



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 10, 2022

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## Folk Icon of ‘Peter, Paul and Mary’ Launches National Multi-Genre Social Justice Songwriting Contest *Noel ‘Paul’ Stookey & Industry Experts to Review Submissions for Second Compilation Album*

(WILDER, Vt.) — National nonprofit [Music to Life](#)’s cofounder [Noel “Paul” Stookey](#), of the iconic folk trio “Peter, Paul and Mary,” announced a [national songwriting contest](#) today for *HOPE RISES II*—the organization’s second compilation album showcasing emerging musicians who address societal issues and represent new generations of cross-genre talent.

Songs will be selected by Stookey and a panel of award-winning producers, artists and industry experts across all aspects of music and activism, including: 8-time Grammy Award-winning Producer, [Elliot Scheiner](#); Award-winning Artist and RAPTivism Founder, [Aisha Fukushima](#); Recording Artist and Artist Entertainment Cofounder, [Maya Jupiter](#); Global Head of Song Management at Hipgnosis Songs Fund, [Nick Jarjour](#); President of Rhino Records, [Mark Pinkus](#); Civil Liberties Activist and Founder of The Slants, [Simon Tam](#); Musician, Educator and Storyteller, [Reggie Harris](#); and Latin Grammy-nominated Performing Artist, [Gina Chavez](#).

“At no time during the cross-cultural evolution of this planet has music ever had a more important role. In an era of mistrust and confusing social signals, the artists of Music to Life reach into our hearts, bringing clarity and hope to a wounded world. Hope rises, indeed!” said Stookey.

[HOPE RISES II](#) will be released in November 2022, promoted across all streaming platforms and sold as commemorative CDs. Deadline for entries is March 31, 2022.

“I’ve always admired how Music to Life brings music and social consciousness together to help make change in the communities we live in. The [first HOPE RISES project](#) was an incredible achievement, so to be a part of the next chapter is a tremendous honor. I look forward to helping give a platform to talented artists that champion social change,” shared panelist and President of [Rhino Records](#), Mark Pinkus.

Selected artists will offer a complementary mix of styles, genres and social justice topics; and receive a custom press package, prizes from music sponsors, national exposure for their music and issue, as well as a spot on Music to Life’s roster of [Juried Artists](#), qualifying them for [educational, funding, performance and collaborative](#) opportunities.

“When we experience music, we are listening to the heartbeat of the world, and every movement has a melody. I can’t wait to see what songs are in store for *HOPE RISES III*!” said artist and panelist, Aisha Fukushima.

**About Music to Life:** Music to Life is a national nonprofit that connects socially conscious musicians with the mentors, resources and training needed to realize their bold visions for community change. For more, visit [www.musictolife.org](http://www.musictolife.org)

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