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**STOWE'S MUSIC FESTIVAL OF THE AMERICAS PROMISES UNIQUE EXPERIENCE  
Event Platinum Sponsor Green Mountain Inn offering Special Festival Package**

World-class music with an original and exciting twist comes to Stowe August 20 – 22 via the Music Festival of the Americas. Critically acclaimed conductor and festival music director Alondra de la Parra brings her much-celebrated Philharmonic Orchestra of the Americas (POA) to the festival for three evenings of classical and world music performed with an innovative flair. All concerts begin at 8 p.m. at the Topnotch Resort in Stowe.

The Green Mountain Inn, the proud platinum sponsor of the event, is featuring a special two-night festival package. The Inn invites guests to discover for themselves Ms. de la Parra's charismatic interpretation of music from the American content covering "Buenos Aires to Boston" which has brought audiences everywhere to their feet.

Celebrating the rich tradition of Latin American classical music, Ms. de la Parra has been credited with breathing new life into concertgoing by infusing a freshness and exuberance to this music which is anything but uptight. Her noted ability to connect with her audience and orchestra has fascinated and attracted music lovers of all ages and genres who revel in the passion and emotion she transmits through her orchestrations.

Says Innkeeper Patti Clark, "The festival offers an amazing opportunity for our guests to sample a truly unique musical event. We're delighted to be part of the effort to bring this experience to the area and hope our guests take great pleasure in exploring the richness and diversity of this remarkable presentation."

Highlights of this year's program include a Midsummer Night's Soiree with the Chamber Ensembles of the Americas; Night at the Opera featuring Washington National Opera soloists Jennifer Waters and Jose Ortega with music from Puccini, Bizet, Verdi and others; and Summer Classics with violinist Daniel Andai and music by Mozart, Mendelssohn and Tchaikovsky. Each concert begins at 8 p.m. at the Topnotch Resort.

Originally conceived in 2001 by Alondra's father and Stowe resident Manelick de la Parra, the festival got its start eight years ago as the Stowe Music Festival. The event has emerged as one of Vermont's premiere music venues and this year was renamed the Music Festival of the Americas (MFA) to reflect the true nature of the music it now showcases.

Ms. de la Parra has gained wide attention for her dynamic performances leading orchestras throughout Latin America as well as the Russian National Orchestra, the New York Pops Orchestra, and the Philharmonic of the Americas. She is the first woman from Mexico to conduct an orchestra in New York City.

In 2004 at the age of 23 Ms. de la Parra founded the New York based Philharmonic of the Americas (POA) with the mission to promote the work of young soloists and composers of the American continent. Her vision for the orchestra developed while she attended the Manhattan School of Music where she discovered other fellow performers with similar interests in exploring new musical horizons. Since its founding the POA has performed nationwide, embracing Ms. de la Parra's dedication to highlight new music by presenting over twenty world premieres by composers. The organization has also instituted an Arts and Education component as well as a Young Composers' competition.

"Music is a celebration to enjoy together," says Ms. de la Parra. The POA's goal she says is to, "celebrate and promote the hidden jewels of Latin American music." The Orchestra's mission recognizes the need for, "breaking boundaries and stereotypes of the traditional concert format to be a relevant part of peoples' lives."

Says Biddle Duke, a member of the MFA Board of Directors, Ms. de la Parra's interactive performance style and ease of communicating with the audience are some of the strongest aspects of the festival. "She's a different kind of conductor who talks to the audience, building a connection with them as well as with the performers while delivering an ongoing dialogue about what's being performed. Her performances have a distinct non-traditional feel because of her considerable ability to communicate." Duke describes the POA's performances as, "unusual, one of a kind interpretations of serious orchestrations allowing original pairings of music and instruments.

The Inn's special Music of the Americas Festival package includes a minimum of two nights lodging, full country breakfast daily, and wine in your room upon arrival. Ticket prices per person, which are not included, are \$25 for one concert, \$40 for two concerts and \$50 for all three concerts.

The Green Mountain Inn, originally built in 1833, began as a coaching inn for 19th-century travelers. Located in the heart of Stowe village, the Inn retains much of its antique charm offering 107 rooms, suites, apartments and townhouses. Guests enjoy two acclaimed restaurants, the Whip Bar & Grill and the Main Street Dining Room, specialty shops, a year-round heated outdoor pool, afternoon tea and cookies, health club facility, massage services and much more. For more information, please visit [www.greenmountaininn.com](http://www.greenmountaininn.com) or call 800-253-7302.

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