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
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" Bearnstein, 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 or call the ISO box office for tickets and more information at 317.639.4300.

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