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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Extraordinary Local Stars Join the Albany Symphony on Exciting February Performance**

(ALBANY, NY) - On February 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>, the Albany Symphony will feature two of the region's most exciting young artists: sisters Madalyn Parnas, violin, and Cicely Parnas, cello, as the centerpiece of a one-of-a-kind program that includes music by Schoenberg, Vivaldi, Saint-Saëns, and Beethoven. The Parnas sisters, who were recently hailed by the *New York Times* for their "electrifying" performances, "lush tone" and "pinpoint precision," will be featured in Vivaldi's *Double Concerto for Violin, Cello and Orchestra*, as well as in the rarely heard Saint-Saëns *Muse and Poet, for Violin, Cello and Orchestra*.

Madalyn and Cicely Parnas are well-known both as an extraordinary chamber duo (**duo parnas**) as well as individually as accomplished young virtuosos, and have been featured in numerous national radio programs and magazines. They have released two highly acclaimed CDs, and taken 1st prize in international chamber music competition and top prizes in national soloist competitions. Both granddaughters of the legendary cellist Leslie Parnas, the duo also performs with pianist Peter Serkin in the **Parnas/Serkin Trio**. The Parnas sisters currently attend the College of Saint Rose, both earning degrees in music and foreign languages.

The concert program also includes Schoenberg's early romantic masterpiece for string orchestra: *Transfigured Night*, and Beethoven's explosive, ebullient *Symphony No. 8*. This program will be performed in Saratoga, Troy, and in the Berkshires over three consecutive nights. Pre-performance talks with guest artists and conductor David Alan Miller will take place on Thursday February 25<sup>th</sup>, 12:00pm at the Albany Public Library (161 Washington Ave., Albany, NY), and Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm at the Arts Center of the Capital Region (265 River Street, Troy, NY).

More information about the performances or its featured artists can be found at the Albany Symphony's website at [www.AlbanySymphony.com](http://www.AlbanySymphony.com), or by calling (518) 465-4755.

### **An Evening with the Radiant Parnas Sisters**

#### ***When and Where:***

*Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm, Canfield Casino, Saratoga Springs, NY*  
Tickets: Palace Theatre Box Office, by calling (518) 465-4663, or by visiting [PalaceAlbany.com](http://PalaceAlbany.com); \$30 General Admission, \$15 Students

*Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 8:00pm, Troy Savings Bank Music Hall, Troy, NY*  
Tickets: at the Troy Savings Bank Music Hall Box Office, by calling (518) 273-0038 or by visiting [tickets.troymusichall.org](http://tickets.troymusichall.org) ; \$25-\$49, \$15 Students

*Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 3:00pm, Barrington Stage Co., Pittsfield, MA*  
Tickets: by calling (413) 236-8888; \$30, \$15 Students  
or by visiting [www.barringtonstageco.org](http://www.barringtonstageco.org)

***About the ASO***

The Albany Symphony Orchestra is one of this region's oldest and most revered music and cultural organizations, having won numerous national awards for its adventurous programming of contemporary music and innovative educational efforts involving area schools for nearly 80 years. As the only professional symphony orchestra based within the Capital Region, the Albany Symphony aims to enrich a broad and diverse regional community, engaging over 150,000 people each year across an extended geographical area.

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