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Acoustic phenom Nickel Creek performs FREE concert in Snowmass August 19

(Snowmass Village, CO). Nickel Creek, the sensational acoustic band recently featured at the Telluride Bluegrass Festival, returns to the mountains Saturday, August 19. They will perform "An Evening with Nickel Creek," a free outdoor concert which is part of Snowmass Villages Massive Music & Movies weekend. This free concert on Fanny Hill caps off three days of music and movies in Snowmass Village with a nonstop 120-minute performance.

"Nickel Creek brings such a dynamic energy to Snowmass and fits in remarkably well with our goal of bringing spectacular and innovative free music to town all summer long," says Susan Hamley, Snowmass Villages Marketing Director. "We expect to draw visitors from all over Colorado for this free show and it promises to be a full weekend with the Mountain Masterpieces Arts Fair as well."

The Nickel Creek trio is comprised of three award winning musicians from southern California: Violinist Sara Watkins, Guitarist Sean Watkins, and mandolinist Chris Thile, who have played together for over 15 years. Eric Valentine, producer of their 2005 album calls their stage performance "a powerful experience. There are a moments where they are just explosive on-stage how can three people and their instruments sound this big?"

Nickel Creek's live performances have garnered legions of fans and Time Magazine named them "Music Innovators for the New Millennium." Their 2002 release, *This Side*, captured the Grammy for "Best Contemporary Folk Album" and was certified gold, while in 2006 they have been nominated for a Grammy Award for Best Contemporary Folk Album and Best Country Instrumental Performance.

Nickel Creek performs Saturday night at 6 p.m. This final Massive Music & Movies weekend also features Sonya Kitchell performing on Thursday night at 6 p.m. on Fanny Hill. Kitchell is an eloquent songwriter, dazzling singer and old soul who just happens to be 17 years of age. She seamlessly melds elements of jazz, R&B, folk and other roots forms in a song-serving rather than genre-adhering, way. The classic Alfred Hitchcock movie *Rear Window* follows on Friday night at dusk on Fanny Hill.

In between the concerts, Snowmass Village will be artistically engaged with the Mountain Masterpieces Arts Fair with over 40 diverse artisans selling wares ranging from high end art to jewelry, photographs, pottery, and fiber art on the Snowmass Village Mall. The fair runs from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Sunday. Jamin' Jim will be at the fair on Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. for Kids Krafts as well.

Come for the music, masterpieces or mountain adventures! Snowmass offers plenty of activities ranging from 40 miles of mountain biking and hiking to fly fishing, golf, and kids' fun. Lodging starts at \$85/night at the Snowmass Inn (800-635-3758) and \$95/night at the Pokolodi Lodge (800-666-4556), while ResortQuest Snowmass (800-222-7989) is offering 15% off based on a 2-night stay August 15-20.

For additional lodging and more information, please visit www.snowmassvillage.com or call 1-800-SNOWMASS. For media information, please contact aj@snowmasspress.com.

UPDATED SUMMER MUSIC SCHEDULE IN SNOWMASS

August 24: Snowmass Summer of Free Music Series Final Concert

Sam Bush. Sam Bush has been one of acoustic music's great innovators and consummate collaborators who has done as much as anyone since Bill Monroe to shape the destiny of the diminutive mandolin, adding new power and syncopation to its percussive chop and a new harmonic vocabulary that embraces rock, reggae, Afro-pop and jazz.

September 1-4: Jazz Aspen /Snowmass

One of the biggest music extravaganzas in the state, this three-day celebration draws crowds of over 30,000 and music by the likes of Don Henley, Leann Rimes, Kanye West and more (see www.jazzaspen.org for full schedule).

September: Fall in Love with Snowmass

Music will be plentiful during this month-long celebration of the harvest season, including Papa Grows Funk at Oktoberfest on Sept. 9, Network at Wine & Jazz on Sept. 16, and Soul Jive during the Snowmass Balloon Festival.

Snowmass Village, Colorado, is located in the heart of the Elk Mountains 9 miles from Aspen, Colorado. For a media guide of this popular mountain destination, please visit www.snowmasspress.com.

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