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## 94.1 The Wolf Songwriter Fest scheduled for March 12<sup>th</sup> Hear the Stories behind #1 Hits on Country Radio

Memphis, TN February 12, 2016- 94.1 The Wolf and BMI present the first ever **Songwriter Fest** at The Halloran Centre at The Orpheum on Saturday night March 12, 2016. Hear the stories behind the music from the songwriters themselves in an intimate acoustic performance from hit songwriter **Shane Minor** ("Live A Little Love A Lot" Kenny Chesney, "Chillin' It" Cole Swindell) and the legendary #1 hit songwriter **Phil O'Donnell** ("Doin' What She Likes" Blake Shelton and "Give It All We Got Tonight" recorded by George Strait) . Additional BMI artist and songwriter **Greg Bates** will be featured as well as BMI's up and coming country singer and songwriter, **Shelley Skidmore**.

Country music's hit song writers take the stage to talk about and perform their hit singles before a limited audience. These artists have written, produced and played alongside some of country music's biggest stars like George Strait, Kenny Chesney, Blake Shelton and Eric Church, to name a few, and played the Grand Ole Opry multiple times. The story-telling will be just as exciting as hearing the music live on the state-of-the-art stage, and a 361-seat theatre.

The festivities begin March 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. VIP Packages and admission tickets go on sale Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 10am CST at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) and at The Orpheum Box Office, 203 S. Main Street, Memphis TN 38103, by phone at 901-525-3000 or the ticket counter at Booksellers of Laurelwood.

Sponsorship opportunities are available through Entercom Radio Memphis, attention Dan Barron or Amy Hughes (901)384-5900.

**Shane Minor** -BMI award-winning songwriter living in Nashville who worked with country music's biggest stars including Eric Church, Kenny Chesney, Chris Young, Jamey Johnson, Cole Swindell and George Strait. He wrote the number one single "Beautiful Mess" recorded by Diamond Rio and co-wrote many other hit country songs like "Live A Little Love A Lot" Kenny Chesney, "Chillin' It" Cole Swindell, "Close Your Eyes For This" Parmalee, "His Kind of Money" Eric Church, just to name a few. Minor has also penned songs for Luke Bryan, Justin Moore, Chris Young, Trace Adkins, Rodney Atkins and many more including "Yup" recorded by Easton Corbin which he co-wrote with Phil O'Donnell.

**Phil O'Donnell**- Phil made his first trip to Nashville in 1983 and began developing his skills as a songwriter. Officially making the move to Tennessee in 1994, O'Donnell has also worked as a musician, playing guitar with many artists including Craig Morgan, Jeff Carson, Kevin Denney, Johnny Lee, and Sherrie Austin. O'Donnell's songwriting credits include the # 1 single "Doin' What She Likes" recorded by Blake Shelton, the #1 single, "Give It All We Got Tonight" recorded by George Strait, the # 1 single "Back When I Knew It All" recorded by Montgomery Gentry, "Love Remembers" and "I Got You" (Craig Morgan), "Tougher Than Nails" (Joe Diffie), "For She Was Mama", "She Won't Be Lonely Long" (Clay Walker) Darryl Worley, "Sounds Like Life to Me". Phil has also had songs cut by Blake Shelton, Rodney Atkins, Darius Rucker, Josh Thompson, Justin Moore, Scotty McCreery, Brad Paisley, Trace Atkins, Mark Chestnut, Tracy Byrd, Billy Ray Cyrus, Travis Tritt, Gretchen Wilson, Randy Travis, Neal McCoy, Tracy Lawrence, and Sammy Kershaw.

Phil O'Donnell continued:

In addition to having a successful career as a songwriter, O'Donnell also serves as producer for artists such as Craig Morgan, Josh Thompson, Chris Janson, and Mark Wills. Among his many production credits is the six-week #1 country hit, "That's What I Love About Sunday" (Craig Morgan), which was the most played country song of 2005.

**Greg Bates** - Greg released his debut album which included his Top 5 hit "Did It For The Girl" and "Fill In The Blank" which led him to the Grand Ole Opry Stage in 2012. Greg was raised in Nashville and graduated from Belmont College. Traditional '90s artists including Randy Travis, Dwight Yoakam and Alan Jackson were an inspiration to Greg growing up and you can hear that influence in his music style today. He married fellow singer/songwriter Shelley Skidmore in 2015 and they share their passion for writing country music in Nashville TN. Greg is currently working on a new album to be released later this year.

**Shelley Skidmore** is a BMI up-and-coming artist and songwriter from Eastern Kentucky whose roots are in Bluegrass and Country music. She was influenced by Reba McEntire and Keith Whitley while listening to REO Speedwagon and Warren Zevon growing up in a musical family. After getting her Music Business Degree at Belmont College, she married songwriter Greg Bates in 2015 and the two have been writing non-stop. Shelley's songs "Done Runnin" and "I've Got You and You've Got Me" have aired on ABC's primetime series *Nashville*. Shelley also has a new album slated to be released later this year.

About Halloran Centre at the Orpheum

The new Halloran Centre for Performing Arts & Education in downtown Memphis takes the Orpheum from a singular venue to an exciting performing arts campus. The Halloran Centre offers over 39,000 square feet of space and includes a large multi-use rehearsal hall, classrooms, a state-of-the-art 361-seat theatre, and a variety of additional spaces that can be rented for community, corporate and private events. Equipped with 21st century technology, the Halloran Centre provides an intimate setting with great acoustics, perfect for events and concerts from jazz to symphony, country to rock-n-roll. Through the Halloran Centre, the Orpheum is equipped to present a broader range of theatrical performances, concerts, education and family programs, and multicultural events.

About Entercom

Entercom Communications Corp. (NYSE: ETM), is the fourth-largest radio broadcasting company in the United States, with a portfolio of 125 highly-rated radio stations in 27 top markets across the country. Known for developing unique and highly successful locally programmed stations, Entercom's brands reach and engage close to 40 million people each week, delivering a curated mix of outstanding local personalities and a broad range of compelling music, news, talk and sports content. Founded in 1968, Philadelphia-based Entercom also operates hundreds of events each year attracting millions of attendees, and provides customers with a broad range of digital marketing solutions through its SmartReach Digital products.

More information is available at [www.Entercom.com](http://www.Entercom.com), Facebook, and Twitter (@entercom).

Entercom Memphis is home for Memphis' top radio stations FM100 (WMC FM), 104.5 The River (WRVR), ESPN 790 (WMC-A), 92.9FM ESPN /680 AM (WMFS) and 94.1 The Wolf (WLFM).

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