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**THE BLIND BOYS OF ALABAMA RETURN TO THE SHELDON WITH THEIR CHRISTMAS SHOW,
FEATURING SPECIAL GUEST RUTHIE FOSTER**

ST. LOUIS – The Friends of The Sheldon present The Blind Boys of Alabama Christmas Show featuring special guest Ruthie Foster, Saturday, December 13 at 8 p.m. in the perfect acoustics of the Sheldon Concert Hall to benefit Sheldon educational programs. The Blind Boys of Alabama are an American treasure. Known for crossing multiple musical boundaries with their remarkable interpretations of everything from traditional gospel favorites to contemporary spiritual material, including songs by writers such as Prince and Tom Waits, the band was recently called “a superweapon of roots-music uplift” by *Rolling Stone* magazine.

This holiday season, the Blind Boys are touring in support of their new album *Talkin’ Christmas!* (Sony Masterworks), their second-ever Christmas album. The album includes several brand-new songs as well as older classics. This special concert will feature songs from the new album, along with Christmas favorites and other gems from the Grammy-winning Christmas recording, *Go Tell It On The Mountain*, and their 70-plus-year career.

After touring in the gospel caravans of the 1940s and 50s, the Blind Boys have since enjoyed accolades and awards from all parts of the music world, including a remarkable five Grammy Awards, Lifetime Achievement Awards from The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (NARAS), and an induction into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame. The Blind Boys have appeared on recordings with Lou Reed, Peter Gabriel, Susan Tedeschi, Aaron Neville, Ben Harper, Justin Vernon of Bon Iver and many other great artists. The band has also been featured on *The Tonight Show*, *Late Night with David Letterman*, *The Grammy® Awards* telecast, *60 Minutes*, *The Colbert Report*, and were co-stars in the Broadway musical *The Gospel At Colonus* with Morgan Freeman.

Single tickets are \$55 orchestra/\$50 balcony, and are on sale starting Saturday, November 8 at 10 a.m. through MetroTix at 314-534-1111, through The Sheldon’s website at TheSheldon.org, or in person at The Fox Theatre Box Office, 534 N. Grand Blvd. **Patron tickets** in support of Sheldon educational programs are on sale now at \$150 and \$125, and include preferred seating, a pre-concert reception, complimentary parking, and a tax deduction. For patron tickets or more information, call The Sheldon at 314-533-9900.

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