

Joshua Bell Presents Musical Gifts Premieres Dec. 11 on WFYI Public Television

New Special Features Indiana Native and World-Renowned Violinist in a Rare and Intimate Holiday Performance from his New York Home

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 6, 2013

Contact: Lori Plummer (317) 614-0462 | Iplummer@wfyi.org

In celebration of the release of his new album, *Musical Gifts*, Indiana native and world-renowned violinist Joshua Bell, recently welcomed television cameras into his Manhattan residence for a rare and intimate performance that captures all the magic of the holiday season.

Join WFYI 1 Public Television on Wednesday, December 11 at 7:30 pm for the broadcast premiere of *Joshua Bell Presents Musical Gifts*. Recorded November 26, 2013, the performance re-creates Bell's personal tradition of welcoming friends and family to his home during the holidays to join in songs that reflect the warmth, beauty and wonder of the season. A co-production of WFYI Public Media and medici.tv, and executive produced by Adrienne Arsht, *Joshua Bell Presents Musical Gifts* includes such holiday classics (as featured on his first holiday release, *Musical Gifts*) as "An Old Fashioned Christmas" with Renée Fleming, "I'll Be Home for Christmas" with Frankie Moreno, "The Secret of Christmas" with Michael Feinstein, "Silent Night" with the Young People's Chorus of New York City, "Let It Snow" with Rob Moose, and more. The performance marks the first time that medici.tv has presented a webcast and broadcast from a private residence. Watch a preview here: http://bit.ly/ld14URQ

A native of Bloomington, Indiana, Bell received his first violin at the age four after his parents noticed him plucking tunes with rubber bands he had stretched around the handles of his dresser doors. By the age of twelve, he had grown passionate about the instrument, thanks in large part to the inspiration of renowned violinist, pedagogue and founder of the International Violin Competition of Indianapolis, Josef Gingold, who had become his beloved teacher and mentor. Two years later, Bell would gain national attention in his highly acclaimed debut with Riccardo Muti and the Philharmonic Orchestra. A 1989 graduate of Indiana University's School of Music, Bell is one of today's most celebrated violinists. He is equally at home as a soloist, chamber musician, recording artist and orchestra leader. Often called the "poet of the violin," Bell has recorded more than 40 CDs since his first recording at age 18.

-0-

About WFYI Public Media:

For more than four decades, WFYI Public Media has served as a center of discovery for all ages. WFYI's diverse public radio and television programs and services provide a foundation for early learning, inspire curiosity and serve as a catalyst for lifelong learning. To learn more about WFYI Public Media's programs and educational services, visit the station's Website — www.wfyi.org, "like" us on Facebook, or follow along on Twitter (via @wfyi and @wfyinews).