



Indianapolis Symphonic Choir announces 2022-23 season featuring world premiere performance and return of fan favorites

Also just announced: Butler University student, Oberlin Conservatory alumna will be new conducting fellow for 2022-24 seasons

Tickets go on sale August 1

INDIANAPOLIS (June 21, 2022) – One of the nation’s most established symphonic choruses, the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir announces their upcoming concerts for the 2022-23 season, which will culminate with the highly anticipated world premiere of “Toward A Secret Sky”, composed by the renowned Augusta Read Thomas who was commissioned by the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir in 2020.

The season kicks off with a free Community Sing at Sun King Brewery in Downtown Indianapolis, followed by the return of the popular Mood Indigo at Indiana Landmarks, a cabaret-style evening featuring jazz standards, the Great American Songbook, Broadway and more. The annual fan-favorite *Festival of Carols* performances will celebrate the holiday season at The Palladium in Carmel and, for the first time, Clowes Memorial Hall on the campus of Butler University. Gala Bel Canto in February will benefit the Symphonic Choir’s education and community engagement programming. The April 2023 premiere of Thomas’ work marks the third major commission for the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir in 20 years, following Kyle Gann’s “Transcendental Sonnets” in 2002, and Mohammed Fairouz’s “Zabur” in 2014, which the Choir subsequently performed at New York’s famed Carnegie Hall and recorded via Naxos Records.

In addition to the Choir’s self-produced performances, the season will feature collaborations with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra. For more information, visit www.indychoir.org.

Lineup Information

The 2022-2023 lineup includes the following Indianapolis Symphonic Choir self-produced concerts (tickets on sale Monday, August 1):

- **Community Sing**
Monday, September 26, 2022
FREE! 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Sun King Brewery, Downtown Indianapolis
An evening of communal singing, with the option to sing along with those around you or sit and enjoy as a listener.
- **Mood Indigo**
Saturday, October 15, 2022 at 2:30 p.m. & 5:30 p.m.
Indiana Landmarks, Cook Theater
The return of a popular favorite! Another entry point to choral music in a cabaret style featuring jazz standards, the Great American Songbook, Broadway, and pop culture.

- **Festival of Carols**
Wednesday, December 14, 2022 - Clowes Memorial Hall
Friday, December 16 - Sunday, December 18, 2022 - The Palladium, Carmel
A family tradition filled with a variety of holiday favorites performed by the Choir and other guest artists, featuring baritone Michael Preacely and the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra, Spotlight Choirs from Franklin Community High School and North Central High School, and of course Santa! Festival of Carols will continue to offer performances with sign language interpretation (ASL).
- **Gala Bel Canto**
Saturday, February 25, 2023 at 6 p.m.
Biltwell Event Center
Join the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir for its annual fundraising event benefiting education and community engagement programming. Includes complimentary valet, cocktails, silent auction, performance by the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir, seated plated dinner, and dancing.
- **In-CHOIR-ing Minds**
Date TBA
A FREE educational event, In-Choir-Ing Minds is an innovative initiative that the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir developed in an effort to make music feel more accessible to younger audience members and those members who haven't had the privilege of music education.
- **Sacred Masterworks: Toward a Secret Sky**
featuring soprano Christina Pier and the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra
Friday, April 28 & Saturday, April 29, 2023
Hilbert Circle Theatre
The world premiere of "Toward A Secret Sky" by Augusta Read Thomas with text by the 13th-century Persian poet Rumi will be paired with Francis Poulenc's "Gloria". This new choral-orchestral masterwork was commissioned by the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir in 2020 as part of the organization's mission to create and perform new choral masterworks. "Toward a Secret Sky" is made possible with generous support from the Lilly Endowment and the Allen Whitehill Clowes Charitable Foundation.

The season will also include the following collaborations with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra:

- **George Frideric Handel's Messiah**
Friday, December 23, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.
The Palladium, Carmel
- **Mendelssohn's Midsummer Night's Dream**
June 16 & 17, 2023
Hilbert Circle Theatre, Indianapolis
- **Symphony on the Prairie: ISO Classical Favorites**
June 23-24, 2023
Conner Prairie

Butler University student, Oberlin Conservatory alumna announced as new conducting fellow

The Indianapolis Symphonic Choir announces Kiki Porter as its newest conducting fellow for the 2022-24 academic years. Porter is an incoming master's student in choral conducting at Butler University, and recent graduate of Oberlin Conservatory with a Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Performance. She was introduced to musicianship early in life as a member of the Metropolitan Opera Children's Chorus, where she sang in more than 250 performances in 16 different operas over seven years. Porter is Choir Director at Oberlin's First United Methodist Church. She also conducted spiritual and classical pieces with Oberlin College Choir and Chamber Singers and served as assistant director in Oberlin Opera Theater's production of Handel's *Acis and Galatea*. During the COVID-19 lockdowns, she virtually conducted and

assembled a rendition of Brandon Ulrich's "A Heaven Full of Stars" with Dr. Gregory Ristow.

Focusing on large-scale choral-orchestral masterworks, the Conducting Fellowship is a collaborative initiative between the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir and Butler University. The two-year Fellowship provides full-tuition and stipend. Upon successful completion of the program, the student will have earned a master's degree in choral conducting from Butler University and gained practical and applied experience addressing the artistic and administrative needs of leading symphonic choirs. The Conducting Fellowship provides a 360-degree experience in the guidance of a premier symphonic chorus, including artist programming, development, communications, governance, and outreach initiatives. For more information on the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir Conducting Fellowship, visit indychoir.org/outreach/conducting-fellowship/.

Auditions

The Indianapolis Symphonic Choir is currently accepting audition requests, with the next round of auditions scheduled for Saturday, September 17. The audition consists of a solo work of the performer's choice (accompanist provided), a predetermined vocal excerpt, and a sight-reading piece that is provided at the audition. The deadline to request an audition is September 4, 2022. For more information and details on how to schedule an audition, or for the latest updates on our COVID policy, visit indychoir.org/auditions.

About the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir

The Indianapolis Symphonic Choir is proud to be one of the nation's most established and dynamic musical institutions. Among the most active symphonic choruses in the United States, the Choir reaches more than 20,000 persons each season through performances and education & community engagement programs. The 150 volunteer singers demonstrate the Choir's commitment to musical excellence through their talent and dedication during each 10-month season. The Indianapolis Symphonic Choir was founded in 1937 at the request of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra to perform the great choral-orchestral repertoire. This continued partnership exhibits the best of collaborative ideals – two independent arts organizations combining their strengths to create beautifully lasting musical results. For more information, visit www.indychoir.org.

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