

Contact: Keisuke Hoashi
Director of Communications
(607) 267-4024
KHoashi@nysmf.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**GRAMMY NOMINATED VIOLIST ROBERTO DIAZ AND INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED VIOLINIST
ELISSA LEE KOLJONEN TO PERFORM FREE, PUBLIC CONCERT AT THE NEW YORK SUMMER
MUSIC FESTIVAL ON SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2009**

The husband-wife duo will perform Mozart's concertente for violin and viola with NYSMF's Chamber Orchestra, in a special afternoon performance in the Hunt Union Ballroom, on the campus of SUNY-Oneonta.

ONEONTA, NY, JULY 14, 2009 – The New York Summer Music Festival, Inc. (NYSMF), a summer music camp for young musicians located on the campus of SUNY-Oneonta, is proud to announce a special, free afternoon concert by internationally renowned concert violist Roberto Diaz and violinist Elissa Lee Koljonen.

The concert, which begins at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 19, will be held in the Hunt Union Ballroom on the campus SUNY-Oneonta. Diaz and Koljonen will lead the New York Summer Music Festival's Chamber Orchestra in a performance of Mozart's concertente for violin and viola, a piece widely recognized as one of Mozart's most beautiful compositions.

Violist Roberto Diaz is the President of the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, and the former principal violist for the Philadelphia Orchestra and the National Symphony. In 2006-2007, he performed Krzysztof Penderecki's Concerto for Viola and Orchestra in Carnegie Hall with the Curtis Symphony Orchestra and Christoph Eschenbach. That same year, he was nominated for a Grammy for his performance of viola transcriptions by William Primrose. An active chamber musician, he has performed with artists such as the Emerson String Quartet, Yo-Yo Ma, and Isaac Stern.

Violinist Elissa Lee Koljonen was dubbed "...one of the biggest talents I've heard in years" by Stephen Wigler of the Baltimore Sun. She was the first recipient of the prestigious Henryk Szeryng Foundation Award and a silver medalist of the Carl Flesch International Violin Competition. She has performed with the major orchestras of the world, including The Philadelphia Orchestra, the Boston Pops, the Minnesota Orchestra, the Royal Philharmonic and the symphonies of Pittsburgh, Detroit, Cincinnati, Baltimore, Oregon, Dallas, Helsinki and Seoul. An avid chamber musician, she appears regularly at festivals throughout North America, Europe and Asia.

About The New York Summer Music Festival, Inc.

The New York Summer Music Festival, Inc. (NYSMF) is a 501(c)(3) organization located in Oneonta, New York. It is the mission of the Festival to develop musical abilities and musical interest in young people ages 10 - 25, through conservatory-level educational, classroom, competitive and performance-based activities. NYSMF provides young musicians rare opportunities to work closely with professional musicians of the highest caliber, in order to broaden their musical horizons, build their characters, and nurture their personal, social and professional growth.

Through its free summer concert series on the campus of SUNY-Oneonta, the Festival continues a 60-year tradition of bringing free, world-class jazz, classical and chamber music performances to the Catskills Foothills region of Central New York.