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EXCELLENCE ON STAGE & IN LIFE

# PRESS RELEASE

MOSAIC YOUTH THEATRE OF DETROIT

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## **MOSAIC'S 20TH CELEBRATION SEASON!**

Since its inception in 1992, **Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit** has trained more than 7,000 Detroit young artists; produced 15 performance tours, including Europe, Asia, Africa and the U.S, and created and produced more than 21 original scripts. As they begin their 20<sup>th</sup> year of programming, what's left for this critically acclaimed group to do? **CELEBRATE!**

Mosaic's 20<sup>th</sup> Celebration season will kick off with two great fundraising events. The first event is ***Be Part of the Spirit!*** a chic Garden Party on the grounds of the Mayor's Residence on Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup> from 4pm-7pm; and the second, ***Melodies & Memories: Ann Arbor celebrates Mosaic's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season*** at the Performance Network on Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm. Mosaic's 20<sup>th</sup> Celebration Season performances at the Detroit Film Theatre in the DIA will reflect what Mosaic does best – tell Detroit stories, from the perspective of its youth. The 2011-2011 Season includes the return of Mosaic favorites, ***Woodward Wonderland: A Detroit Holiday Celebration***, ***Singsation! The Mosaic Singers in Concert***, and ***Now That I Can Dance – Motown, 1962***, which tells the story of the early days of Motown. Each of these Mosaic original productions reflects the exuberance of youth, embodied in the performance of music and dance.

***Woodward Wonderland: A Detroit Holiday Celebration***, running December 8 –11, 2011 at the DIA, pays tribute to being a kid in Detroit during the holidays. The play lovingly remembers Detroit traditions like Noel Night, skating at Campus Martius Park, the Thanksgiving Day parade and going to J.L. Hudson's 12<sup>th</sup> floor "Toyland" to see Santa. ***Woodward Wonderland*** is also filled with the rich music of the season, from the Hallelujah Chorus to the old Motown Christmas albums and features a tribute to animated TV holiday classics, like Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer, How the Grinch Stole Christmas, and a Charlie Brown Christmas.

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***Singsation! The Mosaic Singers in Concert***, will be presented March 2 – 4, 2012 at the DIA. The concert will celebrate the versatility of the human voice, with the first act including classical, spiritual and jazz standards sung accapella. In Act two, the Mosaic Singers will showcase upbeat and familiar Pop music, artists and dance styles that started with American teenagers and became popular around the world. *Singsation!* will offer small group and solo performances, along with the more than 80-voice Mosaic Singers concert choir.

***Now That I Can Dance, Motown 1962***, is the most popular production in Mosaic's history, receiving national media attention, including NBC's "The Today Show" and NPR's "All Things Considered." Originally produced in 2004, the play will run May 11 – 20, 2012 at the DIA.

***Now That I Can Dance*** tells the never before told story of the early days of Motown, and the Marvelettes, five teenage girls from Inkster who recorded Motown's first #1 pop song. The play also features a 19-year-old Smokey Robinson, a 17-year-old Diana Ross and the Supremes, a 19-year-old Marvin Gaye and an 11-year-old Stevie Wonder. It was a rare and exciting moment in the history of Detroit and the history of pop music, when million-selling hits came pouring out these young people and out of the basement of that now famous house on West Grand Blvd.

**Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit** is a leader in youth development delivering rigorous, high quality performing arts education and connecting that education to a promising future for its young artists. Mosaic's mission is *to empower young people to maximize their potential through professional performing arts training and the creation of theatrical and musical art that engages, transforms and inspires*. Mosaic proudly reports that 95% of the young artists who participate in Mosaic's Main Stage Training Program graduate high school and go on to college...many with scholarships. To learn more about Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit, or to purchase tickets for Mosaic's 20<sup>th</sup> Celebration Season fundraising events or performances, visit us online at [www.mosaicdetroit.org](http://www.mosaicdetroit.org).

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