



## **For Immediate Release**

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### **ARTS WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER TEAMS UP WITH MOUNTAIN STAGE NEWSONG CONTEST TO DISCOVER THE NEXT GREAT PERFORMING SONGWRITERS**

*Winner to record EP with Grammy-winning producer Jacquire King, perform on NPR's Mountain Stage and at Los Angeles music series; deadline for entering is Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>*

New York, NY (August 23, 2010) – Having helped launched the careers of such acclaimed artists as Ingrid Michaelson, Diana Jones and Jeff Ellis, the Mountain Stage NewSong Contest is teaming up with Arts World Financial Center to discover and showcase the next great performing songwriters.

Under the new partnership, 12 up and coming singer-songwriters from across North America will perform and compete in the finals at the World Financial Center Winter Garden, one of New York City's top concert venues, on October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The winner of this year's contest will receive:

- A performance opportunity at "Summer on the Plaza," an outdoor music series in Los Angeles presented by Arts Brookfield, the umbrella organization for Arts World Financial Center
- A recording project for a five-song EP produced and mixed by Grammy-winning producer Jacquire King (Kings of Leon, Norah Jones) and released on the NewSong Recordings label
- 1,000 copies of the EP
- A performance on Mountain Stage, NPR's internationally broadcast radio program

To get in the running for this year's contest, artists can submit entries at <https://contest.newsong-music.com/>. Final deadline for submissions is September 13th.

"The Mountain Stage NewSong Contest shares our commitment to supporting and celebrating emerging artists," said Debra Simon, Artistic Director of Arts World Financial Center. "We're thrilled to provide an opportunity for these talented singer-songwriters to be introduced to a wider audience."

"We're very excited to partner with Arts World Financial Center to host the Contest's performance competition finals," said Gar Ragland, NewSong Contest Director. "It's a well-deserved honor for our talented finalists to be recognized and showcased at the Winter Garden."

### **About Arts World Financial Center**

Now in its 22<sup>nd</sup> season, Arts World Financial Center <[www.artsworldfinancialcenter.com](http://www.artsworldfinancialcenter.com)> is the East Coast's largest presenter of free, year-round performing and visual arts. Other fall season highlights include *Monk at 93* (October 14), a celebration of Thelonius Monk featuring leading pianists from around the world; a performance by celebrated jazz bassist and composer Avishai Cohen (October 16); and two concerts in the renowned "New Sounds Live" broadcast series hosted by WNYC's John Schaefer.

### **About NewSong Music**

NewSong Music is an independent music organization with the following two-fold mission: to build a supportive community of performers and songwriters across all genres of music and levels of skill, and to identify the truly exceptional artists within this community and to work closely with them to develop their careers and introduce their music to a broader, international audience. You can find out more about NewSong at [www.newsong-music.com](http://www.newsong-music.com)

### **About Mountain Stage**

Mountain Stage is a two-hour live performance showcase distributed each week by NPR and Voice of America and featuring some of the world's greatest singers, songwriters and musicians in a relaxed atmosphere. Guests are musical legends, well-known artists and emerging performers. Each week five acts perform on Mountain Stage, usually two or three who were not born when the show began in 1983. Mountain Stage hosted the first national media performances of Lyle Lovett, Mary Chapin Carpenter, Sheryl Crow, Barenaked Ladies, Alison Krauss, Ani DiFranco, Phish, Counting Crows, Ben Harper, Ryan Adams, Sarah McLachlan, Tori Amos, Keb' Mo', Lucinda Williams, David Gray and many others. Musical pioneers Bill Monroe, Ralph Stanley, Pops Staples, Odetta and Brownie McGee have graced the Mountain Stage.