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Red carpets ready to roll for Detroit Music Awards?



Just when you started to recuperate from the rock spectacle of the Grammy Awards and the plunging necklines worn at the Oscars, another pat-onthe-back award show shifts into high gray. In the

high gear. In the the 2000 Detroit Music Awards isn't just any awards show – it's a chance to support promising new local musicians and those who've impacted the scene for some

impacted the scene for some time.
With Kid Rock and Twisted Brown Trucker scheduled to host the big event April 15 at Detroit's State Theatre, the show has vecred into a high-profile position – one that's expected to sell out.

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"It's gonna be a good time," said Joe C., who just found out he'll be hosting along with Kid and the reat of the band, "It's good to get back to Detroit because Detroit's been nothing but good to us."

Kid Rock, Joe C. and crew have been nothing but true to their roots. They rea raucous, in-your-face example of the aspirations this year's nominees share. "It's great for people playing the local Detroit music scene to go out there and let people know," advised Joe C., who credits the Detroit Music Awards for putting them on the map. "Wed do anything for Detroit."

His enthusiasm shows a few days before Joe C. headed out to Loa Angeles for a videe shoot. Yet he's fully focused on the local scene. "In Detroit right how, the music scene is just so hot," he said.

Other artists steaming up the metro area streets – like Livonnia's Paradime, the Howling Diables and Robert Bradloy's Blackwater Surprise – will also heat up the Detroit Music Awards stage. There is so much talent in Detroit, assured Joe C. Forbands. .. that haven't sold 7 million records, this could be a breakthrough event.

Sue Barnowski, executive director of the Motor City Music Foundation which organizes the show, expressed her enthusiasm for this year's show and its hosts. "People are coming from all over," she said.

Inside that national spotlight, Howling Diables will be a permanent fixture as house band this year. Lead vocalist Tino promised: "We re gonna provide the lowdown, funklifed action for the event. As house band we're gonna be dropping the grooves between all kinds of other scheduled acts and announcements. We're just gonna have our own party on stage. The Diables section will be out of fund in the cheed doe'd. See the cheet doe'd. He cheet doe'd how's role in bringing and cont at lant to light. Thou's said Jine. "It's good to see this city coming together to celebrate their own, being proud of what's going on here ... All eyes are on Datroit with my boy Kid Rock hosting. He's the hottest thing going and will continue to be so."

Tino said the Diables, nominated for four awards in the Urbant/Fank/Hip Hop category, ore just "happy to be in the mix."

In the mix and behind the scenes is Terri Koggenhop, who serves on the advisory board, several MCMF committees and manages local reggae favorite Immunity. She's proud to be



REVVING UP FOR DETROIT MUSIC AWARDS 2000

What to wear: Anything goes at the Detroit Music Awards. Nominees and audience members alike are bound to come dressed in anything from Versace to jeans, tuxedos to glitter. Whether you like it wild or mild, the crowd will supply interesting people-watching opportunities for all. Keep an eye out for Bob Seger and Ted Nugent, regular attendees at the show, as well as the unforgettable host, Kid Rock.

Tearly warning: While it may be tempting to come fashionably late to such high-profile events, this year's show coincides with a Detroit Tigers game at the new Comerica Park, just across the street. Come early if you plan on parking somewhere near the State Theatre.

Add a little Latin fire: A highlight this year includes the stage spectacle of the 15-piece latin band Johnny Rodriguez & The Fiery Latin Jazz Band.

gracious host: Kid Rock and Twisted Brown Trucker tening public to the 2000 Detroit

Awards.

involved with a show that honors local music. "The crux of the awards are given to local musicians," said Koggenhop, adding that the main focus of this year's DMA's was credibility.

With the ballots counted and the nominees notified, the show has undergone changes. Just two years since two separate organizations merged to collaborate as the Motor City Music Foundation's Detroit Music Awards, the process continues to evolve. Each genre of music on the DMA ballots expanded its list of nominees from five to between six and eight this year, offering more recognition for musicians. Categories have been added, including Christian Contemporary and Live Sound Technician.

The MCMF has established a database of 2,000 DMA voters in the music industry. They range from club owners and mainted musicians that process and mainted musicians that prevent the content of the conten



show range from Motown's The-Contours, to rappors like Paradime and, a new addition, this year, Latin sparks from Johnny Rodriguez and the Fiery Latin Jazz Band.
"Our goal is to put on a well's resources to get the most eelectic mix of talent, all of whom per-form for free. The Metro Times, Hamtramck Blowout, held last month, helped fund the event.
"We could not do this without the Metro Times," noted Koggen-hop.

Metro Times," noted Koggenhop.

Roceeds from the show will be used for music seminars and showcases meant to promote the seme. Take it from Joe C. "It'll be off the wall. I know if I get up to the mike, it'l be off the wall." Stephnie Angelyn Casola writes about popular music for the Observe & Eccentric Neurpapers. Call her at (734) 953-2130 or e-mail at seasola@oe. homecomm.net.

STAY TUNED...

Boston trio The Push Stars pushed more than the limits when they performed at Fontiar's 7th House Wednesday, March 29. The band - known for their singles "Everything Shines" featured in the film There's Something About Mary' and "Drunk is Better Than Dead' featured in the film 'Gun Shy' – performed before an intimate crowd at candlelit tables, practically inviting fans cantage.

One friendly Push Star fanat-ic, John Zautcke, talked them into letting him sing "Mee" from their debut album "Meet Me at the Fair." He bounced up on stage, belted out the tune, com-

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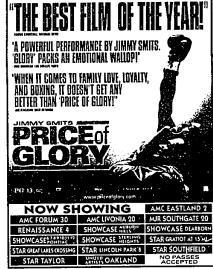
coming band.
Leave it to singer-songwriter
and "Uncle" Chris Trapper to
be so welcoming. After all, he
politely interrupted the show to
make a public cell phone call to
his nices on her birthday. She got
a warm response from the entire
crowd. Bands like this don't
come around often, which is
probably how they've earned
such a loyal following.

Sectionic Agragan Capela

-Stephanie Angelyn Casola









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