

CALENDAR RELEASE

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928-638-9215 or 800-997-8285

www.grandcanyonmusicfest.org

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THE GRAND CANYON MUSIC FESTIVAL

Two-time Winner ASCAP-Chamber Music America Award for Adventurous
Programming

“Quite possibly Arizona’s finest classical music event”

The Mesa Tribune

PRESENTS

The 26th Season

September 11-26, 2009

“**Founders and Friends**” with Grand Canyon Music Festival founders Clare Hoffman, flute, and Robert Bonfiglio, harmonica, and friends Dorothy Lawson, cello, Ralph Farris, viola, and Cornelius Dufallo, violin

The Enso Quartet

The Bonfiglio Group

ETHEL's TruckStop™ in collaboration with Navajo artist **James Bilagody** and **Bluegrass legend Dean Osborne**

And Three Free Community Events

The Native American Composer Apprentice Project

with the stringband **ETHEL**

School of Rock with the Bonfiglio Group

A Tusayan Shindig with the Bonfiglio Group

TICKETS: Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$8 for children (age 6 and up) and students, Season tickets, \$85. For more information call 800-997-8285 or 928-638-9215. For complete schedule information and tickets visit www.grandcanyonmusicfest.org.

WHAT: Grand Canyon Music Festival presents its 26th season, from September 11, 2009, to September 26, 2009, with weekend concerts at the Shrine of the Ages, South Rim, Grand Canyon National Park. The Festival also presents the ninth season of its Native American Composer Apprentice Project (NACAP), with music education programs at Navajo and Hopi Reservation schools, and the third season of School of Rock for students at Grand Canyon Unified Schools.

Founded in 1983, the Grand Canyon Music Festival brings world-renowned artists to Arizona for performances, outreach, and education programs in rural and underserved Arizona communities, at affordable admission prices. The annual three-week series of concerts held at the Shrine of the Ages, South Rim, Grand Canyon National Park emphasizes the broad diversity of chamber music in celebration of the environment of this majestic World Heritage Site.

Friday and Saturday, September 11 and 12, 2009

ETHEL Cornelius Dufallo, violin; **Ralph Farris**, viola; **Dorothy Lawson**, cello; **Mary Rowell**, violin

ETHEL's TruckStop™ with **James Bilagody** and **Bluegrass great Dean Osborne**

The string band ETHEL opens the Grand Canyon Music Festival's 26th season. Musically omnivorous, prolific, and passionate, "America's favorite string band" incorporates rock, blues, classical, jazz and other popular genres to create a sound that defies categorization. "ETHEL... created a world in which classical music had never gown distant, a world in which it was as fresh and direct as crowds dancing in the street." Greg Sandow, *The Wall Street Journal*

The rock-driven, post-classical band ETHEL joins forces with Bluegrass legend Dean Osborne and Navajo artist James Bilagody to open the Grand Canyon Music Festival's 26th season. Don't miss the unique collaboration that results when these six pioneering artists combine their distinct musical perspectives.

ETHEL's TruckStop™ project shines a spotlight on the melting pot of American music through collaboration, workshops and public performances with local artists from a vast array of genres and traditions, sharing cultural perspectives on music, improvising, and composing new works that transcend categorization. Celebrate the power of music as a common language through this one-of-a-kind project. For more about ETHEL's TruckStop™ and their collaboration with Navajo artist James Bilagody visit: <http://www.ethelcentral.com/projects.php>
<http://thecremains.com/indexjames.htm>

Friday September 18, 2009

The Bonfiglio Group and "Bach Porch" **Robert Bonfiglio**, harmonica; **Joe Deninzon**, violin, guitar, mandolin; **Chris Milletari**, guitar

Heralded by the Boston Globe as the "Master of the Harmonica, (whose) playing is something you have to hear to believe", Grand Canyon Music Festival founder Robert Bonfiglio returns with his group "Bach Porch", featuring Joe Deninzon - called by critics the "Jimi Hendrix of the violin" - and composer/vocalist/guitarist Chris Milletari performing new works in their signature "contemporary and sophisticated" style drawing on jazz, rock, blues, folk and classical music.

Saturday, September 19, 2009

"Founders and Friends" Grand Canyon Music Festival founders **Clare Hoffman**, flute, and **Robert Bonfiglio**, harmonica, with friends **Dorothy Lawson**, cello, **Ralph Farris**, viola, and **Cornelius Dufallo**, violin

The Grand Canyon Music Festival's founders return to center stage and are joined by long-time friends (and ETHEL members) to perform Peter Schikele's "A Little Welcome Serenade", Mozart's Flute Quartet in D Major, and Stephen Foster Medley for Harmonica, Flute and Strings, arranged by Boston Pops arranger Eric Knight.

Friday and Saturday, September 25 and 26, 2009

Enso String Quartet

Maureen Nelson, violin; **John Marcus**, violin; **Melissa Reardon**, viola; **Richard Belcher**, cello

"There is a freshness and incisiveness about them...lyricism, style and expression as well as unobtrusive sophistication."

