



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – June 30, 2006

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MARSHALL TO HOST 2006 SHOWCASE

Touring Arts & Humanities Showcase at Marshall High School on September 16

(LANSING)-----The Michigan Humanities Council (MHC) announces it will host its 2006 Touring Arts & Humanities Showcase on September 16, 2006, at Marshall High School in Marshall. The 2006 Showcase will feature 30 of Michigan's best arts and cultural presenters who will each give a 10-minute presentation on stage. Another 60 presenters will also exhibit at the event. The event is produced to introduce to the public many of the presenters listed in the new 2006-2009 edition of Michigan's Arts & Humanities Touring Directory. Marshall was selected because of its desire to host a high profile arts and cultural event and its commitment to work with MHC to make the 2006 Touring Arts & Humanities Showcase successful. An agenda announcing the live performances, the exhibitors, and ticket purchasing information will be announced by mid-July and available on the Council website, www.michiganhumanities.org.

"The Michigan Humanities Council is excited to bring this cultural event to Marshall," stated Jan Fedewa, executive director of the Michigan Humanities Council. "Those in Michigan who plan arts and cultural programs won't want to miss this opportunity to see live performances of some of the state's most talented artists and cultural presenters."

The 2006 Showcase provides a unique opportunity for event planners and the general public to interact with some of Michigan's most talented actors, actresses, dancers, musicians, storytellers, tradition bearers, visual artists and others performing, demonstrating and talking about their work. The last Touring Arts and Humanities Showcase was hosted on September 20, 2003, at the Brighton Center for the Performing Arts in Brighton, Michigan.

Michigan's Arts & Humanities Touring Program, funded by MCACA, provides grants to nonprofit organizations to host live programs and performers from the 2006-2009 Arts & Humanities Touring Directory. The MHC administers Michigan's Arts and Humanities Touring Program in partnership with MCACA. Touring programs are hosted and sponsored by community schools, libraries, museums, festivals, art councils, and other nonprofit organizations. The grants provide up to 35 percent of fees and travel expenses of the presenters. The 2006-2009 Arts & Humanities Touring Directory will be available from the MHC website, www.michiganhumanities.org, beginning August 1. A print version will also be made available for \$5 per copy to cover handling and postage.

The 2006 Showcase is sponsored in part by the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA), the United Arts Council for Calhoun County, and Young Ideas.

The Michigan Humanities Council, founded in 1974, is the state's independent, non-profit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. For additional information on the Michigan Humanities Council, please visit: www.michiganhumanities.org or call 517-372-7770.

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