The Sheldon Concert Hall and Art Galleries

The Mission
The Sheldon Arts Foundation is committed to the preservation and operation of the historic Sheldon Concert Hall and is dedicated to enriching the greater St. Louis region and beyond with a wide range of music, visual arts and educational programs of the highest quality, diversity and educational impact.

Historic Hall
The Sheldon was designed by noted St. Louis World's Fair architect Louis Spiering and opened its doors in 1912 as the Ethical Society of St. Louis. Famous speakers such as Thurgood Marshall and Margaret Mead have spoken from its stage and the world's greatest musicians, including Jose Carreras, Wynton Marsalis, Willie Nelson, k.d. lang, Renee Fleming, Tony Bennett, Joan Baez and Diana Krall, have performed in the intimate 712-seat hall.

Perfect Acoustics
The Sheldon Concert Hall is known around the world for its perfect acoustics and was voted one of the top ten concert halls in the country by touring musicians. Musicians often rank The Sheldon as their favorite concert hall.

A Tradition of Great Music
The Sheldon presents great jazz, folk, classical and matinee subscription concerts, as well as gospel, blues, bluegrass, Celtic, Latin, and other music from around the world. The Sheldon regularly presents well known artists in diverse musical genres and also showcases St. Louis musicians on its weekly “Notes from Home” series.

Quality Visual Arts
In 1998, The Sheldon added the 7,000 square foot Sheldon Art Galleries and an outdoor sculpture garden. The galleries contain seven separate spaces devoted to rotating exhibits of St. Louis artists, photography, architecture, jazz history, emerging artists and children’s art. More than 75,000 people visit the galleries each year. The Art Galleries also present gallery lectures for adults and visual arts educational programs for young people.

Service to the St. Louis Region
The Sheldon hosts over 350 events each year and serves over 100,000 adults and children through a wide range of concerts, educational programs, art exhibits and community events in the Sheldon Concert Hall, Sheldon Ballroom, William T. Kemper Atrium, Sheldon Art Galleries and Louis Spiering Room.

A Commitment to Education
In addition to a Matinee Concerts series, The Sheldon annually introduces over 20,000 young people to music through “The Jazz Story,” “Folk Music in the Melting Pot,” “Nothin’ But the Blues,” “The American Musical,” “Lewis and Clark,” “Sonic Safari” and “Classical Connections.” Educational workshops and master classes connect talented young musicians with Sheldon guest artists, and college internships teach arts management, recording techniques and concert production.