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KIDS' STUFF ROCKS AT COMERICA TASTEFEST 2006, JUNE 30 - JULY 4 IN DETROIT'S NEW CENTER

DETROIT, June 5, 2006 – Comerica TasteFest 2006 will truly be an all-ages event, with many hands-on activities to amuse even the littlest TasteFest tikes. Its family-friendliness is one of the reasons why the Comerica TasteFest is recognized as Detroit's premiere street festival. The 18th annual Fourth of July holiday party on West Grand Boulevard will be held Friday, June 30 - Tuesday, July 4, in Detroit's Historic New Center Neighborhood.

KID ZONE: Ages 2 – 10

- **Barnyard Express:** A mobile educational farm center, the Barnyard Express featuring "Farmer John" (John Forshee) will include a FREE petting farm and animal shows. Barnyard Express will be open June 30 – July 4 from noon – 5 PM.
- **Tattoo Tent:** FREE Comerica TasteFest logo tattoos for kids! Don't worry mom and dad – they are only temporary! Available June 30 – July 4 from noon – 5 PM.
- **Watercolor Tent:** Kids can let their creativity run wild by coloring a FREE, fun picture of New Center – complete with a dinosaur enjoying the Comerica TasteFest! Just by dipping a cotton swab in water, kids use the built-in watercolor palette to decorate the paint sheet. Made with non-toxic inks. Come color with us! June 30 – July 4 from noon– 5 PM.
- **Miniature Motorways:** Experience the thrill of the race when Miniature Motorways brings a complete six-lane slot car track with timing, scoring and officials for true race action. Miniature Motorways is a FREE activity and will be open June 30 – July 4 from noon – 6 PM.
- **Kevin Collins and his African Drums:** Authentic African music will be performed FREE OF CHARGE by this popular, authentic local African drum troupe. Children will also learn about African culture and the significance of drums. Performances on June 30 – July 4 from noon – 6 PM.
- **Arts & Scraps:** Arts & Scraps will offer FREE make-and-take art projects for kids using recycled industrial scraps. Arts & Scraps is a non-profit organization that supports creativity in schools, organizations and families, using recycled industrial scraps as educational opportunities. Arts & Scraps will be open July 2, 3 and 4 from noon – 5 PM.
- **Detroit Children's Museum:** The Detroit Public Schools Children's Museum, located in New Center, will bring toys, games, puppets and musical instruments from their vast collection. June 30 from noon – 5 PM.
- **Kids + Chemistry:** FREE hands-on chemistry experiments for kids will be conducted by Kids + Chemistry on July 1 from noon – 6 PM.

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- **Radio Disney:** Radio Disney is the 24/7 home of cool music that kids and families can enjoy together! Join Radio Disney at the Comerica TasteFest for some awesome entertainment: live stage shows, dance contests, karaoke singing, prizes and more! Radio Disney's booth is open July 1 – July 4, noon – 6 PM, with live stage shows at 1 PM.

YOUTH ZONE: Ages 10 – 17

- **Detroit Derby Girls Roller Derby:** Roller derby, a truly American contact sport, is played at both professional and amateur levels. While traditionally for both women and men, roller derby has developed a predominately female circuit during its current revival. The Detroit Derby Girls is Detroit's only skater-owned and operated, all-girl, flat track roller derby league. Affiliated teams include The Killpatricks and the Motown Hit Squad. Watch the Detroit Derby Girls scrimmage on the flat track (which circles the Modern Skate & Surf street course) in the Youth Zone, Saturday, July 1 – Tuesday, July 4 at various times throughout the day.
- **Modern Skate & Surf Extreme Team Shows:** In-line skating, skateboarding and BMX aerial acrobatics will be demonstrated by the pros on an all-new "Street Course," courtesy of Modern Skate & Surf (Royal Oak). There will be several FREE shows daily throughout the festival.
- **GRIP-IT Rock Climbing:** Kids can test their rock climbing skills and get a different perspective of the festival. Cost is \$3 for each trip to the top. Climbing will be available all hours of the Comerica TasteFest.
- **Detroit Pistons Shoot-Out:** Hoop-crazy kids can test their skills on six outdoor basketball hoops and check out interactive displays highlighting the Pistons' World Championships. This activity will be available all hours of the Comerica TasteFest.

FUN FOR ALL AGES

- **The 2nd AVE Street Market:** A diverse shopping experience amidst more than 20 local specialty stores.
- **A Taste of Art:** Detroit's 4731 Gallery will feature a group show in the 2nd AVE Street Market gallery, located off 2nd AVE inside the Fisher Building lobby.

But if you're going for the food, culinary connoisseurs and BBQ lovers alike will find something delicious to sink their teeth into. Making their Comerica TasteFest debut are Sweet Lorraine's Café and Bar (Detroit), Asian Village (Detroit), Sticky Fingers (Southfield), Centaur Bar (Detroit), Grand City Grille (Detroit), La Pita Fresh (Detroit), Louie's Buscemi's (Harrison Township), Lola's (Detroit), Louisiana Creole Gumbo (Detroit), Clubhouse Tavern (Detroit) and Au Bon Pain (Detroit). Returning favorites include Coach Insignia (Detroit), Lazybones Smokehouse (Roseville), Beans and Cornbread (Southfield), Under the Eagle (Hamtramck) as well as the decadent "Cold Stone Creamery Dessert District", a delight for anyone with a sweet tooth.

And a day at the Comerica TasteFest would not be complete without a tall glass of fresh squeezed lemonade, a tropical fruit smoothie, or an "adult beverage" from The Town Pump Tavern (Detroit). Ravenswood Winery will also be back to share its fine varietals from the Sonoma Valley in their very special traveling wine garden.

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When you've had your fill of food and drink, pick a stage, grab a seat and enjoy some great live music! Comerica TasteFest 2006 will deliver another amazing collection of free national and local musical acts -- nearly 60 in all. This year's headliners on the MotorCity Casino Main Stage (located in the Fisher Building Parking Lot) include **Common, Eric Burdon and The Animals, Ray Davies, Kings of Leon, Cat Power & The Memphis Rhythm Band, The New Pornographers, Spyro Gyra, Mavis Staples, The All American Rejects, Damone, and J Moss.**

In addition to Comerica Incorporated, sponsors of the 2006 Comerica TasteFest include MotorCity Casino, Budweiser, metroPCS, AT&T, Diageo, Windsor Casino, Burt's Bees, Cold Stone Creamery, Ravenswood, Harley Davidson, Pure Detroit, Starbucks, HAP, Detroit Pistons, Henry Ford Health System, AlertnessMatters.com, Stoneyfield Farm, Farbman Group, Trizec Real Estate Services LLC, General Motors Corporation and Orton Development.

Each year more than 500,000 visitors fill the streets for the Comerica TasteFest, held adjacent to the historic Fisher Building on West Grand Boulevard between Woodward Avenue and the Lodge Freeway. Hours this year have been extended, from 11:30 AM - 10:30 PM daily, closing at 8 PM on July 4. Admission is free, including all concerts. "Taste" tickets are priced at \$6 for 10 tickets. The Comerica TasteFest hotline number is (313) 927-2700.

Comerica TasteFest is produced by New Center Council, Inc., which uses the proceeds to support its charitable activities including an award-winning summer youth program and the yearly maintenance of New Center's outdoor public spaces.

For more information about Comerica TasteFest 2006, please visit www.comericatastefest.com or call (313) 872-0188.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Comerica TasteFest images can be found on our website: www.comericatastefest.com.