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BETHEL WOODS CENTER FOR THE ARTS WELCOMES EARTH, WIND & FIRE AND CHICAGO CONCERT ON JUNE 14TH

(March 30, 2009) BETHEL, NY – Two legendary bands, Earth Wind & Fire and Chicago, will return to the Bethel Woods pavilion stage on Sunday June 14th to kick off the summer concert season.

Reserved ticket prices are \$110.00, \$100.00, \$80.00, \$60.00 and \$40.00 for Lawn with a special Lawn 4-pack for \$120.00. General admission parking is free. The concert begins at 7:00pm, with doors opening at 6:00pm and parking at 5:00pm. Tickets **go on sale to the general public Friday, April 3 at 10:00 a.m.** at www.BethelWoodsCenter.org, the Bethel Woods Box Office, Ticketmaster, LiveNation.com, or by phone 1-800-745-3000. The Bethel Woods Box Office will be open on Friday, April 3 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

In 42 years, **Chicago** has written, recorded and performed some of the most popular and musically innovative songs in rock history. Billboard Magazine positioned the band at #13 on their Hot 100 chart's All-Time Top 100 – a byproduct of having sold more than 100,000,000 records and having earned 20 Top hits, 5 Number One albums, an incredible 25 certified platinum albums, a Grammy Award, American Music Awards and a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Formed in their namesake city in 1967, the band has mixed rock, pop, and jazz in a completely new way. Chicago remains a working band, touring continually since forming in 1967. This April, Madacy Records, in conjunction with Rhino Entertainment, will release a 3-CD collector's edition greatest hits compilation in a special tin package. Band members include Robert Lamm – keyboards and vocals, Lee Loughnane – trumpet, James Pankow – trombone, Walt Parazaider – woodwinds, Bill Champlin – keyboards, guitar and vocals, Jason Scheff – bass and vocals, Tris Imboden – drums, and Keith Howland – guitar.

Earth, Wind & Fire made international news recently when President Obama declared in an interview with RollingStone Magazine that the group was among his favorites in his iPod. He said they are “rhythm and blues and pop staples for me.” The group was invited by President Obama to perform in the East Room on February 22 at the White House for the first social event of the new administration. The Earth, Wind & Fire 11-piece band is among the most influential, commercially successful and critically acclaimed bands of the last three decades. Formed in 1969 in Chicago, Earth, Wind & Fire's 39-year history resulted in millions of albums sold worldwide and distinguished awards and accolades. Founding members: Maurice White (leader, vocalist, songwriter); Philip Bailey (lead vocalist, percussionist); Verdine White (bassist); Ralph Johnson (drummer and percussionist) have been inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and are credited with eight Grammy Awards, 20 Grammy nominations, Four American Music Awards, honors from the NAACP, the BET Awards and a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Earth, Wind & Fire's signature sound and distinctive musical styles fuse pop, soul, jazz, rock n' roll, psychedelic, African roots music and disco with a base in funk.

Members of the **Bethel Woods Friends** program have a pre-sale opportunity beginning on March 31. For more information on becoming a Friend of Bethel Woods, please visit <http://www.bethelwoodscenter.org/support.aspx>.

All concert attendees can add a ticket for The Museum at Bethel Woods, purchase premium parking which is available at \$20 per car and located in lot D or rent a lawn chair online in advance when ordering concert tickets.

Even better, save on gas and hassle by taking advantage of the BIG V Entertainment Park & Ride from the Monticello Casino and Raceway, or travel roundtrip on Coach USA | Shortline bus service from New York City's Port Authority, Ridgewood, NJ Park & Ride, or the Middletown, NY Shortline Terminal. Roundtrip fares are \$16 to \$50 per person. Visit BethelWoodsCenter.org for more information and to purchase bus tickets.

Situated at the site of the original 1969 Woodstock festival in Bethel, New York, Bethel Woods Center for the Arts will present a season-long celebration of the 40th anniversary of the historic festival with concerts, special events and museum programs that embrace the legacy of the Sixties and Woodstock.

More details about the upcoming season will be announced in the coming weeks, but fans can expect a diverse musical offering including world-class artists in the rock, pop, country and classical genres, as well as special exhibits, films and lecture series at The Museum at Bethel Woods. To be among the first to hear, sign up for the E-Club at www.bethelwoodscenter.org or text CONCERT to 38714 on your mobile phone.

For more information please visit www.BethelWoodsCenter.org, www.livenation.com, www.chicagotheband.com, or www.earthwindandfire.com. Produced in association with Live Nation.

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About Bethel Woods Center for the Arts:

The mission of the not-for-profit Bethel Woods Center for the Arts is to present compelling programs that educate, entertain and engage audiences of all ages, to improve the quality of life and the vitality of our region. Bethel Woods Center for the Arts is located approximately 90 minutes from New York City at the site of the original 1969 Woodstock festival in Bethel, NY. The 15,000-seat outdoor performing arts venue and The Museum at Bethel Woods are set within 2,000 bucolic acres. The main pavilion covers 4,500 seats with another 10,500 on a natural sloping lawn while offering unique backdrops including the original festival site and the majesty of the surrounding Sullivan County countryside. The venue presents a diverse selection of popular artists, a range of orchestral performances, community events and music and arts educational opportunities. By providing artists with the opportunity to perform on one of music's most legendary grounds, Bethel Woods Center for the Arts is committed to being a world-class cultural destination.

www.bethelwoodscenter.org