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WINNERS CHOSEN FOR SHELDON'S STL250 SONGWRITING CONTEST

ST. LOUIS – The Sheldon is pleased to announce the winners of the STL250 Songwriting Contest. The first place winner is Half Deaf Jeff, with his song “Good Ole St. Louie.” Second place was awarded to Greg Hoeltzel for “Old St. Louis,” and third place to the iLLPHONiCs for “Mound City March.” In addition to cash prizes of \$500 for first place, \$250 for second place and \$100 for third place, Half Deaf Jeff was awarded a four-hour recording session at The Live Room Recording Studio, and will be featured at this year’s First Night celebration on December 31. He will perform at The Sheldon that evening from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

The three winning entries can be heard on The Sheldon’s website at <http://thesheldon.org/songcontest.asp>.

“St. Louis is known for its impressive contributions to many music genres – ragtime, blues, jazz, rock and roll, and hip-hop, to mention a few, and our songwriting contestants drew on those rich traditions,” says Sheldon Executive Director Paul Reuter. “We were extremely delighted by the quality of the entries.”

The public was invited to vote for their favorite song from a group of five finalists that were narrowed down by a panel of judges. Voters were 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.

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’ 250th Anniversary in 2014.

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