

Chris Peimann
Director of Marketing and Publicity
cpeimann@TheSheldon.org
Ph: 314.533.9900 ext. 19

Sarah Samples
Marketing and Publicity Coordinator
ssamples@TheSheldon.org
Ph: 314.533.9900 ext. 21



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MONSANTO FUND TO SUPPORT SHELDON ARTS, STEAM PROGRAMS

ST. LOUIS – The Sheldon is pleased to announce the receipt of a \$15,000 grant from the Monsanto Fund. With the support of the Monsanto Fund, The Sheldon will be able to support educational programs serving over 25,000 grade school and high school students in the St. Louis region, including 10,000 young people from St. Louis Public Schools, North County school districts and other urban and rural schools serving disadvantaged students.

Components of Sheldon education programs include “The Jazz Story,” “Folk Music in the Melting Pot,” “Nothin’ but the Blues,” “Lewis and Clark,” “Classical Connections,” “Drums and Dances of Africa” and “The American Musical.” Other programs include The Sheldon’s SOLID Project (Science of Learning Instrument Design), The Sheldon’s North County Big Band, The Sheldon On-Line Music Academy and Mentoring Program, visual arts workshops and master classes, as well as other programs to benefit high school bands and ensemble groups.

For the 2016-2017 season, The Sheldon launched “The Sound and Science of Music,” which uses the STEM disciplines of science, technology, engineering and math to reveal the science of acoustics and how different kinds of instruments make music, all through a fast-paced, live demonstration and performance by top local musicians.

“With the support of the Monsanto Fund, students will be introduced to many different genres of music in the intimate setting of The Sheldon’s historic concert hall. They will also have opportunities to participate in many other programs in both music and visual arts including workshops, performances and mentoring. Students will learn to combine the creativity of the arts with science, technology, engineering and math and are challenged to create their own musical instrument. It’s the perfect STEAM program,” said Susan Wise, Director of Education.

The Sheldon opened its doors in 1912 and the Concert Hall is known around the world for its perfect acoustics. Today, The Sheldon presents jazz, folk, classical and world music concerts and the adjoining Sheldon Art Galleries present quality exhibits in many genres. Over 25,000 young people are engaged in Sheldon education programs and, overall, 125,000 individuals participate in over 350 Sheldon events each year.

The Monsanto Fund, the philanthropic arm of the Monsanto Company, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening the communities where farmers and Monsanto Company employees live and work. Visit the Monsanto Fund at www.monsantofund.org.

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