

CALENDAR RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE GRAND CANYON MUSIC FESTIVAL

"... a treat for eyes and ears."

- The New York Times

Winner: Governors Arts Award

Semifinalist: President's Council on the Arts and the Humanities

Coming Up Taller Award

Two-time Winner: ASCAP-Chamber Music America

Award for Adventurous Programming

PRESENTS

The 28th Season

August 26-September 10, 2010

ETHEL

Joe Deninzon and Stephen Benson

The Catalyst Quartet

New Tango Visions with Duo Binelli Ferman

TICKETS: Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$8 for children (age 6 and up) and students. Season tickets to all 7 concerts, \$90.. 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 28th season, from August 26, 2011 to September 10, 2011, with weekend concerts at the Shrine of the Ages, South Rim, Grand Canyon National Park. The Festival also presents the eleventh season of its Native American Composer Apprentice Project (NACAP), with music education programs at Navajo and Hopi Reservation schools, and the fourth 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, August 26 and 27, 2011

ETHEL: America's premier postclassical string quartet

"Extraordinarily skilled, passionate musicians."

- The New York Times

Thursday, September 21 2011

Joe Deninzon and Stephen Benson with guest Robert Bonfiglio, harmonica
Jazz violinist Joe Deninzon and guitarist Steve Benson bring the swing treatment to music by Green Day, Soundgarden, Steely Dan, and a little Chopin and Paganini thrown in. Performing music from their CD, "Exuberance."

"If the violin has a future in Jazz and Rock, it is with Joe Deninzon" - RELIX Magazine

Friday and Saturday, September 2 and 3, 2011

Catalyst Quartet

This young string quartet, top laureates and alumni of the internationally acclaimed Sphinx Competition for young Black and Latino string players is on a mission to advance diversity in classical music and inspire new and young audiences with dynamic performances of repertoire by a wide range of composers.

"Invariably energetic and finely burnished"

- The New York Times

Friday and Saturday, September 9 and 10, 2011

Duo Binelli Ferman, Musical Ambassadors to the Americas, close out the Grand Canyon Music Festival's 28th season with "New Tango Visions."

"---The two musicians engaged in ravishing improvisatory flights of fancy that spelled pure jazz"

"Technical brilliance."

- The Washington Post

FREE COMMUNITY EVENTS

Sunday, September 4, 2011 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 the Catalyst Quartet, and composers-in-residence Raven Chacon, Michael Begay, and Trevor Reed. Concert at 5 p.m. of works by the Grand Canyon Music Festival's NACAP students at Grand Canyon Community Building.

Friday, September 2, 2011 at 5 p.m., Shrine of the Ages. The Grand Canyon Music Festival's School of Rock celebrates its 5th season with Bonfiglio Group members Robert Bonfiglio, Stephen Benson and Joe Deninzon, and Grand Canyon School's own band of talented rockers. This free community pre-concert student recital at Shrine of the Ages begins at 5 p.m.

The Grand Canyon Music Festival, a two-time recipient of the ASCAP-Chamber

Music America Award for Adventurous Programming of Contemporary Music, 2010 winner of the Governor's Arts Award for Arts in Education, and Semifinalist: President's Council on the Arts and the Humanities Coming Up Taller Award, 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 on National Public Radio's "Morning Edition" and "All Things Considered."

Native American Composer Apprentice 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 Apprentice Project (NACAP), an intensive tutoring program on the art of composition for string quartet. Our 2011 composers-in-residence, Raven Chacon, Michael Begay and Trevor Reed, work with students from 5 Navajo and Hopi high schools. Those student works are then work-shopped, premiered, toured, and recorded by ETHEL, NACAP 2011 ensemble-in-residence and the Catalyst Quartet, 2011 NACAP fellowship 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 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

www.ethelcentral.com

www.joedeninzon.com

www.robertbonfiglio.com

www.catalystquartet.com

www.binelli-ferman.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, and with grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, WESTAF, Target, Yamaha Corporation of America, Meet the Composer MetLife Creative Connections, and with support from Grand Canyon National Park, Grand Canyon Association, Canyon Plaza Resort Grand Canyon, Red

Feather Lodge, Best Western Grand Canyon Squire Inn, Mountain Ranch Resort, Western Discovery Museum, Grand Canyon Airlines, Papillon Grand Canyon Helicopters, The Grand Hotel, Valle Airpark, Xanterra Resorts, Transcanyon Shuttle, Cafe Tusayan, North Country Grand Canyon Clinic, and other local sponsors.

The Festival administers the Native American Composers' Apprentice Project (NACAP) with support from the National Endowment for the Arts; 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 First Nations Composer Initiative (FNCI), Target, and the ASCAP Foundation Irving Caesar Fund. Expansion of NACAP to Whitehorse High School in Utah is funded in part by the Utah Division of Arts & Museums 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, Grand Canyon PTA, Grand Canyon Rotary Club, and South Grand Canyon Sanitation.