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Columbus Indiana Philharmonic Features Angela Brown in Altered February Performance

Due to the continuing local severity of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Columbus Indiana Philharmonic will be presenting an alternative to its previously scheduled February 6 concert "Star Wars & Beyond". A Black History celebration concert recorded without audience in early February 2021, featuring Angela Brown, will be offered to subscribers for free and \$10 for non-subscribers beginning February 19 through February 26.

The cry for Freedom is a universal human response to tyranny. The history of the black experience in our county is now highlighted by a nationwide celebration of Black History each February. In a concert featuring music by African-American composers and artists, the Columbus Indiana Philharmonic presents music that affirms the cry for freedom (Battle Hymn of the Republic), that demonstrates the extraordinary impact that black composers have had on American Music (William Grant Still, Florence Price, George Walker and Scott Joplin), and that honors Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy.

Our featured Guest Artist is world-renowned soprano Angela Brown, a long-time favorite of Columbus Indiana Philharmonic audiences, who appeared with the CIP many times before she became THE Angela Brown. With a charming personality larger than life, Ms. Brown unites opera, pops, and gospel in one sensational voice and has graced the leading opera and symphonic stages across six continents. A featured artist on the two-time Grammy Award® winning recording "Ask Your Mama," Angela's international reputation continues to grow.

Her highly successful Metropolitan Opera debut in the title role of Aida captured instant attention from international print and broadcast media and catapulted Angela onto the world's prestigious opera and symphonic stages. While opera is the main catalyst for her career, Ms. Brown's performance experience includes everything from star emcee to producer, recording artist, podcast host, and program creator. Her most fervent endeavor is the founding and advancement of Morning Brown, Inc., a nonprofit with the mission of bridging the gap between accessible, live-music programs and underserved individuals, schools, and communities. In 2020, she launched a new podcast with Classical Music Indy and co-host Joshua Thompson titled "Melanated Moments in Classical Music." The first season landed in the top 10% of all podcasts for listeners and won Best Black Music Podcast of 2020. Season two premieres in March 2021.

"FREEDOM! The Philharmonic Celebrates Black History Month" is sponsored by the Tracy L. Haddad Foundation, the Heritage Foundation, and the African American Fund.