

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Nashua Symphony Orchestra's
CONCERTMASTER QUARTET
Opens new chamber music series with music of
Dvořák and Chadwick**

(Nashua, NH) Beginning this year, the Nashua Symphony Association's concert season will include four chamber music concerts designed to supplement the offerings of the Orchestra and Symphony Chorus. The first of these, on Sunday, September 28 at 3:00 p.m., will feature the NSO's "Concertmaster Quartet" playing string quartets of Antonín Dvořák and George Whitefield Chadwick.

Dvořák's F Major quartet, dubbed his "American", was written while the composer spent time in Spillville, Iowa (where a large population of Czech immigrants had settled). This was during the period when Dvořák was fascinated with the indigenous folk-melodies of Native and African-Americans; he was convinced that they should form the foundation of a new American style of music. His "American" quartet – like his "New World" Symphony, composed at about the same time – explored the possibilities inherent in these expansive melodies.

Boston composer George Whitefield Chadwick was active while Dvořák was in New York, where the "New World" Symphony had its premiere in 1893. It is striking to notice how Dvořák's ideas about American music influenced Chadwick's style, and just as striking to note the ways in which they did not. As NSA Executive Director Eric Valliere puts it, "Chadwick – born and raised in New England – was committed to an evolution of the Austro-German style to suit America; Dvořák had been, from very early on in his career, an ardent Nationalist who sought inspiration in folk

melodies.” Which quartet sounds more “American”? To explore this question, Valliere will instigate a dialog with the players and audience before and after the concert. Refreshments will be served.

This concert is made possible, in part, by the support and generosity of Rivier College.

WHEN: Sunday, September 28 at 3:00 p.m.

WHAT: NSO Concertmaster Quartet

CHADWICK
String Quartet No. 4

DVORAK
String Quartet No. 12 in F Major “American”

WHERE: Rivier College’s Dion Center
Nashua, NH

OF SPECIAL NOTE: THIS CONCERT IS FREE WITH A VALID RIVIER COLLEGE I.D.

Ticket Information

Tickets are \$15 general admission; \$10 seniors and students (5-18 or with ID), available at the door, at the Nashua Symphony Box Office (6 Church St.), and can be charged to major credit cards by calling 603.595.9156 or by visiting the NSA website, www.nashuasymphony.org.