

Guide to the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra Collection

Special Collections and Rare Books, Irwin Library, Butler University



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Summary

Volume of Collection

8 regular manuscript boxes, 1 legal sized manuscript box, 1 half sized manuscript box, 1 oversized box

Collection Dates

1984-2000, bulk 1984-93

Provenance

Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra

Restrictions

None

Copyright

To be determined

Citation

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Biographical Sketch

The Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra is the current name for the only professional chamber orchestra in Indianapolis. Started in 1984, under the supervision of Dr. David Urness, the orchestra was originally known as the Musicians of the Cloister for a medieval cloister garden on the grounds of Trinity Episcopal Church. In January 1985 the members of the orchestra decided that they needed a Board of Directors, which began the step of

applying for the not-for-profit status that the orchestra needed. The orchestra also started the Subscription Series concerts that go on today. In the spring of 1987 the Board of Directors made another important change to the chamber orchestra, changing its name to the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra to better reflect its pride in the growth of the cultural development within the community.

The Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra is funded by ticket sales, private donations, and grants. It performs concerts within its subscription series as well as a number of outside performances, including holding clinics in IPS schools and performing with the Indianapolis Opera, the Indianapolis Ballet Theater, the Butler University Ballet, and many others.

Scope and Content

This collection consists of information from the orchestra's Board of Directors, most importantly the bylaws; agendas and minutes; the paperwork for the Articles of Incorporation, Not-for-Profit status; and the long-range plans. There is also a large collection of completed grant applications and its final reports to the organizations awarding the grants. There are many contracts for individual performances, as well as such business as insurance, hall rental, and pictures from performances. Resumes and biographical sketches of some of the musicians and candidates for the position of music director and conductor are included as well. The collection also contains many newspaper articles concerning the orchestra, programs from concerts, and advertising mailers and flyers. This collection presents insight into the challenges and rewards that come with the running of a professional not-for-profit chamber orchestra.