



The Seas, a four-piece rock/metal band from Southeastern Kentucky, accept the 1st place award of the 8th Annual Clear Channel-Lake Cumberland Battle of the Bands.

## Manchester Drummer Wins Battle of the Bands

Manchester native, Richard Sester, won the J.R. Sroufe Memorial Drummer of the Year Award at the Battle of the Bands in Somerset. This year over 20 different musical acts performed during the weekend of January 3rd – 5th, 2014.

Every January, The Center for Rural Development in Somerset, Kentucky transforms into a mecca for musicians and music fans alike as the Clear Channel – Lake Cumberland Battle of the Bands attracts dozens of artists from various genres, each hoping to walk away with a first place finish.

The competition portion of the battle featured 14 bands from throughout Kentucky and Tennessee. Musical styles ranged from bluegrass to rock, metal and everything between. The event kicked off on Friday, January 3 with performances by exhibition bands. On Saturday, January 4, each competing band performed a 25-minute set of music before a panel of judges. Bands were judged throughout their performances on criteria such as musicianship, originality, professionalism, marketability and crowd response. At the end of the night, the judges deliberated and selected 6 bands to compete in the finals.

On Sunday, January 5, each of the finalists performed a 40-minute set before the judges, who returned shortly to announce the 2014 winner. The Seas, a four-piece rock/metal band from Southeastern Kentucky, were announced as the 1st place winners of the 8th Annual Clear Channel-Lake Cumberland Battle of the Bands. The Seas also won the Greg Denney Memorial Musician's Pick Award while their drummer, Manchester native, Richard Sester, won the J.R. Sroufe Memorial Drummer of the Year Award.

On August 30, 2011, The Seas released their debut album, "A Separation." Recorded, mixed and mastered at Groove Studio in Berea, KY by Manchester natives Cecil Smith and Ian Napier. "A Separation" showcased the musicianship and creativity of the band and launched them into the regional spotlight. The Seas have forged a unique sound that is powerful and emotional, delivering a premium blend of metal, alternative, industrial and progressive genres.

The Seas are currently focused on writing and recording their sophomore follow-up to "A Separation" and performs regularly with other regional and national acts.