

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



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Enjoy smoothies for an excellent cause: local non-profit is sponsoring a fundraiser to help bring the arts to children and young adults with disabilities

Flint, MICH, May 21, 2009—**VSA arts of Michigan-Genesee County** (VSAMI-GC) is holding a fundraiser at the Tropical Smoothie Café. The event will be held on Saturday, May 30, 2009 at noon until 4p.m. The Tropical Smoothie Café is located at 2283 E. Hill Road, Grand Blanc, MI, 48439.

The Tropical Smoothie Café partners with local non-profit organizations to help them raise money for worthy causes. VSAMI-GC is not just asking for a handout. They are thinking creatively by organizing community focused events that help them spread their message. They are also involving the whole community not just the wealthy; everyone in the community can enjoy a smoothie and help children.

VSA arts of Michigan-Genesee County Chair, Carolyn Vierkorn said the community is responding well to the VSAMI-GC fundraisers. “We had a wonderful outpouring of support from families and the education community at our March fundraiser and also the exhibit at the Children’s Museum,” she said.

All of the money raised will go to helping VSAMI-GC to fund festivals, residencies and exhibits in the area and to increase community awareness about VSA arts of Michigan-Genesee County and the work they do for children and young adults with disabilities. VSA arts of Michigan-Genesee County’s 2009 program theme, “ARTS-ology,” helps children and young adults with disabilities explore science through the arts. **Help VSAMI-GC in its mission to promote the creative power in people with disabilities.**

This event is sponsored by, the Tropical Smoothie Café and volunteer support.

VSA arts of Michigan is a member of the international network of VSA arts, **an affiliate of The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.** VSA arts was founded in 1974 by Jean Kennedy Smith, and has as been designated by the U.S. congress as the nation’s coordinating agency for arts programs for people with disabilities. VSA has 52 affiliates in the U.S. and over 55 international affiliates, and annually serves millions of people worldwide.

VSA arts of Michigan supports its programs and services across the state through grants from national VSA arts under an award from the **United States Department of Education Office of Special Education**; the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs; and through contributions from corporations, foundations and individuals.

If you need any further information please contact Carolyn Vierkorn at 810-487-0580, or email cvierkor@geneseeisd.org.