

Sony Music Nashville Teen Recording Artist Jordyn Shellhart Partners with Yoursphere

Jordyn Shellhart lends her voice to support Yoursphere.com, trailblazing kids-only social network

DAVIS, CA – May 24, 2011 – Yoursphere announced today that 17-year-old country music artist Jordyn Shellhart has launched an exclusive sphere on the 'tweens- and teens-only social network to connect with her young fans. Yoursphere recently debuted spheres for TV's Animal Planet stars Victoria Stilwell and Donald Schultz, and continues to pioneer this unique interactive feature for its members with Shellhart's celebrity sphere.

"The fact that Yoursphere provides a safe place for my younger fans to hang out and interact with me is awesome. I can't wait to connect with kids directly as I'll be checking in all the time. And with Yoursphere's unique Young Writers program, I'm thinking there will be some questions and interest about songwriting," Jordyn said.

Yoursphere Founder and President Mary Kay Hoal said: "I'm so proud to have Jordyn join Yoursphere to share directly with our members. She represents what Yoursphere is all about -- supporting the creative interests and aspirations of kids and teens. Not only is she talented musically, but she's an inspiring and accomplished young songwriter and a great role model."

Jordyn, who was offered a recording deal with Sony Nashville when she was just 14, has demonstrated musical talent since she was three years old. When she first picked up a guitar at age 13 that her gift for music began to distinguish itself from a girlish preoccupation to reveal a significant skill both as a songwriter as well as singer. Her musical talents were brought to the attention of Rick Barker, Taylor Swift's former manager.

Barker realized that there was something special about Jordyn: "She was very composed for her age, and had a way of taking life experiences and putting them into songs." This was something he was very familiar with after working with Taylor. "They are completely different as artists but both have an ability to speak to the masses."

Jordyn's career began in earnest when Barker secured a publishing deal for her original songs the day after her 14th birthday. That same year she was also offered a recording deal by Sony Nashville. At the age of 15, Jordyn released her first CD, "In A Room", as part of Best Buy's @15 Foundation. The day she turned 16, Jordyn was given the best birthday present ever – an evening performance slot at The Grand Ole' Opry.

In light of her original music compositions which range in tone from fun and flirty, to moody and moving with a maturity well beyond her years, Jordyn is upbeat regarding this new online forum for connecting with other teens as well as her 'tween (ages 7 –12) fans on Yoursphere.com.

Jordyn said: "Writing music is such a huge part of my life and being able to express myself quite honestly has helped pull me through some pretty difficult times. I hope to encourage this avenue of expression in others here on Yoursphere.com." Summer 2011 brings an extensive summer tour for Jordyn, who is looking forward to performing live and meeting her fans in person.

With their proactive focus on privacy and safety, Yoursphere.com provides an online destination with a rich array of features for kids and teens to enjoy all in one place: the social aspect, contests, rewards, their own avatar in a virtual world, a scholarship & philanthropy program, and hundreds of games.

Designed by and for kids, the site also offers their members a chance to create and explore virtually any interest that fires their imagination via the creation of their own "spheres" on any topic which they then share with one another. With members in all 50 states and now expanding globally, new friendships are just the beginning of the Yoursphere experience which also has emphasis site-wide on positive messaging (and zero tolerance for sexting and cyberbullying). Overall, Yoursphere's mission is to be entertaining -- but also enriching and encouraging to 'tweens & teens.

The hosts of Animal Planet stars, Victoria Stilwell ("It's Me Or the Dog") and Donald Schultz ("Wild Recon") in their own spheres debuted in late March and has been a homerun with the membership as the celebrities interact directly with the kids – answering their animal-related questions, blogging, and sharing personal videos, photos, etc. Additional celebrities are waiting in the wings for their own spheres to debut in this expanding feature on Yoursphere.com as well.

With their commitment to following the Federal Trade Commission's COPPA laws so kids don't have to pretend to be 13 or older to gain access to Yoursphere, they also host a companion site, Yoursphere ForParents.com, which offers tips n' tools for parents who are increasingly bewildered about how to keep their kids safe online in today's digital age, and this resource is now utilized by parents in 96 countries.

So that all kids can take advantage of this ultimate online destination, Yoursphere.com provides free as well as premium memberships (\$4.95/mo, \$39.95/yr.). With a growing roster of celebrities to interact with along with their bevy of other unique and engaging content, Yoursphere.com is the ideal place for 'tweens & teens to hang out together this summer...and beyond.

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