



**THE SHELDON**  
CONCERT HALL & ART GALLERIES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**STL250 SONGWRITING CONTEST – FINALISTS ARE CHOSEN, VOTING BEGINS NOW!**

ST. LOUIS – The Sheldon is pleased to announce that five finalists have been chosen in the STL250 Songwriting Contest, and public voting is now open to determine the first, second and third place winners. The public is invited to visit [www.TheSheldon.org/songcontest.asp](http://www.TheSheldon.org/songcontest.asp) to listen to the songs and vote for their favorite!

**Public voting is open through December 1, 2013.** Voters are encouraged to judge the finalists not only for the quality of songwriting and composition, but for their effectiveness in interpreting and relating the history and culture of St. Louis, with special consideration given to songs in styles that reflect the rich musical heritage of St. Louis.

A panel of judges narrowed down the finalists from 50 initial entries, with submissions ranging from jazz and bluegrass to hip-hop and blues. In addition to cash prizes of \$500 for first place, \$250 for second place and \$100 for third place, the grand prize winner will also win a four-hour recording session at The Live Room Recording Studio, and the winners and other selected finalists will be invited to appear at the Sheldon Concert Hall during “First Night” on December 31, 2013.

Open to amateur and professional songwriters in the St. Louis area, the STL250 Songwriting Contest was designed to raise public awareness about the wealth of music and artistic talent in St. Louis and to encourage local songwriters to focus their talents to help celebrate St. Louis’ 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2014.

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