– The Strad

The “ intelligent and musical” Enso Quartet perform Beethoven String Quartet in F Major, Opus 18, No. 1, **György Kurtág** 12 Microludes, Opus 13, **Sibelius** “Intimate Voices”, **Haydn** String Quartet, Opus 20 No. 1, **Pierre Jalbert** Icefield Sonnets, and **Verdi** String Quartet in E Minor

FREE COMMUNITY EVENTS

Friday, September 18, 2009, 6 p.m., Shrine of the Ages

The Grand Canyon Music Festival’s School of Rock celebrates its 3rd season with **Bonfiglio Group** members **Chris Milletari** and **Joe Deninzon** and **Grand Canton School’s** own band of talented rockers. This free community pre-concert student recital at Shrine of the Ages begins at 6 p.m.

Saturday, September 19, 2009 at 2 p.m., Canyon Plaza Resort Grand Canyon outside the park entrance in Tusayan

A TUSAYAN SHINDIG

A free, informal family-friendly event. with **The Bonfiglio Group**

Sunday, September 20, 2009 at 5 p.m., Grand Canyon Community Building Native American Composer Apprentice Project (NACAP)

The GCMF’s seminal education outreach project, NACAP, culminates in a day long fair for students, families and the community with the new music ensemble **ETHEL** and **composer-in-residence Raven Chacon**. Concert at 5 p.m. of works by the Grand Canyon Music Festival’s NACAP students at Grand Canyon Community Building.

The **Grand Canyon Music Festival** , a two-time recipient of the ASCAP-Chamber Music America Award for Adventurous Programming of Contemporary Music, has been recognized as an innovator in programming and education outreach, with support from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), Western State Arts Federation (WESTAF), the Flinn Foundation, Chamber Music America, the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust, ASCAP Foundation, APS, and the Arizona Commission on the Arts. The Grand Canyon Music Festival attracts artists of international acclaim, including Pulitzer Prize winning composers like John Corigliano, William Bolcom, and Paul Moravec. Festival performances are heard nationwide on National Public Radio's "Performance Today" and statewide on KNAU, Flagstaff , and KBAQ, Phoenix. The Grand Canyon Music Festival

has been featured the on National Public Radio's "Morning Edition" and "All Things Considered."

Native American Composer Apprenticeship Project (NACAP). Since 1984, the Festival has served Native American communities within the state, including the Navajo, Hopi, Havasupai, and Pima Indian Reservations, the Heard Museum, and Scottsdale Community College. In 2001 we inaugurated our Native American Composer Apprenticeship Project (NACAP), an intensive tutoring program on the art of composition for string quartet. Our 2009 composer-in-residence, Raven Chacon, works with students from 5 Navajo and Hopi High Schools. Those student works are then work-shopped, premiered, toured, and recorded by ETHEL, NACAP 2009 ensemble-in-residence.

School of Rock. Inspired by the success of NACAP, the GCMF incorporated the School of Rock into its educational programming in 2007. Grand Canyon School of Rock is a fast-paced, week-long education program developed with Grand Canyon Music Festival musicians Joe Deninzon & Chris Milletari that gives of Grand Canyon Unified School students the opportunity to experience all aspects of band life.

Press kits with photos and reviews available at
www.grandcanyonmusicfest.com

SPONSORSHIP.

The Grand Canyon Music Festival is sponsored in part by the Arizona Commission of the Arts through appropriations from the Arizona State Legislature, partial funding provided by Arizona ArtShare - the state arts endowment fund, through public and private contributions, Grand Canyon National Park, Grand Canyon Association, with grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, WESTAF, Chamber Music America, and with support from Canyon Plaza Resort Grand Canyon, Red Feather Lodge, Best Western Grand Canyon Squire Inn, Mountain Ranch Resort, Papillon Grand Canyon Helicopters, The Grand Hotel, Valle Airpark, AirStar Helicopters Xanterra Resorts, Transcanyon Shuttle, Cafe Tusayan, North Country Grand Canyon Clinic, Vishnu Temple Press, and other local sponsors.

ETHEL's TruckStop™ and the appearances of James Bilagody and Dean Osborne are made possible through funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Festival administers the Native American Composers' Apprenticeship Program with support from the National Endowment for the Arts; Chamber Music America with support from The Helen F. Whitaker Fund and the Chamber Music America Residency Endowment Fund; WESTAF, the Western State Arts Federation and the National Endowment for the Arts; the Arizona Commission of the Arts with funding from the State of Arizona and the National Endowment for the Arts; the ASCAP Foundation; and the First Nations Composer Initiative project supported through the Ford Foundation's Indigenous Knowledge, Expressive Culture grant program of the American Composers

Forum. Expansion of NACAP to Whitehorse High School in Utah is funded in part by the Utah Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Grand Canyon Music Festival administers the Grand Canyon School of Rock with support from Grand Canyon Unified School (Sheila Breen, Superintendent, Becky Crumbo, Acting Principal, George Haughton, music teacher), Grand Canyon PTA, Grand Canyon Rotary Club, Grand Canyon Lions Club, and South Grand Canyon Sanitation.