

City of Indianapolis

Office of the Mayor



PROCLAMATION

TO ALL WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, in 1998, the Philharmonic Orchestra of Indianapolis, Inc's Annual Gospel Concert was established by the late conductor Jackson Wiley, associate conductor Reginald Walters, and the late choir director Para Lee Gale to showcase a love for spirituality within music and provide a space for gospel music. The Symphonic Praise Choir, performing under the aegis of the Philharmonic, has members from Black churches across the greater Central Indiana region; and

WHEREAS, music has the power to give voice to the human heart and create a common language that unites people and enriches our lives. Black musicians, composers, and singers have created such music over the course of history, conveying the hopes, passions, and beliefs of individuals who have persevered in the face of immense hardship, and whose voices continue to shape the music of our nation; and

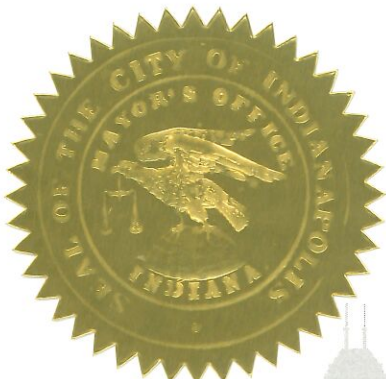
WHEREAS, the tradition of the Annual Gospel Concert continues today under the direction of Dr. Robert T. Townsend, providing young artists from The Performing Arts Conservatory an opportunity to perform with the Philharmonic Orchestra, the Symphonic Praise Choir, and soloists for its 25th anniversary. Through the concert, we honor past and present musicians who have shared their talents and artistry with our community for a quarter of a century; and

WHEREAS, today, the City of Indianapolis recognizes the significance of the creation and presentation of Black music through the Annual Gospel Concert. We join in support with the Arts Council of Indianapolis and through the Indy Music Strategy, which seeks to position Indianapolis as a vibrant city for the creation and presentation of music of all genres;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH H. HOGSETT, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM FEBRUARY 18, 2023 AS:

ANNUAL GOSPEL CONCERT DAY

in the City of Indianapolis, and I ask all citizens to join me in this observation.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I HAVE
HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND CAUSED
TO BE AFFIXED THE SEAL OF THE CITY
OF INDIANAPOLIS ON THIS 18TH DAY OF
FEBRUARY TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-
THREE.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph H. Hogsett".

JOSEPH H. HOGSETT
MAYOR
CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS

