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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Still Waters Run Deep - A Benefit For The Coolest Little School In Brooklyn

Featuring Salman Rushdie and Joshua Bell

At City Winery February 22nd

December 16, 2014 (Brooklyn) How many times a day do you say to yourself: if only these kids would stop texting, put down the cell phone and pick up and read a book? Or, perhaps, write one? Well, there's a school in Bushwick, Brooklyn, where a great but simple man gets kids excited about that idea every week. His name is Stephen Haff and he is Chief of Still Waters in a Storm, a sanctuary for at-risk children ages 6-12. All of these children are from low-income families. They are Spanish-speaking, either immigrants or the children of immigrants mostly from Mexico and Ecuador. All the programs are free of charge. At the school they study Reading and Writing in Spanish and English, Violin and Music Composition, and classical Latin, guided by renowned authors, musicians and scholars.

More importantly, they learn to dream. Just what we want for all our kids, right? Haff, the kids and the school are doing their part. Now, it's your turn.

On February 22nd, you have an opportunity to keep that wonderful world of thoughts and dreams alive, while also having a great time yourself. At New York's City Winery, superstar violinist Joshua Bell, and bestselling author Salman Rushdie, will be presenting their great musical and literary gifts to you.

Your investment will pay dividends that are priceless. You can keep Still Waters in a Storm alive. And they can get on with what they do best. Turning on the grown-ups of tomorrow to the joys and imaginings found within their minds. These young children—our children—are writing original stories in English, Spanish and Latin, and composing their own original music and playing it on the violin!

Still Waters in a Storm is hardly unheralded. They've been profiled by CBS Evening News, BBC Television and The Manchester Guardian, among many other media outlets. Novelist Richard Price says of Still Waters, "I have never seen anything quite so moving and heartening in all my years as a writing teacher."

As for the artistic guests this night, their accomplishments are nothing short of stellar.

One of the preeminent classical musicians in the world today, **Joshua Bell** is a Grammy award winning violinist with more than 40 CDs to his credit, including the Oscar-winning soundtrack for *The Red Violin*. Now in his third season as Music Director of the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields, Bell is the first person to hold this title since Sir Neville Marriner formed the orchestra in 1958. Bell's career spans over 30 years as a soloist, chamber musician, recording artist and conductor, while being an outspoken advocate for classical music and keeping music education in schools.

Salman Rushdie, born in Bombay, India, is the acclaimed author of eleven bestselling novels, including *Midnight's Children*, winner of the Booker Prize in 1981 and "The Best of Booker" award, in 2008, for the best novel to have won the prize in its first 40 years. In 2007 he was knighted for services to literature. His most recent book is *Joseph Anton*, an autobiographical memoir.



Literary greats who have volunteered to help the children with their reading and writing include Wallace Shawn, Mary Gaitskill, Deborah Eisenberg, Peter Carey, Jonathan Safran Foer, Sharon Olds, Phil Klay, Patrick



McGrath, Adrian Nicole Leblanc, Tracy K. Smith and Zadie Smith. These writers are winners of the Booker Prize, the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Award and MacArthur "Genius" Fellowships.

MCing the event will be Wesley Stace. Under the name John Wesley Harding, he released

17 albums, ranging from traditional folk to full on pop. He has also published four novels, including the international bestseller *Misfortune*, the most recent being, *Wonderkid*. He created Wesley Stace's *Cabinet of Wonders*, a monthly show from NYC's City Winery that airs on NPR.

A lovely night out at a lovely venue. Fine food. Beautiful music. Exquisite prose. And all of it will be benefitting the worthiest children imaginable. This night isn't hard to resist. It's impossible.

To BUY TICKETS please go to:

<http://www.citywinery.com/newyork/stillwaterbenefit022215.html>

To learn about the pre-show artist MEET & GREET go to:

<http://www.citywinery.com/newyork/tickets/stillwaterbenefitmeetandgreet022215.html>

For more information about STILL WATERS, please go to: www.stillwatersinastorm.org

