

U T A H M U S I C F E S T I V A L

QUOTES

"The Directors are pleased with the work you are doing and wish you continued success in your future plans for the festival."

Lisa Eccles, Executive Assistant to the Chairman, George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation

"We Utahns are indeed fortunate to have a world-class music festival in our own backyard! The Utah Music Festival has quickly established itself among other highly acclaimed performing arts institutions in Utah as a premier event for chamber music performance and education. I wish the festival continued success!"

Senator Orrin Hatch

"The Utah Music Festival has contributed to Park City's reputation as a city of festivals that provide unparalleled cultural opportunities to visitors and residents alike."

Salt Lake Tribune

"I wish you continued success with the Utah Music Festival!"

Governor Michael O. Leavitt

"...offering an alternative to the well-known Marlboro Music Festival."

Salt Lake Tribune

"I have collaborated with the Utah Music Festival in the production of several musical concerts. I was impressed from the beginning with the professional standards of quality exhibited at the concerts presented by UMF. Both before and after my retirement from Maverik I have been a financial supporter of UMF. Now as a full time composer I come in contact with many musical organizations and want you to know that some of the finest performances I have attended have been those presented by UMF."

William Call, former President, Maverik Country Stores;
Professional Composer, Doctorate, University of Illinois

"The Utah Music Festival provides a much needed type of entertainment which rounds out our community offerings each summer... their nationally-known musicians bring with them a broad spectrum of audience appeal and top notch music making."

Bill Malone, Executive Director, Park City Chamber of Commerce

"The Utah Music Festival provides locals and visitors from around the world with an opportunity to enjoy first-class ... their summer institute introduces the Park City area to hundreds of students and families, who spend several weeks and thousands of dollars in our area ...they have a true passion for what they do."

Jennifer Kohler, Marketing Manager, Heber City Chamber of Commerce

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“...the comments we’ve received from our dining patrons mention the outstanding quality of the performances comparing them to any New York City performance...the relationship between the festival and Sai-Sommet Restaurant has left our clientele with an enriched cultural and educational experience...by encouraging this success to grow, we will in turn enhance Park City and Summit County’s summer musical atmosphere.”

James Dumas, Chef de Cuisine & Proprietor, Sai-Sommet Restaurant, Deer Valley Club

“The festival performances have greatly enhanced our patrons dining experience and contributed to our successful business. We believe the Samuels’ and their fellow musicians to be a delightful asset to the Park City musical community.”

Bill White & Mark Turnbow, Owner & Manager, Grappa Italian Restaurant & Café

“The chemistry among internationally renowned musicians, pianist Myron Romanul, violinist Roberto Cani, and cellist/festival director, Eric Samuels was so impressive the audience refrained from chatter while they dined to relish the performance.”

Jana McQuay, Park Record “Scene” Editor

“I’ve never been this close (to a performance)...I find this so exhilarating, so much energy. I thoroughly enjoyed it!”

Phyllis Karp, Concert guest and diner, tourist from New Jersey

“The festival is a great musical and social experience for the young students. Many of these kids don’t often get the exposure to a high caliber of music making. It’s great for them to play chamber music with experienced faculty.”

Desirée Ruhstrat, International Concert Violinist;
Faculty, Music Institute of Chicago & The Utah Music Festival

“I feel the Utah Music Festival has significant value to local businesses, restaurants and the community in general. The musicians provide very high quality performances, portray a professional public image, and perform with sincerity & enthusiasm.”

Mary H. Parsons, M.D., Chief Physician/Internist, Summit Health Center

“The superb concert by the Utah Music Festival lingers in my memory...precision and tone quality seemed flawless...the Mendelssohn quartet, with its less-than-whisper pianissimi, brilliance of technique, and never-wavering unified concentration, held everyone spellbound.”

Cohleen Bischoff, Temple Square Concert Series

“One of the unexpected and hidden gems in the Utah arts panorama...!”

Dr. Edward Pease, USU Associate Dean of Fine Arts

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“With proper funding, the Utah Music Festival could be to music what the Sundance Film Festival is to film and the Shakespeare Festival is to theater!”

Jennifer Hartman, Legislative Vice President, Logan City PTA Council

“Having enjoyed many summer music festival, i.e., Aspen, Spoleto, Mostly Mozart, etc., we can vouch for the fact that these concerts would do credit to any of these festivals.”

David & Miriam Weiss, Law Professor Emeritus, University of Florida

“The players dug into this bracing work (Brandenburg Concerto #3) with a robust vitality...”

Deseret News

“...the Brahms Opus 114 Trio for Clarinet, Cello and Piano was notable for its warmth and passion.”

Deseret News

“The concert concluded with a bang-up performance of the Schumann Piano Quintet!”

Salt Lake Tribune

“Eric and Alison have put their entire lives into making this high-quality and well-respected festival happen each year. They create musical environments that are enjoyed by tourists as well as those who appreciate fine music locally.”

Mary Beth Maziarz, Recording Artist and Park City Resident

“The Utah Music Festival is a true asset for our area. The professionalism and high quality of the music is an attraction all by itself; add to that the outreach workshops and master classes for young musicians, and we have a Festival with the ability to attract a national audience.”

