## Henhouse Bluegrass

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AMA collaboration in Liberia - Video Mauritania AMA performance - Video Monrovia AMA performance- Video "Higher and Higher" MP3 "Simplify" MP3 Promo Photo Sample Education Program

Henhouse Prowlers have gained a reputation for their highly original, tradition-inspired bluegrass built on a strong foundation of intricate harmonies and electrifying stage energy. The group uses traditional bluegrass as a base, and make it their own by providing a show that's dance-able throughout with uptempo drive and bouncing mid-tempo grooves, all while covering contemporary topics in a largely original repertoire. Their reverence for the forefathers of bluegrass is palpable as they push the music forward on their own path.

In November 2013, Henhouse Prowlers were sent to West Africa with the American Music Abroad program for a month-long tour of four very different countries; Congo-Brazzaville, Liberia, Mauritania and Niger. Despite language and cultural barriers, The Henhouse Prowlers connected with audience members, sharing traditional bluegrass music through live performance and education, earning high praise from Embassy staff and audience members alike. The band also had the opportunity to learn from local musicians and find unique overlaps in lyrical themes from both traditions.

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American Music Abroad (AMA) is a people-to-people cultural exchange program designed to communicate America's rich musical contributions and diverse culture to the global music scene.

promote a positive image of the U.S. through arts and music and give overseas audiences the chance to directly interact with American artists. AMA bands represent a wide variety of American musical genres and will reach more than 40 countries around the world in 2014. AMA also builds on the historic legacy of the Department Ambassador alumni include Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong and Dave Brubeck.

AMA activities focus on younger and underserved audiences with little or no access to live American and cultural engagement through an open competition.