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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A Midwest holiday tradition returns: Indianapolis Symphonic Choir prepares for expanded Festival of Carols

Tickets on sale now! Patrons encouraged to buy early

INDIANAPOLIS (September 7, 2016) – Tickets for the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir’s annual holiday performances of *Festival of Carols* are on sale now. Due to the celebration’s popularity, and following sell-out runs in the past three years, the 2016 performances will expand to include a fifth show. The Indianapolis Symphonic Choir celebrates their 80th Anniversary Season in 2016/2017, welcoming the holidays this year at the Scottish Rite Cathedral in downtown Indianapolis (Sunday, December 4 at 7 p.m.) and the Palladium at the Center for Performing Arts in Carmel (Friday, December 16 at 8 p.m., Saturday, December 17 at 3 p.m., Saturday, December 17 at 8 p.m., and Sunday, December 18 at 3 p.m.).

Tickets range from \$20-\$40 and may be purchased at indychoir.org or by calling the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir at (317) 940-9057 or the Palladium box office at (317) 843-3800. All ages are encouraged to attend the family-friendly show. Student tickets are available for a special price of only \$15.

The 2016 performances of *Festival of Carols* feature the 200-voice Indianapolis Symphonic Choir (among the largest and oldest choruses in the nation) joined by the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra. Although the Symphonic Choir is best known for performing classical music, *Festival of Carols* features a selection of fan-favorite and traditional holiday music performed by chorus and orchestra. Soprano Emily Albrink (December 4 performance), and two-time Grammy Award Winner Soprano Sylvia McNair (December 16-18 performances) will join the 2016 lineup.

“There’s no place like home for the holidays, and this annual musical tradition has become something of a community homecoming for audiences of all ages,” offers Artistic Director Eric Stark, as the Symphonic Choir marks its 80th anniversary season. “I’m particularly excited about world premieres we will give of fresh arrangements of holiday favorites including ‘O Holy Night,’ ‘Silent Night’ and ‘Mary Did You Know’ with two time Grammy Award-winning soprano Sylvia McNair.”

Festival of Carols is made possible by presenting sponsors Bose, McKinney & Evans, Foundation 648 and Simon.

For performance details, audio preview links, photos and ticket information, visit indychoir.org. For a sneak preview of *Festival of Carols*, watch the video [here](#).

About the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir

The Indianapolis Symphonic Choir is honored to be one of the nation’s established and dynamic musical institutions, marking its 80th Anniversary Season in 2016/2017. Among the most active symphonic choruses in the United States, the Choir reaches in excess of 25,000 people each season with more than 25 performances and a comprehensive educational outreach program. The 200 volunteer singers demonstrate the Choir’s commitment to musical excellence through their talent and dedication during each 42-week season. The choral partner of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, the Symphonic Choir was founded in 1937 at the ISO’s request to perform the great choral-orchestral repertoire. This continued

partnership exhibits the very best of collaborative ideals – two independent arts organizations combining their strengths to create beautifully lasting musical results. The Choir is dedicated to excellence in the performance of choral music, the creation of new choral masterworks, and to community outreach and education throughout the community. The Choir is now in its ninth year as the official choral partner of the Indianapolis Public Schools, providing teacher training, educational resources, performance experiences and free printed music. The Symphonic Choir also presents the All-City Honor Choir, a partnership with IPS for musically gifted students. For more information about the Symphonic Choir, visit www.indychoir.org.

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