



PRESS RELEASE

MOSAIC YOUTH THEATRE OF DETROIT

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For Immediate Release:

ACTOR AND SINGER AUDITIONS FOR MOSAIC YOUTH THEATRE OF DETROIT

FREE Performing Arts Training Program promotes Excellence onstage and in life

September 8, 2009 – General auditions for Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit’s award-winning, FREE performing arts training programs will be held on September 28, 29, and 30, 2009 and are open to youth ages 11-18 from across Metro Detroit. Young artists can audition in the areas of acting or vocal performance, and no appointment is necessary to audition. Auditions run from 6 pm to 9 pm each evening, and are held at the General Motors Mosaic Theatre located on the campus of University Prep High School at 610 Antoinette, Detroit, MI 48202. Young artists will have several performance opportunities throughout the year, including performances at the Detroit Film Theatre of the Detroit Institute of Arts. (see Mosaic’s Season Announcement, attached.) Audition requirements are detailed on Mosaic’s website: www.mosaicdetroit.org.

Named Best-Managed Nonprofit by Crain’s Detroit Business in 2006, Mosaic is currently receiving national and local recognition for its recently released Excellence on Stage and in Life: The Mosaic Model for Youth Development through the Arts, findings of a 3-year study led by the University of Michigan and funded by The Wallace Foundation. The study found that in addition to providing professional performing arts training, Mosaic had a positive impact on academic achievement--such as improved grades and educational aspirations -- and a significant impact on personal development -- impacting young artists’ ability to conduct themselves professionally, lead a group, maintain a positive sense of self, interact with people of different backgrounds, and expect great things from themselves and others. While Mosaic’s participants live in an urban area where the dropout rates are at staggering levels, a full 95% of Mosaic Youth Ensemble members have graduated from high school on time and gone on to college, with many receiving scholarships.

About Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit

Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit is a national model for youth development through the arts. Mosaic’s mission is to *empower young people to maximize their potential through professional performing arts training and the creation of first-rate theatrical and musical art*. Mosaic’s all-teen performances have toured Africa, Asia, Europe and the U.S., and have been featured on NBC’s *Today Show*, NPR’s *All Things Considered*, and was the subject of the Michigan Emmy Award®-winning PBS documentary, *And They Flew: The Story of Mosaic Youth Theatre*. For more information about Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit visit www.mosaicdetroit.org.



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MOSAIC ANNOUNCES 2009 - 2010 SEASON OF PERFORMANCES

September 8, 2009 - Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit is pleased to announce its 2009 – 2010 Season of Performances, featuring Lee Breuer's ***The Gospel at Colonus*** at the Detroit Institute of Arts in May of 2010. Season auditions for Mosaic's free training programs will be held for young artists, ages 11 - 18 on September 28, 29, and 30, 2009 at the General Motors Mosaic Theatre from 6:00 – 9:00 pm.

Called "*one of the most marvelous shows of the decade*" by Newsweek, ***The Gospel at Colonus*** is a spirited blend of gospel inspired music and ancient Greek drama. In the play, a Pentecostal preacher and the choir of his church, use ecstatic song, call-and-response and parable-like sermons to tell the story of the Sophocles tragedy, *Oedipus at Colonus*. The play is set in a modern church and in ancient Greece, and as the church ministers narrate, portions of the story come to life. The original production featured Morgan Freeman as the Narrator, and the Blind Boys of Alabama. Performances of ***The Gospel at Colonus*** run May 14th – 23rd, 2010 at the Detroit Film Theatre of the DIA.

Mosaic kicks off its performance season October 16th – 18th, 2009 with the ***Tesserae One Act Play Festival*** at the General Motors Mosaic Theatre. The seventh annual theatrical festival of one act plays brings a collection of challenging, thought-provoking and bold performances that are hilarious, unsettling and ripe for reflection. Taking its name from the Latin translation of "tickets to the theatre" as well as "mosaic tiles," the ***Tesserae One Act Play Festival*** is sure to have audiences talking long after the final curtain.

Metro Detroit's newest holiday tradition, ***Woodward Wonderland: A Detroit Holiday Celebration*** will return to the DIA December 12th, 13th, and 14th, 2009! Filled with whimsical holiday stories innovatively staged, joyous songs from the Mosaic Singers and special guests and surprises, ***Woodward Wonderland*** kicks off the holiday season... Detroit-style.

Join the Mosaic Singers at the DIA February 12th – 14th, 2010, for ***Singsation! The Mosaic Singers in Concert***. In the concert's first act, the Mosaic Singers will take on the music they are best known for -- classical, spiritual, and world music. In Act 2, the joint will be jumpin' as the Mosaic Singers take us to the heart of 1930's Harlem – The Cotton Club. The performance will feature jazz standards made famous by the greatest entertainers of the era, Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong, Billie Holiday and Nat King Cole. With a live jazz combo and swinging dance moves, The Mosaic Singers will work their magic in a performance guaranteed to get audiences on their feet.

Group rates and student matinee performances are available for ***Woodward Wonderland***, ***Singsation!*** and ***The Gospel at Colonus***. For information about groups, contact Nikki LaVallee at (313)872-6910 ext. 4021, or nlavallee@mosaicdetroit.org. Tickets to all 2009 – 2010 performances will be available through Mosaic's website, www.mosaicdetroit.org.