



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NMSO Postpones Classics Concerts on Sept. 25-27 and Oct. 9-11

Opening Pops Program on Oct. 3 To Be Performed without Orchestra

(ALBUQUERQUE, N.M., Sept. 18, 2009) – The New Mexico Symphony Orchestra (NMSO) is postponing its first two 2009-2010 season Classics programs, previously scheduled for the weekends of Sept. 25-27 and Oct. 9-11. The NMSO's much-anticipated Buddy Holly Rocks! Pops program will be performed as scheduled at 8 p.m. on Oct. 3 at Popejoy Hall in Albuquerque.

The Buddy Holly Rocks! concert will not include NMSO musicians but will feature seven widely acclaimed touring musicians who perform their live, high-voltage concert of 1950s vintage rock music in venues across the country. Their show is the official re-creation of the final rock and roll tour of Buddy Holly, Richie Valens and the Big Bopper and is the only touring concert showcasing the pioneer musicians lost "the day the music died" that is endorsed by the Holly, Valens and Richardson estates.

"The NMSO deeply regrets that we must delay our first two Classics programs. Unfortunately, we have not yet been able to negotiate a new master agreement with our musicians' union. Because of serious financial pressures, the NMSO is not able to pay our musicians under the terms of their expired agreement, and our Board of Trustees has resolved that the NMSO must operate with fiscal responsibility," said Eric Meyer, NMSO president and CEO. "We are hopeful that bargaining issues will be resolved soon, so that we may start our 2009-2010 Classics season.

"In the meantime, we are excited about offering live music lovers the opportunity to enjoy 'Peggy Sue,' 'La Bamba,' 'Chantilly Lace' and much more on Oct. 3 at our Buddy Holly Rocks! program. We hope that many of our patrons will join us for this uplifting show."

Musicians John Mueller, Ray Anthony and Jay Richardson, son of the Big Bopper, are the featured entertainers for the Buddy Holly Rocks! NMSO Pops program.

Instructions for Ticket Holders

At this time, NMSO patrons with tickets for one of the postponed Classics concerts should keep their tickets because they will be valid for the rescheduled concert. If ticket holders are unable to attend on a rescheduled date, they may exchange the tickets for another concert, or the NMSO can provide a ticket voucher, valid for two years, for the full ticket value. If the ticket is part of a subscription package, the NMSO can provide a ticket voucher, valid for two years, for the prorated portion of the subscription. Ticket refunds are also an option, although the NMSO urges patrons to opt for exchanges.

About the NMSO

The New Mexico Symphony Orchestra is the official orchestra of the State of New Mexico, serving over 130,000 people each year through its Classics, Pops and Symphony Under the Stars series, as well as many free NMSO Family Concerts. The NMSO is the largest non-governmental provider of music education in New Mexico and has also been recognized by the Mellon Foundation for its innovative community engagement efforts. The NMSO is under the baton of Music Director Guillermo Figueroa and Resident Conductor and Chorus Director Roger Melone.

For more information about the NMSO, visit nmso.org.

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