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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## **COLUMBUS PHILHARMONIC HONORS OUR VETERANS**

***Joined by Philharmonic Chorus, Columbus Indiana Children's Choir, and acclaimed soprano Donata Cucinotta for an evening of patriotic favorites.***

***Program recognizes 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Armistice Day and Irving Berlin's "God Bless America."***

**October 26, 2018 (Columbus, Ind.)** – Music Director David Bowden and the Columbus Indiana Philharmonic perform a concert honoring our veterans Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in Erne Auditorium of Columbus North High School. The program features patriotic standards including “God Bless America” and “Battle Hymn of the Republic,” music from *Saving Private Ryan*, and an audience sing along with the Philharmonic joined by the 70-member Philharmonic Chorus, Columbus Indiana Children’s Choir, and acclaimed soprano and Seymour resident Donata Cucinotta.

Taking place the day before Veteran’s Day, this concert recognizes the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of two significant events: the conclusion of World War I and penning of “God Bless America.” Armistice Day, proclaimed by President Woodrow Wilson and now commonly known in the United States as Veteran’s Day, marks the official cessation of hostilities between the Allies of WWI and Germany at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month of 1918. Also in 1918, Irving Berlin, who as a boy along with his family came to the United States after fleeing religious persecution in Russia, wrote the enduring “God Bless America.”

“Freedom is precious! This concert is intended to allow our community to celebrate our country, our veterans, and our currently-serving personnel,” said David Bowden. “Having our children’s choir participate is intentional. Children need to understand that freedom isn’t free. The entire concert is child-friendly and not too long. I hope families will attend.”

Forty-five minutes before the concert, Dr. Bowden will be joined by guest artist Donata Cucinotta. They will share their thoughts about the music that celebrates this important anniversary for our nation in a Musically Speaking pre-concert conversation. This entertaining, spirited and informative discussion is free to concert ticket-holders, and is a wonderful chance to become familiar with the great music of the Philharmonic.

The performance will take place at Columbus North’s Erne Auditorium, 1400 25th Street, Columbus, IN 47201. Lobby doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the concert begins at 7:30 p.m.

### **ABOUT DONATA CUCINOTTA ([more info here](#))**

Versatile American soprano Donata Cucinotta, who has appeared with the Louisville Orchestra, at Lincoln Center, and as part of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra’s Yuletide Celebration, will sing Scheer’s “American Anthem,” Greenwood’s “God Bless the USA,” and Kander’s moving arrangement of a Civil War soldier’s last letter home, “A Letter from Sullivan Ballou.” She’ll join the Philharmonic Chorus and the Columbus Indiana Children’s Choir for Irving Berlin’s “God Bless America” and other selections including an audience sing along. Donata lives in Seymour, Indiana where she maintains a private voice studio.

### **TICKET PURCHASING INFORMATION**

Special ticket prices of \$10/adult and \$5/child for Veterans and active military personnel entitle them to select the best seat available at the time of ticket purchase.

New season subscribers are eligible for special BOGO 50% off – buy one season ticket and get the second season ticket at 50% off, increasing the savings available by purchasing a season ticket.

Season subscriptions, offering discounts ranging from 15% to 50% are still available and can be purchased in person at the Philharmonic Box Office at 315 Franklin Street in downtown Columbus (Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.), or by calling 812-376-2638, x1. Other discounted ticket options are designed for those in their 20's and 30's (*Untuxed Phil*), families (*Family Fun Pass*) and active duty or retired military personnel (*Tickets for Troops*). Discounted tickets for groups of 10 or more can be purchased by phone or in person at the Philharmonic office.

Single tickets are available online at [www.thecip.org](http://www.thecip.org), or can be purchased by phone at 812-376-2638, x1 or in person at 315 Franklin Street in downtown Columbus. Single tickets are priced from \$5 - \$25 for students; from \$15 to \$50 for adults; and from \$10 to \$45 for seniors.

This season is sponsored by Columbus Regional Health and The Republic with additional support provided by the Allen Whitehill Clowes Foundation. Additional support for this concert is provided by Force Construction Co. and Dorel Juvenile Group.

### **ABOUT COLUMBUS INDIANA PHILHARMONIC**

Started in 1987 under the auspices of Columbus Pro Musica, Inc., the Columbus Indiana Philharmonic 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 organization supported by private donations and corporate sponsors. This concert season is made possible by the support of the Columbus Area Arts Council, the Indiana Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.*

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