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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Philharmonic continues performances with replacement artists; Musicians plan picket

Musicians of the Fort Wayne Philharmonic will hold an informational picket from 5pm to 7pm today, March 26, at the Parkview Field plaza on East Jefferson and Webster in downtown Fort Wayne. This action is in response to Philharmonic management's continued hiring of outside performing artists while musicians of the orchestra remain unpaid.

Philharmonic musicians have been furloughed since August 2020. While orchestras across the country have found creative ways to present music to their communities during the pandemic, the Fort Wayne Philharmonic has failed its audience and musicians. The Philharmonic continues to pay its administration and conducting staff, and as of the close of 2020, has accumulated net assets in excess of \$26 million.

The Fort Wayne Philharmonic (James Palermo, Managing Director) is currently on the American Federation of Musicians' *International Unfair List*, and is the subject of a formal complaint from the National Labor Relations Board. The complaint asserts that the Philharmonic violated federal law by engaging in bad faith and regressive bargaining with musicians.

Visit the Fort Wayne Philharmonic Players' Association website at www.fwpmusicians.com for more information.