



THE  
**SHELDON**  
Arts Without Borders

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**SHELDON'S MFLA PROGRAM TO COLLECT INSTRUMENTS FOR SUMNER HIGH SCHOOL  
THROUGHOUT THE MONTH OF APRIL**

ST. LOUIS - April is Music For Lifelong Achievement (MFLA) month at The Sheldon! This year, MFLA's April instrument collection drive will benefit Sumner High School, which recently announced that it will remain open, with a focus on arts and activism, after being slated to close by the St. Louis City School Board earlier this year. The oldest high school for African Americans west of the Mississippi River, Sumner High's notable alumni includes Tina Turner, Chuck Berry, Robert McFerrin and Lester Bowie.

Donations of used (or new) musical instruments will be accepted in person at The Sheldon throughout the month of April, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Donors should enter through the administrative entrance on the east side of the Sheldon Concert Hall. Masks are required when entering The Sheldon, and all visitors are required to sign-in for contact tracing purposes.

Don't have an instrument to donate? Financial contributions can help pay for necessary repairs of donated instruments, as well as accessories such as strings, reeds and sheet music. Call The Sheldon at 314-533-9900 or visit [TheSheldon.org](http://TheSheldon.org) for more information or to make a donation. MFLA will provide a thank you letter that will serve as a tax deduction receipt for the value of the instruments or the funds donated.

Over the past 15 years, MFLA has distributed over 1,000 instruments to St. Louis-area schools and community music programs, including over 60 instruments this season. Music For Lifelong Achievement is part of the non-profit Sheldon Arts Foundation, an accredited 501c3 organization and is based at the Sheldon Concert Hall in St. Louis, Missouri.

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