

For Immediate Release:

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Real Culture

For over 90 years Steamboat Springs has had a home for the arts. Captivated by the beauty of the Yampa Valley and desiring a more private location, Charlotte Perry and Portia Mansfield relocated their performing arts school from the foothills of Boulder to Steamboat Springs in 1914. Charlotte and Portia built Perry Mansfield Performing Arts School and Camp (www.perry-mansfield.org) on the premise that in order to tap into one's creative soul, one has to be close to nature. Since its inception, performers across the globe including Julie Harris and Dustin Hoffman let the summers of Steamboat Springs be the inspiration for their craft.

As Steamboat Springs grew, so did its population of artisans. Acres of open land, colorful western landscapes, and pristine wilderness attracted as many artists as the mountains, lakes and rivers attracted athletes. However over the past few years a wave of cultural enlightenment has swept the area. This "Mountain Town Renaissance" spans the spectrum of visual, performing and culinary arts, demonstrating not only a yearning for artistic expression, but also a community-wide commitment to the arts.

What's New: The Steamboat Mountain Theater

New to town the Steamboat Mountain Theater has entertainment for the entire family! Puppet shows, melodrama, juggling, live music and theater all located at the neighborhood theater near the base of the Steamboat Ski Area. Check their website for current schedules. www.steamboattheater.com

Strings in the Mountains Festival of Music



Strings in the Mountains, a nationally recognized music festival, presents over 70 performances of chamber music, jazz, rock, country, bluegrass and world rhythms - among other genres. Artists include Grammy winners and nominees, major competition winners and principal players from

the most renowned orchestras. The intimate 540-seat tent is surrounded by breathtaking vistas of Mt. Werner and the beautiful Yampa Valley making it an ideal venue to hear world-class music. Since its inception in 1988, Strings' audience has grown from 1,400 to over 30,000 in 2005.



© Strings in the Mountains Music Festival

Throughout the summer, enjoy chamber music concerts every Wednesday and Saturday evenings, the American Express Different Tempo Series every Friday night, Youth and Family Concerts every Tuesday and free Music on the Green performances at the Yampa River Botanic Park every Thursday. With a schedule like this, there's simply no excuse to miss a Strings in the Mountains production! www.stringsinthemountains.com

The Steamboat Springs Arts Council



The Steamboat Springs Arts Council, located at the historic "Depot", a former train depot that used to be the largest cattle exporter in the American west, has become the center of Steamboat's visual arts community. The Arts Council hosts 12 exhibits yearly in their two visual art galleries. In addition to the 32nd annual Art-in-the-Park Festival, an event celebrating unique hand crafted items from over 130 vendors and live entertainment on July 9-10, the Steamboat Springs Arts Council is proud to announce the 4th annual Beaux Arts Festival August 1- August 13. This exceptional festival features ongoing performance art, music, entertainers, children's activities, plus wonderful fine art exhibits and sculptures in conjunction with the Steamboat Wine Festival. www.steamboatspringsarts.com

The Emerald City Opera



The Emerald City Opera produces professional-caliber, classical opera in the heart of the Yampa Valley. Combining world-class artists from the esteemed opera houses of the world with local professionals, Emerald City promotes the vocal and performance arts at the highest level. This year the Emerald City Opera presents *Amadeus Arias* in honor of Mozart's 25th Anniversary August 14-6, 2006 in conjunction with the Steamboat Springs' Arts Council's 4th Annual Beaux Arts Festival. This year's performance once again brings internationally

recognized artists to Steamboat Springs. www.emeraldcityopera.org

The Tread of Pioneers Museum

The Tread of Pioneers Museum is dedicated to collecting, preserving and exhibiting the material relative to the history of Routt County and promoting an appreciation for the area's rich historic heritage. Displays include a 1908 Queen Anne-style Victorian home with Routt County artifacts, a Native American exhibit, a display of western life memorabilia and a history of skiing exhibit.

The Tread of Pioneers also possess over 4000 historic photos stored in their digital library which are available for the public to purchase.



Perry-Mansfield Performing Arts Camp and School

In 1914, Charlotte Perry and Portia Mansfield fulfilled their dreams of creating a summer arts camp in the mountains. Now, Perry-Mansfield is recognized as the oldest and most unique performing arts school and camp in the nation.

Located in the heart of the Rocky Mountains in Steamboat Springs, the camp offers classes each summer from mid-June to mid-August to young dancers, actors and actresses.

Throughout the years, a number of distinguished alumni, faculty, and guest artists have passed through the doors of Perry-Mansfield. The list includes: Dustin Hoffman, Joan Van Ark, Lee Remick, Agnes de Mille, José Limon, John Cage, Merce Cunningham and Julie Harris. Perry-Mansfield continues to prepare emerging young artists for the stage. Recent alumni are performing with Ballet Hispanico, Munich Ballet, Paul Taylor, Rotterdam Danseacademie, and on Broadway and television. www.perry-mansfield.org

Literary Sojourn

Each year, 500 readers from all over the country gather in Steamboat Springs to meet and listen to the creators of their favorite books in the premier literary festival of the Rocky Mountain West. The 2005 authors include: Geraldine Brooks, Myla Goldberg, Erik Larson, Stuart O'Nan, Lisa See, and features Erin McKean as the Master of Ceremonies. For more information visit www.literarysojourn.org

Tickets typically go on sale in June. For additional information contact the Bud Werner Memorial Library at 970-879-0240, Off the Beaten Path Bookstore & Coffeehouse at 1-800-898-6830.

Northwest Ballet

Steamboat's Northwest Ballet has helped to shape culture in the Yampa Valley by providing local dancers of all ages with year-round professional instruction. Members also produce and perform in high-caliber dance productions that are comparable to those in much larger communities.

Steamboat Community Players

The Steamboat Community Players presents a variety of popular community theater productions annually at its theater, The 7th Street Playhouse. Formed in 1972 under the auspices of the Arts Council, the Steamboat Community Players is now an independent non-profit organization.

Steamboat Dance Theater

Formed in 1975, the Steamboat Dance Theater includes 80 local dancers, choreographers and dance teachers. The Steamboat Dance Theater sponsors classes and appearances by guest artists and master teachers, as well as an annual dance concert to sell-out audiences.

Steamboat Springs Chamber Orchestra

Established in 1991, the mission of The Steamboat Springs Chamber Orchestra is to perform music for the residents and visitors of Northwest Colorado with an emphasis on community outreach, musician development, and music education for youth.

For the most up-to-date information on Steamboat Springs events, activities, and planning a summer vacation getaway log onto:

www.steamboatsummer.com