

# INDIANAPOLIS OPERA

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## INDIANAPOLIS OPERA ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF ARTISTIC ADVISOR

Indianapolis Opera is pleased to announce the appointment of Maestro Alfred Savia as Artistic Advisor to the company. Maestro Alfred Savia joins Indianapolis Opera after serving as Music Director of the Evansville Philharmonic since their 1989-90 season.

Savia is a frequent guest conductor throughout North America and around the globe. A native of Livingston, New Jersey, Savia graduated from Butler University's Jordan College of the Arts. His first professional appointment was as Assistant Conductor of The Omaha Symphony. Subsequently, he served as Resident Conductor of the Florida Philharmonic and New Orleans Symphony Orchestras, Associate Conductor of the Florida Symphony Orchestra and Music Director of the Orlando Opera. Savia was Associate Conductor of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra from 1990-1996, and is still a frequent guest conductor with that orchestra leading their 4th of July "Symphony On The Prairie" concerts each season.

In his broad role as Artistic Advisor, Savia will conduct at least one production each season, beginning with the company's 2019 opening opera, *Elixir of Love*, and then serve as music advisor for the remainder of the season. Additionally he will work closely with orchestra personnel: assembling the best musicians, assessing overall quality, assisting guest conductors, and serve as an advisor with the Indianapolis Opera Resident Artist Program, which features educational opera experiences in all counties of Indiana. Lastly, Savia will participate in Indianapolis Opera public relations opportunities, and help to broaden the company's patronage and base of support. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the position as well as a long-held passion for opera itself.

"As I'm sure most of our patrons have learned by now, opera is one of my great passions," states Alfred Savia. "While I've made my mark in my conducting career primarily in the symphonic realm, opera has been a part of my life for as long as I can remember. When we would get together with my extended Italian family, after every meal, my great uncles from Italy would get out their instruments and play and sing arias and ensembles from *La Traviata*, *Rigoletto*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Turandot*. I heard this music from when I was a child even though I had no idea that those Italian songs were from the ultimate collaborative art form, Grand Opera. In my years with the Evansville Philharmonic, I've had the privilege of bringing opera to our audiences on numerous occasions. Taking on the position of Artistic Advisor for the Indianapolis Opera and leading their production of *Elixir of Love* this fall is a very fitting transition as I step down from the music director position in Evansville in May 2020. I look forward to helping to move Indianapolis Opera forward in its artistic endeavors and to conducting many operas with them in future seasons."