

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Philharmonic Chorus Sings Verdi Requiem with Orchestra

Nov. 2, 2015 (Columbus, Ind.) – Up next for the Columbus Indiana Philharmonic is the *Verdi Requiem* concert on **Sunday, November 15, 2015** presenting Italian composer Verdi's towering *Requiem* masterpiece blazing with great power and beauty. Performed with passion by the Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorus led by Music Director and Conductor Dr. David Bowden, the concert will promptly begin at 7:30 p.m. at Columbus North High School in the Judson S. Erne Auditorium.

Who: Columbus Indiana Philharmonic Orchestra & Chorus

What: Verdi Requiem

Where: Columbus North High School, Erne Auditorium

1400 25th Street

Columbus, IN 47201

When: Sunday, November 15, 2015

Lobby Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

Musically Speaking begins at 6:40 p.m.*

Concert begins at 7:30 p.m.

*Details below

“THE *DIES IRAE* IS PERHAPS THE MOST EXHILARATING, THUNDEROUS WALL OF CHORAL ORCHESTRAL SOUND IN THE ENTIRE REPERTOIRE. IT IS NOTHING SHORT OF OVERWHELMING IN ITS INTENSITY.”

MUSIC DIRECTOR AND CONDUCTOR
DAVID BOWDEN

Founded in 1987, the Philharmonic Chorus has played an integral role in the Philharmonic's concert programming. With approximately 80 members, the chorus encompasses a wide range of skill level and experience from high school students to mature adults. It is the largest and most significant adult education program of the Philharmonic's wide range of educational offerings. Columbus natives [Rachel Mercer Holland](#), soprano, and [Jane Dutton](#), mezzo-soprano will be joined by tenor [Michael Brandenburg](#) and bass-baritone [Timothy Noble](#) as guest soloists for the performance. Full biographies (shortened biographies below) available upon request.

For more information about the Philharmonic Chorus, contact Beth Booth Poor at BBPoor@sbcglobal.net.

The writing and performance of the *Requiem*, initially conceived as a tribute to Verdi's mentor, Gioacchino Rossini, got off to a rocky start. After five years, Verdi ultimately convinced the mayor of Milan to provide and pay for the services to be performed at the San Marco church in Milan honoring the death of beloved author and poet Alessandro Manzoni. The event proved to be one of Verdi's greatest successes. Throughout the work, Verdi uses vigorous rhythms, sublime melodies, and dramatic contrasts to express the powerful emotions engendered by the text. The terrifying *Dies irae* begins very softly, then quickens and grows with the chilling rumbles of the bass drum. Trumpets will surround the audience to produce an overpowering call to judgement in the *Tuba mirum*, and the almost oppressive atmosphere of the *Rex tremendae* creates a sense of unworthiness. Yet the tenor solo *Ingemisco* radiates hope for the sinner who asks for mercy.

Fifty minutes before Sunday's concert, David Bowden with the soloists will share their thoughts in a *Musically Speaking* pre-concert conversation free to concert ticket holders. This entertaining, spirited and informative discussion is a wonderful chance to become familiar with the great music of the Verdi Requiem.

Concert tickets are currently on sale and can be purchased by calling the Philharmonic office, 812-376-2638 ext. 1 or online at www.theCIP.org/tickets. For more information, please visit the Concerts & Events tab at www.theCIP.org or click [here](#).

NOV. 15 CONCERT SOLOISTS INCLUDE:

RACHEL MERCER HOLLAND → SOPRANO

- Columbus, Ind. native
- Columbus North High School graduate
- Brown Vocal Scholarship recipient
- Past Mill Race Players actress
- Past performances at Indiana University Opera Theatre, Cincinnati Opera, with Sioux City Symphony, with Asheville Symphony Orchestra, and others
- Voice, vocal literature, and pedagogy professor at Christopher Newport University, Virginia
- B.M., Butler University
- M.M. Vocal Performance, Indiana University
- D.M. Vocal Performance, Indiana University

JANE DUTTON → MEZZO-SOPRANO

- Columbus, Ind. native
- Columbus North High School graduate
- Past Mill Race Players crewmember
- Began voice lessons at age 16
- Past performances at Metropolitan Opera, Gran Teatre del Liceu (Spain), San Francisco Opera, Indianapolis Opera, Tokyo Opera Nomori, English National Opera (London), Los Angeles Opera, New York City Opera, and others
- B.M., Indiana University
- M.M., Indiana University

MICHAEL BRANDENBURG → TENOR

- Austin, Ind. native
- Past performances at Des Moines Metro Opera, Washington National Opera, and Glimmerglass Festival
- Chosen as one of six Grand Finalists in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions
- Chosen as one of two Grand Finalists in the Bel Canto Competition in Chicago
- M.S., Ball State University
- Performer Diploma, IU Jacobs School of Music

TIMOTHY NOBLE → BASS-BARITONE

- Past performances at the Metropolitan Opera, Chicago Lyric Opera, San Francisco Opera, La Fenice in Venice, Netherlands Opera, with the London Philharmonic, and at venues such as Carnegie Hall and Ravinia Festival, and others
- Known as one of the greatest bass-baritones of 20th century
- Distinguished Professor of Voice, IU Jacobs School of Music
- Voice Trainer, Canadian Opera Company
- B.M., Indiana University
- M.M., Indiana University

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 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.