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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Indianapolis Symphonic Choir Executive Embarking on New Position in the Arts

*Following a 14-year tenure with the Symphonic Choir,  
Michael Pettry looks toward the next chapter of arts leadership*

Indianapolis, Ind – February 15, 2018: The Indianapolis Symphonic Choir congratulates Executive Director Michael Pettry on his recent appointment as the Vice President of Development for The Center for the Performing Arts and The Great American Songbook Foundation. During his tenure with the Symphonic Choir spanning 14 seasons, Pettry elevated the standing of the institution, significantly expanded its financial resources, launched its first-ever endowment campaign, presented concert tours including to Carnegie Hall, championed international CD recordings, and most recently produced the institution's inaugural national television broadcasts via public television.

"I will forever be grateful for Michael's visionary leadership over the past 14 seasons with the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir, and wish him every success in his new role with The Center for the Performing Arts and The Great American Songbook Foundation," shares Dr. Katherine Landschulz, President, Indianapolis Symphonic Choir Board of Directors. "Michael leaves the Symphonic Choir in an exceptionally strong place, positioned solidly on its 81-year legacy, and yet looking boldly forward as a dynamic change agent in the Indiana arts community."

"I join with the Board of the Directors, staff and singers in extending a most heartfelt thank you and congratulations to Michael Pettry as he prepares to leave his position as Executive Director of the Symphonic Choir," adds Dr. Eric Stark, Artistic Director, Indianapolis Symphonic Choir. "During Michael's 14 seasons with the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir, he has been absolutely central to an extended period of growth and refinement that will benefit the Choir for many years to come. His strategic talent and visioning have been especially valuable to our organization; his keen artistic sense and passionate belief in the arts as a legacy to be treasured by an entire community have established him as one of our city's gifted leaders."

"It has been my honor to serve such a beloved and truly unique organization as the Symphonic Choir for these past 14 seasons," states Pettry. "The institution has taken so many programmatic and financial steps forward that I know it will continue to thrive well after my years at the Choir. Now, I look forward to enjoying the beauty of their performances as a passionate member of the audience!"

Pettry's final day with the Symphonic Choir is March 2, 2018, and the Board of Directors will commence a search for a new Executive Director immediately.

### ***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 81<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Season in 2017/2018. 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 tenth year as the official choral partner of the Indianapolis Public Schools, providing teacher training, educational resources, performance experiences and free printed music. For more information about the Symphonic Choir, visit [www.indychoir.org](http://www.indychoir.org).*

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