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Detroit – The Backpack Music Festival celebrates its 10th year on Saturday, July 11, 2015, from 8:00am-8:00pm. As the premier fundraiser for the non-profit Serendipity, Collage & Potpourri (SCP), the Backpack Music Festival raises thousands of dollars, backpacks, and school supplies to benefit local school children. With its move to a new home at Michigan State University Community Music School-Detroit, SCP celebrates growth, new partnerships, possibility, and youth development—supporting the idea that “no child should be without the basics to succeed”. The $20 entrance fee is tax deductible. Patrons are encouraged to bring backpacks, school supplies, and books to benefit the cause.

For 10 years, SCP has made its success through the good will and hearts of the cities top house and techno music innovators. Over $50,000 in funds has been raised alongside thousands of backpacks and school supplies donated to support 1,500 children each year.

“Detroit comes together around music, which is such a huge part of our community’s DNA,” says Jill Woodward, Director of the MSU Community Music School-Detroit. “We’re very excited to host the 10th Anniversary of the Backpack Music Festival. This event will showcase homegrown talent -- from our kids to the world-renowned pros – to benefit hundreds of local schoolchildren who deserve a great beginning at school in the fall.”

“Bring your backpacks school supplies, and your dancing shoes. It is a lot of hard work and dedication that we do year round,” says Judy Shelton, SCP Founder “but on this day, it is so rewarding to see the entertainment industry and local youth organizations come together, giving their support to help raise funds and supplies for Michigan based youth in need. No child should be without the basics to succeed, and the community coming together on the Backpack Music Festival Day brings joy to everyone involved.”

“This event is the place where all of the hottest, newest, funkiest and most soulful beats around come together in harmony for the benefit of our kids,” said Derrick May. “It will touch the heart, stir the soul and move the spirit. There is nothing else like it anywhere.”

“We are happy to be a part of this wonderful tradition of helping kids,” said Juan Akins. “Reading is a fundamental part of learning. So we’re asking people to give books too.”

The 2015 festival is happy to have the children’s activity area returning, along with the return of the Kids Got Talent stage. Children K-12 are granted free entry into the event, parents of children receive a discounted $10 entry fee into the event from 8:00am-10:00am. Children, and adults alike are encouraged to explore hands on interactive activities in the Kids Corner. (Where they can paint colorful canvasses in Art Therapy, put their hands on a favorite instrument at the Petting Zoo, create music with Nick Speed, Marissa Guzman and Javonntte Garrett, or learn about the business licensing of their music.)

Children’s Performances include Urban Stringz, Gina Moy, Kayden Bryce, and MSU Youth Ensemble plus many more.

The one day music festival will feature top performances by some of Detroit’s best electronic, techno, house, funk, hip hop DJs and performers. Performers include Britney Stoney, John Jammin Collins, Terrance Parker, plus DJs that fill a days worth of music on 2 stages.

Entry price: $20 tax deductible donation for adults, kids grades K-12 free. Guests are encouraged to bring backpacks, school supplies, and books for donation.

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Serendipity, Collage & Potpourri (SCP) is a non-profit tax-exempt (501c3) community organization. SCP collaborates with Detroit area community outreach programs, churches, public, and charter schools for the betterment and improvement of the students' learning environment. Our Backpacking for Success Program is a unique program will provide backpacks and various school supplies for disadvantaged students, grades K-12. The mission of this project is to provide our students with the school supplies that they need for the start of the school year. We hope to address the needs of those Detroit schools, whose students are unable to afford basic school supplies. We strive to eliminate the interruption in education that the lack of common school supplies generally causes.

The MSU Community Music School-Detroit (CMS-D) is an outreach unit of the MSU College of Music. Since opening its doors in 2009, CMS-D has become a respected provider of music education and music therapy opportunities for people of all ages, abilities and incomes. Classes include Early Childhood music classes (for birth-3, ages 3-5 and 5-7); the Aspiring Musicians Program (for elementary, middle and high school students); Spartan Youth Jazz (for middle and high school students); New Horizons Concert and Jazz bands for adults; adult strings, guitar, piano and music theory classes; and music and movement therapy clinical services. For more information call (313) 578-9716, email cmsd@msu.edu or visit "CMS-Detroit" on Facebook or www.cms.msu.edu.

Live Performances

8:00am-12:00pm - KIDS GOT TALENT STAGE

Kayden Bryce
Kayden Bryce has been singing since she was small, but when she saved up for her first acoustic guitar two years ago, her passion for music took off. Mostly playing acoustic versions of popular songs, ten year old Kayden recently broke into songwriting. "Close Your Eyes" is her first original song, with many more to come. Kayden has been on stages since she was three, starting with dance and moving into acting at Motor City Youth Theatre where she recently starred as Wendy Darling in "Peter Pan." She has played at City Coffeehouse in Allen Park and has plans for more shows around the Metro Detroit area.

Urban Stringz - www.urbanstringzii.org
Urban Stringz II Youth Ensemble (USII) was founded in 2007 by Cecelia Sharpe, music educator and conductor. The mission of Urban Stringz II is to enhance student’s musical talents and abilities in addition to exposing them to our culturally rich and diverse society. We recognize the tremendous value exposure to music education plays in helping to form and shape the foundation of the lives of young people, and with the absence of music programs in many schools, USII fulfills that need for students.

The Moys
Gina began taking piano lessons in third grade and percussion lessons in fourth grade. She plays a variety of percussion instruments including: drum set, marimba, timpani, conga, and djembe. She can also explain why a piano is actually a percussion instrument. She enjoys a wide variety of music but her preference is classical. On drum set, her hero is local artist Rick Beamon. When not performing, Gina enjoys reading and playing Minecraft with her older sister. Gina is happy to lend her talents to support the SCP Backpack Music Festival and, in her words, "I just want to play for the people"

Living Arts - Modern & Classical Dance Troupe - www.LivingArtsDetroit.org
Living Arts exists to strengthen the urban neighborhoods of Southwest Detroit by cultivating an environment that sparks the imagination and fosters ingenuity through the arts and community
development initiatives. At the heart of the Living Arts mission is the belief that the mastery of artistic skills should benefit individual creative pursuit and help to develop the broader community. Today, our commitment to youth development and cultural enrichment significantly impacts Southwest Detroit.