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Performance Schedule Slated for Bear Valley Music Festival

BEAR VALLEY, CALIFORNIA, May 12, 2007 – Music comes back to the mountains this summer for the 39th season of the Bear Valley Music Festival. Former attendees and newcomers alike can order event tickets now. As usual, the festival's spectrum will span pop, opera, show tunes, jazz and country/western music.

The Bear Valley Music Festival, held annually over a two-week period, opens with country music singer/songwriter, Rosanne Cash, on Saturday, July 28. Its setting is in this idyllic mountain hamlet located east of Murphys and Arnold on the Hwy. 4 approach to Ebbetts Pass. Now in its 39th year, the festival has become a signature activity of summer in eastern California. Indeed, it's been voted the best summer attraction in the central Sierra.

7000-Foot Symphonies

Noted maestro Carter Nice conducts the 65-piece symphony orchestrathe highlight of the event. Most performances are in the evening, and instill priceless memories of crisp, pine-scented mountain air, a canopy of stars, and the melodies of such recent performers as The Temptations, The Supremes, Ramsey Lewis, The 5th Dimension, and pianist Olga Kern.

A spacious performance tent with seating for up to 1250 also houses a covered courtyard with an art exhibit, concessions and wine bar. A unique bond is forged between the musicians and the audience, since the performers live in the homes of local residents while they rehearse and perform throughout the two-week event.

"Each year our event attracts more Central California and Bay Area attendees", says festival president, Randy Hanvelt. "Many of them make the festival the centerpiece of their Sierra vacation. They hike, fish, and tour wineries during the day, then enjoy music festival events in the evenings." Overnight guests can choose from a variety of lodging choices within a few miles of Bear Valley. Many arrive early for evening performances to enjoy tailgate dinners in the mountain sunsets.

Headliners on the 2007 Program

This year's event kicks off with country music singer/songwriter, Rosanne Cash, on Saturday evening July 28. In addition to several symphony evenings, other performances include "**Broadway Pops**" show tunes (Aug. 1), "**Super Diamond**" Neil Diamond tribute band (Aug. 3), pianist **Joyce Yang** (Aug. 2, 4

and 5), **Hot Club of San Francisco**, jazz (Aug.9), and **“The Merry Wives of Windsor”** opera (Aug. 11). Again this season, two performances, including the opera on Aug. 9, also will be held in the Sonora Opera Hall.

The August 4 and 5 orchestral performances will feature pianist Joyce Yang, at 20, a Van Cliburn silver medalist and winner of the Best Chamber Music Performance award.

“I think it’s our lovely mountain venue that sets us apart from other music festivals,” says festival president, Hanvelt. “People come to enjoy the combination of the area’s pristine natural beauty and wonderful melodies resounding through the hills”.

The festival’s full event schedule, performer profiles and ticket information can be found at www.bearvalleymusic.org. Or by calling (209)753-2574, or toll free at (800)458-1618.

Festival Performance Summary:

- July 28 – Rosanne Cash
- August 1 – “Broadway Pops” show tunes
- August 2 – Pianist Joyce Yang (Brandon Yip, Sonora Opera Hall)
- August 3 – Super Diamond
- August 4 – Festival orchestra/Joyce Yang
- August 5 – Festival orchestra/Joyce Yang
- August 7 – Art and chamber music
- August 8 – Shelly Streeter
- August 9 – Hot Club of San Francisco (Opera, Sonora Opera Hall)
- August 10 – Festival orchestra/Violinist Sandra Cameron
- August 11 – Merry Wives of Windsor opera
- August 12 – Festival orchestra/Violinist Sandra Cameron

Photo Caption: Country music singer-songwriter Rosanne Cash kicks off the two-week Bear Valley Music Festival on Saturday, July 28.
