

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Haddads Gift Building to Columbus Indiana Philharmonic

March 28, 2016 (Columbus, Ind.) – Longtime Columbus supporters and philanthropists Bob and Helen Haddad made a landmark announcement today, sharing their decision to donate the building in which the Columbus Indiana Philharmonic offices are housed. The announcement was made during an advisory luncheon hosted by the Philharmonic at Harrison Lake Country Club.

According to Helen Haddad, “It has been an enormous pleasure for us to see the Philharmonic’s growth and success over the past 30 years. The Philharmonic’s music, concerts, strings classes, youth orchestra, and children’s choirs are a positive influence in the lives of those living in and around the Columbus community. We would like to express our gratitude to the leadership of this outstanding orchestra, including music director David Bowden and the wonderful talent he continues to present each and every season. Our gratitude extends not only to the past Executive Director, Alice Curry, but to the current Executive Director, Margaret Powers, and her staff. We extend our best wishes for a bright and prosperous future.”

The 3-story brick building, located at 315 Franklin Street in downtown Columbus, currently serves many purposes fundamental to the managerial and programming developments of the Philharmonic. In addition to a half dozen staff offices, a music library and space for equipment storage, the 5,000-square-foot building is also used for private and group music lessons, youth ensemble rehearsals, and other education-related activities throughout the year.

“This truly is a transformative gift from our dear Philharmonic friends, Bob and Helen Haddad,” says Board President Peter King. “It’s exceptional for a Philharmonic organization of our size to own the building in which it operates. The Phil is honored and grateful to have been entrusted with this building from which the organization can continue sharing music, teaching community youth and looking ahead to our bright and permanent future.”



Bob and Helen Haddad

This act speaks loudly about the Haddad's legacy of continued support for the arts and showcases the visionaries they are, both in business and civic-minded matters. The Haddad Foundation's mission supports the family's aspiration to inspire others. As a result of the Haddad Foundation's support of CIP and other community organizations, the resources are available to those inspired individuals enabling them to reach their full potential.

The Philharmonic has experienced this leadership and inspiration from Bob and Helen over many years. Beginning in 1987 with the founding of the Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorus, the Haddads have participated, supported and provided guidance in evolving the organization. Co-chairing the Philharmonic’s primary endowment drive in the 1990s, the Haddads led the way with a \$500,000 challenge gift that resulted in a successful campaign outcome. They have also supported the organization’s extensive education programs in many ways, including providing an annual grant for many years to fund the Education Director staff position.

The Philharmonic has occupied the building on Franklin Street since 2003 after vacating its offices at The Commons Mall.

ABOUT THE HADDAD FOUNDATION

Since 2002, the Haddad Foundation’s charitable contributions have helped numerous organizations serve the needs within our community and have helped to enhance various opportunities for local residents. Bob and Helen Haddad’s giving tradition originated in response to the community’s support of the family business and their desire to improve the community. As a result of Bob and Helen’s passion to continue their philanthropic legacy, they established the Haddad Foundation, managed by four of their children: Tammy Burton, Bob Haddad, Jr., Tracy Haddad, and Hayden Haddad

Bishop. They have taken an active philanthropic role in the communities in which they work and live to support the community's priority areas - youth development, artistic programming, education, medical/health care advancement, and disaster relief.

ABOUT COLUMBUS INDIANA PHILHARMONIC

The Columbus Indiana Philharmonic thrives on a partnership with the best musicians from Columbus and the surrounding region and talented students from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. The Philharmonic Orchestra and David Bowden have received local, state, national and international recognition, winning five ASCAP awards and consistently receiving rave reviews for their performances. With a full complement of concerts, cabarets and music education programs, the Philharmonic is proud to be one of the arts organizations that contribute to the rich quality of life enjoyed by residents of Columbus and surrounding communities.

The Columbus Indiana Philharmonic is a public, not-for-profit corporation supported by private donations, the Columbus Area Arts Council, the Indiana Arts Commission, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

-XXXX-