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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

***Columbus Philharmonic hosts 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Lobsterfest***

**April 12, 2017 (Columbus, Ind.)** – Lobsterfest, an annual fundraiser organized by the Columbus Indiana Philharmonic, returns to downtown Columbus on Saturday, May 13, 2017. Sponsored by Old National Wealth Management, the event takes place along 5<sup>th</sup> Street between Franklin and Washington Streets in the Columbus Arts and Entertainment District.

**What: 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Lobsterfest**

**When: Saturday, May 13, 2017**

**Time: Happy Hour @ 6:00 p.m. / Dinner @ 7:00 p.m. / Lobster Races After Dinner**

**Where: Old National Bank Parking Lot, 501 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Downtown Columbus**

The authentic New England clambake and lobster boil, catered by Foster's Clambakes and Catering, begins at 6:00 p.m. for a Happy Hour complete with a cash bar and for a Happy Hour complete with a cash bar and live music provided by Dan and Linda Mustard. A Philharmonic Youth Ensemble, one of the programs benefiting from proceeds raised, has a special musical presentation just prior to dinner. Served buffet-style, dinner follows at 7:00 p.m. and includes a steaming cup of traditional New England Clam Chowder, tender steamed clams and mussels, a whole luscious bright red lobster, red bliss potatoes, steamed sweet onions, corn on the cob, buttery dinner rolls, and Blueberry Crumb Cake for dessert. For vegetarians or those with seafood allergies, a pasta alternative is available upon request by emailing tickets@thecip.org.

"Lobsterfest will have some new features this year," said Margaret Powers, Executive Director of the Philharmonic. "The Lobsterfest committee, led by Tracy Haddad, has several ideas to extend the party after dinner including live music and lobster races. Race details, including which type of toy lobster to use and the means of propelling them around a track, are in the works."

Lobsterfest tickets are divided into two levels: \$100 Patron and \$150 Patron Plus. Patron Plus ticket benefits include two complimentary drinks at the bar provided by Joe Willy's, a chance to win a Corvette Raffle ticket (a \$150 value) and your name recognized in The Republic advertisement the following day. Reservations must be made by May 1. Food will be prepared on-site in a lobster boil built on 5<sup>th</sup> Street specifically for the occasion. Casual dress is appropriate for the evening filled with fun, food, friends, and music!

Proceeds from this event will help support the Philharmonic's concert and music education programs that reach more than 13,000 adults and children each year in South Central Indiana. Additional support provided by Johnson Ventures, Hutch & Kevina Schumaker, Tracy L. Haddad Foundation, Enkei America, and Agresta, Storms & O'Leary.

To make reservations, call the Philharmonic Box Office at 812-376-2638, x1 or visit the Philharmonic website at [www.thecip.org](http://www.thecip.org).

**ABOUT COLUMBUS INDIANA PHILHARMONIC**

Started in 1987 under the auspices of Columbus Pro Musica, Inc., the Columbus Indiana Philharmonic is celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary season in 2016. 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 organization supported by private donations, the Columbus Area Arts Council, the Indiana Arts Commission, and the National Endowment for the Arts.*