**PRESS RELEASE**

**The Third Stradivarius International Violin Competition**

**Opening Ceremonies tonight at 7:00 at Libby Gardener Hall**

 *Salt Lake City, Utah, July 10, 2013—The Stradivarius International Violin Competition announces the Opening Ceremony of International Junior Violin Competition and our Utah Division finals.*

 *The Stradivarius International Violin Competition* will continue its third event on Wednesday, July 10, 2013 at Libby Gardner Hall (University of Utah). The Opening Ceremonies begin at 7:00pm. Here, we will introduce the international competitors and judges. We will also announce the finalists for the Utah Division. The Utah Division finals will take place Saturday morning, July 13th from8:00-10:00am. After announcing our finalists, Marie Rossano, 1st Prize-winner of the 2nd Stradivarius International Violin Competition and currently studying at the Curtis Institute of Music, will play the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto in E. Minor, accompanied by the Salt Lake Symphony.

 Local official, Mayor Seghini of Midvale, will attend.

 The primary focus of the Stradivarius International Violin Competition is to select winners from 18 semi-finalists in the International Junior Division as well as to highlight some of our most outstanding local talent.

 The 18 international *semi-finalists* represent nations scattered from around the globe, and they come from some of the most prestigious music schools in the world.

 Our international musicians compete on Thursday, July 11th- Friday, the 12th.

The winners of our International Junior Division will be announced at 7:30pm on Friday, July 12th in Libby Gardner Hall. After the announcement of the International finalists we will be treated to a special concert featuring two very rare multi-million dollar Italian violins, the 1714 “Jackson” Stradivarius violin and the 1742 “Sloan” Guarneri del Gesu violin. These instruments were made by, arguably, the two very best violinmakers in history. Don’t miss it!

 The Stradivarius International Violin Competition hosts many concerts and events throughout the week of July 8-13th. Most events are free and open to the public.

Stradivari International Violin Competition 2013

Schedule of events:

 (All events are in Libby Gardner Hall, open to the public and admission is free)

Wednesday, July 10th, 7:00PM, Opening Ceremony Int’l Jr. Division and Performance by Marie Rossano

Thursday, July 11th, Int’l Jr. Div. Semi-Final Round 1, 8:00AM – 12:30PM, 2:30PM – 6:35PM, 8:00PM – 9:45PM

Friday, July 12th, Int’l Jr. Div. Semi-Final Round 2, 8:00AM – 12:30PM, 2:00 PM- 5:30 PM

Friday, July 12th, Stradivari and Guarneri Concert, 7:30PM---Don’t miss this unique opportunity to see and to hear these rare Italian violins played live side by side!

Saturday, July 13th, Utah Div. Final Round, 8:00AM – 10:00AM,

Saturday, July 13th, Int’l Jr. Div. Final Round, 1:00PM – 5:00PM

Saturday, July 13th, Exhibition of Fine and Rare Instruments, 1:00PM – 4:00PM

Saturday, July 13th, Awards Ceremony and Final Concert, 7:30PM