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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Molly Morkoski and Sing for Hope Piano at Bartow-Pell *Concert celebrates first annual Bronx Festival of the Arts*

Bronx, NY, May 24, 2013 —Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum is proud to be one of 88 NYC sites selected to host a Sing for Hope piano. These extraordinary refurbished, artist-decorated Sing for Hope pianos are donated after their debut to organizations throughout the city to bring communities together through music and art. Artist Emily Lynch-Fries has decorated the Bartow-Pell piano in a black and white pattern inspired by an 1898 evening dress from the House of Worth. While Bartow-Pell has scheduled a number of guest musicians (see bpmm.org for the most current schedule), the piano will be waiting for any and all to play their songs of hope. The location—beside the fountain in the formal garden—will inspire artists and audience alike.

To kick off the Sing for Hope piano’s residence at Bartow-Pell—and to celebrate The first annual Bronx Festival of the Arts, classical pianist Molly Morkoski will give a concert on our Sing for Hope piano in the garden on Saturday, June 1 at 4:30 p.m. The concert is co-sponsored by BPMM and Pelham Bay Park, with deep appreciation to Bronx Heritage Music Center for once again linking Bartow-Pell with amazing musical talent.

The New York Times has recognized Molly Morkoski’s playing as “strong, profiled, nuanced...beautifully etched.” The Boston Globe has called her “outstanding.” In June of 2007, she made her solo debut on Carnegie Hall’s Stern Auditorium/Perelman stage. She has performed as a soloist and collaborative artist throughout the US, Europe, and Japan and has collaborated with some of today’s leading musicians including Dawn Upshaw, John Adams, John Corigliano and David Robertson.

An avid proponent of new music, Ms. Morkoski has worked with many living composers, most recently presenting Mark Grey’s “Fire Angels” in Carnegie Hall and on the Cal

Performances Series in Berkeley, California with Ensemble Meme and soprano Jessica Rivera. Her first solo disc, "Threads," was released in March 2012 on Albany Records. She is currently Associate Professor at Lehman College in the Bronx.

The free Bronx Trolley will run from the #6 Pelham Bay Park station to the museum and back again from 2–6 p.m. Enjoy free tours of the museum at 2:15 or 3:15. Picnic-style seating for the concert: please bring your own blanket or chair. Registration requested. Free

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***Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum** is located at 895 Shore Road, Pelham Bay Park, Bronx, New York. To reach us by public transportation, take the #6 Lexington Avenue Local subway to Pelham Bay Park station, followed by the Westchester Bee-Line #45 bus direct to the mansion gate. For driving directions, please visit www.bpmm.org. The mansion and carriage house are open to the public for guided tours on Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. The gardens and grounds are open daily from 8:30 a.m. to dusk. Mansion admission is \$5 adults, \$3 seniors and students; free for children under six. Visiting the garden and grounds is free.*

*For more information about **Sing for Hope** see www.singforhope.org.*

*For more information about **Molly Morkoski** see www.mollymorkoski.com.*