

THE NOBLESVILLE SYMPHONY IN 3 MOVEMENTS

PART 1: The Beginning

A mix of old and new -- that's how the Noblesville neighborhood of Settlers Mill describes itself. But this is an apt description of Noblesville itself. One of the fastest growing communities in Indiana, (Noblesville ranks #10 in a U.S. poll of the "Best Places to Raise a Family" and in the top 100 of most affordable areas to live), one can find all the amenities of a thriving upscale metropolis set amidst an architectural revival of Victorian homes and historic downtown office buildings.

It is a community that prides its on its accessibility to families, offering an impressive array of opportunities and activities for all ages, tastes and passions. High expectation and individual attention are the corner stones of its school systems, enhanced by the offerings of the local library. It boasts 6 parks with playgrounds and sports fields; a new Corporate Campus with an eclectic mix of retail, industrial, office and residential components that includes the Hamilton Town Center -- Indiana's largest outdoor mall.

There is a strong focus on the arts and culture, evident in the vibrancy of the community's myriad shops, cafes, restaurants, antique stores and professional offices and organizations that call the square around the historic Noblesville courthouse home. And here, in the center of this "whole life community," is where the connection between Anderson and Noblesville begins.

For more than forty years, the Anderson Symphony Orchestra has served the people of Anderson and surrounding communities. In 2007, the Board and staff of the Orchestra decided to expand the organization's outreach to communities (and potential patrons of the arts) who would not only benefit from the cultural enhancement that a symphony orchestra would provide, but desired to have such an organization as a part of their community. It was evident from the start what community would appreciate the addition of a symphony orchestra; it was a community where the arts were already embraced and supported -- Noblesville.

If Noblesville had decided to build an orchestra from scratch, it would have taken many years to reach the level of professionalism and musicality already attained by the Anderson Symphony. In the face of today's economic realities, it is doubtful such a venture could have been accomplished. So, from a financial perspective, as well as a synergistic one, the birthing of the Noblesville Symphony from the Anderson Symphony, as well as the on-going relationship between the two, made a tremendous amount of sense.

The combined experience and resources of the music and executive directors and office staff could effectively and efficiently serve both organizations. A common board of directors built with professional members from both communities could govern. And although the greater share of the expenses for both orchestras would initially be borne by Anderson, the anticipated support from Noblesville patrons and businesses, once they became aware of and experienced their own symphony, would eventually make the new and exciting classical music organization self-sustaining.

And thus, it begins....

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