

# CALENDAR RELEASE

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928-638-9215 or 800-997-8285

[www.grandcanyonmusicfest.org](http://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

Opening Weekend of

The 26th Season

Friday and Saturday, September 11 and 12, 2009

The String Band ETHEL

Featuring ETHEL's TruckStop™

with James Bilagody and Bluegrass great Dean Osborne

### WHAT:

The string band **ETHEL** opens the Grand Canyon Music Festival’s 26<sup>th</sup> 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 – yes, that’s the group’s full name – is a crossover string quartet that artfully mixes classical elements with jazz, bluegrass, rock, Brazilian folk dance and Finnish fiddling. ETHEL’s ingenious, hard-driving, pieces sometimes remind me of the Kronos Quartet’s forays into vernacular styles... the music and performances are hugely enjoyable.” (*Chicago Tribune*)

“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*

### ETHEL's TruckStop™

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>

**WHO: ETHEL. Cornelius Dufallo, violin, Ralph Farris, viola, Dorothy Lawson, cello, Mary Rowell, violin, James Bilagody and Bluegrass great Dean Osborne**

**WHEN:** Friday, September 11, Saturday, September 12, 2009, 7:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** The Shrine of Ages, South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park, AZ.

**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](http://www.grandcanyonmusicfest.org).

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Press kits with photos and reviews available at  
[www.ethelcentral.com](http://www.ethelcentral.com) and [www.grandcanyonmusicfest.org](http://www.grandcanyonmusicfest.org)

***Fo interviews with the artists, please contact  
Grand Canyon Music Festival 928-638-9215  
GCMF@infomagic.net***

#### 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' Apprentice 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.*