



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact:

217-782-7386

“New Classical” Duo Featured at Illinois State Museum on Sept. 13

The OK Factor Performs in Music at the Museum Concert Series

SPRINGFIELD, IL – Taking a step in a new direction, the **Music at the Museum Concert Series** will present the Minnesota based “New Classical” duo **The OK Factor** on Thursday, September 13 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the Illinois State Museum in Springfield. Cellist Olivia Diercks and violinist Karla Colahan find great joy in defying expectations and delivering an experience outside of what audiences anticipate from a cello and violin combo. Their musical style is frequently compared to Yo-Yo Ma’s Appalachian Suite.

Playful and unexpected, **The OK Factor** writes and performs folk-inspired music influenced by Americana and Irish fiddle styles, with an artistry that reveals their classical training. **The OK Factor** has produced three studio albums of their original pieces and arrangements: *Water Street* ('14), *That's Enough of That* ('16), and *Have Yourself an OK Christmas* ('17).

Their original compositions feel both comfortingly familiar and uniquely fresh, and have been described as "genre-bending" (Julie Amacher, Minnesota Public Radio) and "pure magic" (*Wausau Pilot & Review*). The ease with which they write and perform has brought them success on stages across the Midwest, and their distinct compositional and performance style awarded them the honor of being finalists for the prestigious McKnight Fellowships for Musicians in 2018.

The Music at the Museum concerts are hosted by Illinois singer/songwriter Chris Vallillo and take place every second Thursday of the month at the Illinois State Museum Auditorium. Concerts start at 7:00 p.m. Admission is \$10.00 for adults and \$8.00 for museum members and kids under 12. There will be a variety of desserts and drinks available during the break.

For the full Music at the Museum schedule, go online at www.museumconcerts.com.

The Illinois State Museum is located at 502 S. Spring St, Springfield, IL 62706. For additional information call the Museum at 217-782-7386.

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