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**Harpeth Conservancy's first 'Songwriters for Streams' event
with acclaimed creators Tom Douglas and Jeffrey Steele
was a sell-out and huge success.**

Casual outdoor afternoon of songs along the state-sanctioned scenic Harpeth River raises funds for clean water and healthy ecosystems for all Tennessee rivers

FRANKLIN, Tenn. – Harpeth Conservancy's inaugural *Songwriters for Streams* event was held on Sunday, April 23rd (to honor Earth month) at Ann and Matt Dobson's Harpeth Westover Farm along the State Scenic Harpeth River in Franklin. With a picturesque backdrop, approximately 500 attendees at the sold-out event enjoyed a memorable afternoon of songs by acclaimed songwriters and hitmakers Tom Douglas and Jeffrey Steele. Guests went all out with blankets, charcuterie and cheese boards and cocktails for this B.Y.O. picnic-style gathering. The setting was magical under the spring growth of trees with firepits scattered around on the crisp afternoon.

Kids enjoyed painting honeybee hives, collecting items for scavenger hunts, roasting marshmallows for s'mores over firepits, having their portrait drawn by a caricature artist and hanging with their friends in hammocks in the trees.

The event began as an idea from Tom Douglas to support and benefit the Harpeth Conservancy and its mission in protecting clean water for Tennessee. Through sponsorships, carload sales and a live auction of hand-written lyrics autographed by Douglas and Steele, the event raised more than \$40,000.

This first-time event is made possible by the hard work of the host committee that includes Melissa and David Alford, Laura and David Anderson, Marie Avery, LeAnne and Chad Bottorff, Owen Canavan, Dorie Bolze and Claude Carmichael, Donna and Runcie Clements, Carol Crosby, Delia and David Darst, Ann and Matt Dobson, Elaine and Michael Finucane, Kelly and David Frazier, Lee Anne and Kevin Hagan, Heidi Hartman, Kendall and Thomas Hilpert, Nancy and Wes Kennedy, Edith and Miles Kirkland, Amanda and Courtney Laginess, Layton Meng, Molly and Bo Morrissey, April and Bao Ngo, Sue Snyder and Baxter Overton, Jill and Brent Pearson, Kates and Matt Potempa, Julie Russell, Allison and Fraser Schaufele, Libby and Nick Sieveking, Kristen Smith, Laurie Spradley, Grace Stranch and Tyler Cullender, Wesley and Lamar Stanley, Paula and Tom Thomson, and Ann and Jack Waddey.

Laura Anderson, who lives along the Harpeth River and served on the Host Committee, brought family and friends and shared this about Songwriters for

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SCIENCE-BASED CONSERVATION FOR THE RIVERS OF TENNESSEE

Harpeth Conservancy is a Tennessee non-profit corporation and a 501(c)(3) organization.

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Streams, “Our children loved the hammocks, caricature artist, scavenger hunt and making s’mores, while the adults enjoyed a relaxing afternoon with friends. It was a special way to get outside with the whole family, and really see first-hand how beautiful our rivers are and how important it is to protect them. There aren’t that many events these days that truly are appropriate for children and adults alike, and this event nailed it!”

Board Member and Songwriters for Streams Host Committee Member Layton Meng also added, “Songwriters for Streams was a special afternoon. While there are many songwriters’ events in this town, having one along the banks of the river where people could also enjoy one of our Tennessee treasures was invaluable. Importantly, the event brought many new supporters to Harpeth Conservancy’s work to protect clean water in Tennessee.”

Corporate sponsors included Wealth Strategies Partners (presenting sponsor), Grasslands Environmental, Nashville Basement Stage, Hardaway Construction, The Sandra Schatten Foundation, and Conesco Group. Event partners included Culligan Water of Nashville, HoneyBee Tennessee, Maypop Water, and *NFocus* magazine.

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About Harpeth Conservancy

Founded in 1999 as the Harpeth River Watershed Association, Harpeth Conservancy’s mission is to restore and protect clean water and healthy ecosystems for rivers in Tennessee by employing scientific expertise and collaborative relationships to develop, promote and support broad community stewardship and action. Harpeth Conservancy works with landowners, businesses, community, local, state, and federal decision makers and others to foster solutions that reduce pollution and maintain healthy areas. www.harpethconservancy.org.

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