
- Monday, April 24, 11 a.m. - Avon Public Library, *The Big Note*
- Friday, May 19, 11 a.m. - Avon Public Library, *The Garden Symphony*

The ISO launched the free series in 2014 in Indianapolis and continues to expand the program to more Central Indiana locations. Enthusiasts can follow [Leonard "Leo" Bearstein](#), the *Teddy Bear Series* mascot, on Instagram.

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### ***SymFUNy Sundays Family Concerts***

Two one-hour, family-friendly concerts remain this season. Pre-concert activities begin at 2 p.m. at Hilbert Circle Theatre and include interactive experiences with musicians and instruments. The series is presented by Dow AgroSciences.

#### **[Enchantment Theatre Company Performs \*The Firebird\*](#)**

Sunday, Jan. 29, 3 p.m. Aram Demirjian, Conductor

Weaving together physical theater, masks, puppetry, shadow play, and magic with the evocative music of Igor Stravinsky's *The Firebird*, Enchantment Theatre eloquently tells this captivating tale.

#### **[Music In 3D Featuring Dance Kaleidoscope](#)**

Sunday, April 2, 3 p.m. Vince Lee, Conductor

Dance Kaleidoscope joins the ISO and conductor Vince Lee for this exciting, family-friendly performance. Stories unfold as they explore favorite pieces from Brahms to Bernstein.

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#### **[Early Childhood Educator Workshops](#)**

Monday, April 24, 9:30 a.m. to noon Hilbert Circle Theatre Cost is \$50. [Registration](#) is required.

Musician and drama teacher Megan Masterman shares resources to help preschool teachers and caregivers build age-appropriate music programs based on early childhood standards. Masterman also recently created a lively new character, the ISO's [Thinking Cat](#), who shares ideas for incorporating the arts in the classrooms in her [blog](#) for teachers.

Visit [IndianapolisSymphony.org](http://IndianapolisSymphony.org) or call the ISO box office for tickets and more information at 317.639.4300.

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