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Renowned American Conductor Leonard Slatkin to Lead Final Round for 2018 Indianapolis Violin Competition; Jury Members Announced

INDIANAPOLIS – The International Violin Competition of Indianapolis is pleased to make two major announcements regarding the upcoming 10th Quadrennial Competition in September 2018.

Internationally acclaimed conductor **Leonard Slatkin** has been selected to conduct the Final Round performances of the Competition on September 14-15, 2018. Celebrating his tenth and final season as Music Director of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Slatkin has held posts as Music Director of the New Orleans, St. Louis and National symphony orchestras and served as Chief Conductor of the BBC Symphony in London. On November 28, 2017, he and the Detroit Symphony were nominated for a Grammy Award in the Best Orchestral Performance category for their recording of “Copland: Symphony No. 3; Three Latin American Sketches.” To date, he has received six Grammys and over thirty nominations. The son of founding members of the famed Hollywood String Quartet, Slatkin trained as a violinist at Indiana University, Juilliard, and the Aspen Music Festival and School. He holds honorary doctorates from many institutions, including Indiana University, Juilliard, the New England Conservatory and Michigan State University.

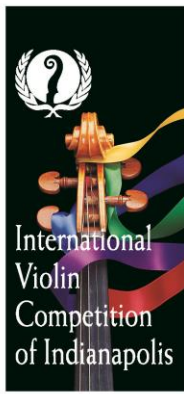
The Finals of “The Indianapolis” will feature six finalists who will each perform one of 21 Romantic and post-Romantic concertos ranging from Beethoven to Shostakovich with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra at the Hilbert Circle Theatre in downtown Indianapolis. This will be Maestro Slatkin’s first appearance with the Indianapolis Symphony in over 40 years.

“It is my pleasure and honor to have been invited to conduct the final round of this most prestigious of violin competitions,” Slatkin said. “Having known [IVCI Artistic Founder] Josef Gingold, I cannot help but feel a connection to his legacy through this event. In looking at the list of laureates, I found it stunning how many of them I have worked with over the years. One never knows what the fates have in store, but I have no doubt that this next edition will produce yet another group of outstanding talents.”

The IVCI is also pleased to announce the appointment of the 2018 Competition Jury Members. This international nine-member jury of concert violinists will be led by Jury President and Artistic Director

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Jaime Laredo. Laredo, who has held this post since 1995, will be joined by Americans **Arnold Steinhardt**, **Pamela Frank** and **Cho-Liang Lin**. Also on the jury are **Dmitry Sitkovetsky** (Russia), **Dong-Suk Kang** (South Korea) and **Rodney Friend** (United Kingdom). The 2018 jury also features two former IVCI Gold Medalists: Romania's **Mihaela Martin**, winner of the inaugural Competition in 1982, and Japan's **Kyoko Takezawa**, winner of the 2nd Quadrennial Competition in 1986.

“We are thrilled to have this esteemed jury to join us for our landmark 10th Quadrennial Competition,” says IVCI Executive Director Glen Kwok. “We strive to provide our competition participants with the highest artistic excellence, and this distinguished jury, combined with Maestro Slatkin’s experience on the podium, represents this quality beyond measure.”

The Competition will commence with Opening Ceremonies at the Indianapolis Museum of Art on Friday, August 31 and conclude with Closing Ceremonies on Sunday, September 16, 2018 at the Scottish Rite Cathedral.

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The International Violin Competition of Indianapolis (IVCI) recognizes, rewards, and promotes the world’s finest young classical violinists, and encourages understanding, appreciation, and support of the violin repertoire by a large and diverse audience. The IVCI utilizes its world prominence to bring international attention to Indianapolis, and maintains its efforts to be a visible and collaborative member of the arts communities in Indianapolis and Indiana.

For information about the IVCI, visit www.violin.org.

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