



# PRESS RELEASE

**MOSAIC YOUTH THEATRE OF DETROIT**  
610 ANTOINETTE STREET | DETROIT MI | 48202  
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## MOSAIC TAKES ON SHAKESPEARE WITH A DISTINCTLY DETROIT TWIST IN *CROSSING 8 MILE*

**DETROIT, Mar. 30, 2009** – Internationally acclaimed **Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit** remounts one of its most ambitious and popular productions: *Crossing 8 Mile*, an urban rendering of Shakespeare's quintessential comedic farce *A Comedy of Errors*. Presented by Ford Motor Company Fund, *Crossing 8 Mile* will delight audiences during its six-show run at the Detroit Film Theatre inside the DIA the weekends of May 8 and May 15, 2009.

*Crossing 8 Mile*, mixing traditional Commedia dell'Arte Italian theatre and hip hop culture, is the intricate and energetic tale of two sets of identical twins, separated as young boys by a volcanic eruption that erects an eight-mile-wide ominous crater dividing their city. Each set grows up in distinctly different circumstances; one set in a comfortable suburban setting and the other set in the hard-scrabble city. After one set of twins bravely treks across 8 mile, hilarity ensues when they unknowingly reunite with the other. A fast-paced, witty romp of mistaken identity, *Crossing 8 Mile* interweaves classic slapstick comedy with shrewd commentary on suburban versus urban relations.

### COMMUNITY FORUM

In advance of the May production, Mosaic will host a community forum called *Crossing 8 Mile: Stereotypes Exposed*. The forum, scheduled to take place on Wednesday, April 29, is collaboration between Mosaic, ARISE Detroit, ONE D, Detroit-Area Community Information System, Generation of Promise and Michigan Suburbs Alliance. The forum will invite and encourage open dialogue about the various issues responsible for creating the city/suburban divide with a featured panel including Luther Keith (ARISE Detroit), Steve Duchane (City of Lincoln Park), Melissa Roy (Detroit Regional Chamber) and young people from Mosaic and Generation of Promise. *Crossing 8 Mile: Stereotypes Exposed* will take place at the Southfield Public Library from 6:30pm until 9pm. The forum is open to the public with no charge, but seats should be reserved by registering at [www.mosaicdetroit.org](http://www.mosaicdetroit.org).



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CROSSING 8 MILE  
ADD ONE

## PERFORMANCES DEDCIATED TO LOCAL HEROES

And in honor of two of who dedicated themselves to the prosperity of Detroit, performances of Crossing 8 Mile are dedicated to the late Gerald Smith (YouthVille Detroit) and the late Collin Hubbell (Hubbell Group).

To purchase tickets for Crossing 8 Mile please call 313-833-4005 (Wednesday thru Sunday), or order online at [www.mosaicdetroit.org](http://www.mosaicdetroit.org). For more information on exclusive student matinees and special group rates call 313-872-6910 ext. 4021. General admission tickets are \$20 and \$12 for students and seniors. Thanks to the generous support of 105.9 kiss-fm, Friday performances are half-priced at \$10. Recommended for ages 8 and up; children under 5 are not permitted.

### Show dates and times:

Friday, May 8	8:00pm	Friday, May 15	8:00pm
Saturday, May 9	8:00pm	Saturday, May 16	8:00pm
Sunday, May 10	4:00pm	Sunday, May 17	4:00pm

Special Student Matinees May 7 & 14

**Crossing 8 Mile** is performed at the **Detroit Film Theatre inside the DIA**, 5200 Woodward Ave. Detroit, MI 48202 (John R. Entrance)

Additional sponsors of **Crossing 8 Mile** include: 105.9 kiss-fm, DTE Energy Foundation, Henry Ford Health System, Pepsi, Comerica Bank, *Between the Lines*, *The Michigan Chronicle*, *The Michigan FrontPage*, and Detroit Public Television.

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### **About Mosaic**

Named *Best-Managed Nonprofit* by *Crain's Detroit Business* in 2006, 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](http://www.mosaicdetroit.org).

For more information on Gerald Smith: <http://www.youthvilledetroit.org/special/GeraldSmith.aspx>  
For more information on Collin Hubbell: <http://www.modeldmedia.com/features/colin15808.aspx>