Susan Feulner, Co-Owner & Director, KPCW Public Radio Station

“...their teaching is evidence of their extensive experience and understanding of how to shape young people into fine young artists. ”

Debra Cook, Director & Piano/Vocal Teacher, Park City Music; Director, Park City Singers

“...the festival makes the musical experience fun, creative, and rewarding...they are dedicated to enriching the cultural & educational atmosphere in our community.”

Susan Wymer, former music director, Park City Community Church

“...your students show how fortunate we are to have your talents here in Park City. We are blessed by your presence.”

Shelle Jennings, Music Director, Park City Community Church

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“...the Samuels' approach others with a sensitivity and enthusiasm which gives the classical arts a friendly face for those who experience their music. Our church appreciates the festival's outreach to the community in many ways, and has noticed that its activities aid in attracting tourism to the area and enrich the cultural lives of residents.”

Father Patrick Finn, former Vicar, St. Luke's Episcopal Church

“With their many professional contacts throughout the nation, the Samuels are able to attract an unusually high level of talent to our community. They are hard working, talented and contributing members of our local Park City community!”

Dr. & Mrs. Paul Carmichael, former Philadelphia, PA residents, and local Park City Arts Supporters

“We look forward to our association with the Utah Music Festival's important series of chamber music concerts.”

Thomas Southam, former Curator of Exhibitions, University of Utah Fine Arts Museum

“Alison has proven to be a highly talented and motivated flutist. She has an expressive and beautiful sound with great technical ability. Alison emulates the highest standards of flute playing.”

Julius Baker, Principal Flute Emeritus, New York Philharmonic;
faculty, Juilliard, Manhattan School of Music, Curtis, Carnegie Mellon

“Alison is a brilliant young flutist! She possesses a beautiful sound which is vibrant, full of life and color. Her technique is completely accomplished with facility and grace. Her involvement with the music is total and sincere.”

Samuel Baron, New York Woodwind Quintet, Bach Aria Group;
Professor of Flute, Juilliard & SUNY Stony Brook

“Alison Griffiths maintains a dedication to the pursuit of elegant music making, good intonation, appropriate style, flawless technique and expression. I am please to recommend her as a fine artist, a charming and attractive young woman and dependable performer.”

Albert Tipton, Professor of Flute Emeritus, Rice University & Aspen Music Festival

“Alison is a remarkable flute-player and musician! I have long admired her musical talent and administrative skills which require perseverance, tenacity and patience. She has an affable personality and, musically, exhibits high standards and a strong sense of commitment.”

Erich Graf, Principal Flute, Utah Symphony

“Alison is a lovely player; she possesses a full, rich sound on the instrument and has the musical knowledge and background to turn her sound and excellent technical command of the flute into lovely music. Her training has been on the highest possible level and her students adore her!”

Ronald de Kant, Professor of Clarinet, Chairman of Woodwinds and Brass, University of Cincinnati

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“Alison’s (Griffiths) teaching style, knowledge of literature and rapport with the students were all excellent. The students all gave outstanding performances and had a wonderful time!”

Dennis Harrington, Park City School District Orchestral Teacher

“Eric has distinguished himself among his colleagues as an intelligent and gifted musician of the highest level. He has captured the essence of a beautiful sound and approaches the cello with great sensitivity and technical virtuosity.”

Bernard Greenhouse, Cellist Emeritus, Beaux Arts Trio; Professor Emeritus, Juilliard, Manhattan School of Music, SUNY Stony Brook, New England Conservatory, Rutgers University

“Eric Samuels is an extremely talented cellist who works diligently and gets wonderful results. He is a dependable orchestral player and inspiring soloist with rich sound and excellent control of his instrument.”

William Stokking, Principal Cellist, Philadelphia Orchestra

“Eric is one of the finest young cellists I know today. He possesses a full, well-projected tone, secure intonation, and facility which enable him to deal comfortably with the major repertoire. His playing is musically expressive, and he is very much at home on the concert stage.”

Robert Gardner, Principal Cellist, New York City Opera

“From my first encounters with this extraordinary cellist, I have been sure that Eric possesses all of the attributes of a great musical performer: beauty and strength of tone, a supple and consistent line, instinct for ensemble as well as solo projection, physical dexterity, a good ear, and perhaps most importantly, a generous heart much in love with life and music.”

Gilad Karni, Principal Violist, Berlin Opera; former member, New York Philharmonic

“Eric Samuels is an esteemed colleague of mine. He is an excellent cellist and teacher with a wealth of experience. I have the greatest respect for his knowledge of the instrument as well as his integrity. He is a fine musician of great sensitivity, an outstanding musician, and a warm caring person.”

Judith Glyde, Professor of Cello & Chamber Music, University of Colorado at Boulder; former member, The Manhattan String Quartet

“Eric is an extremely talented cellist and musician. His brand of music making is first rate! I’ve seen him teach with true compassion and excellent results. Eric is an energetic organizer with dreams of quality, enthusiastic music making by creating an environment where people can grow and reach their potential. He makes these dreams come true.”

Ross Harbaugh, Professor of Cello, University of Miami; former cellist, New World String Quartet