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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE FRIENDS OF THE SHELDON WELCOME RICKY SKAGGS AND KENTUCKY THUNDER

Event: The Friends of The Sheldon present Ricky Skaggs and Kentucky Thunder

When: Saturday, February 28, 2015 at 8 p.m.

Where: Sheldon Concert Hall

Patron Tickets: Patron tickets are on sale now at \$150 and \$125 and include preferred seating, a pre-concert reception, complimentary parking and a tax deduction. Call The Sheldon at 314-533-9900.

Concert-only tickets go on sale January 24 at 10 a.m. Tickets are \$45 orchestra/\$40 balcony and are available through MetroTix at 314-534-1111 or online at www.TheSheldon.org. For more information, call The Sheldon during normal business hours, Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

ST. LOUIS - Ricky Skaggs and his award-winning group return to The Sheldon with their trademark blend of classic bluegrass sounds and modern vitality and charisma. The winner of fourteen Grammys, multiple Country Music Association Awards, and twelve number one hits, Ricky Skaggs and Kentucky Thunder are among Nashville's most revered and established performers. The group returns for a Friends of The Sheldon concert, benefitting Sheldon Educational Programs that serve over 20,000 young people each year.

Ricky was born on July 18, 1954 in Cordell, Kentucky, and received his first mandolin at the age of five after his father, Hobert, heard him harmonizing with his mother from across the house as he played with his toys. By age 21, Ricky Skaggs was already considered a "recognized master" of the mandolin, catapulting him to popularity and success in the mainstream of country music. After several decades of building a reputation for high-energy live shows and diverse repertoire, Skaggs branched out on his own to start the Skaggs Family Records label in 1997. Focusing on the roots of bluegrass and country music, Skaggs Family Records has released a string of 12-consecutive Grammy nominated albums (8 of which went on to win) such as *Bluegrass Rules!*, *Soldier of the Cross* and *Ricky Skaggs Solo: Songs My Dad Loved*.

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