



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 14, 2011

MATRIX:MIDLAND presents

DRUMLine Live
*Prepare to be AMAZED by the
American Marching Band Experience!*

MIDLAND – A show-stopping cast of percussion and brass musicians high-steps into Midland in a spirited marching band style filled with heavy doses of drum riffs and cadences. Prepare to be amazed when **DRUMLine Live** takes the stage at Midland Center for the Arts, 1801 W. St. Andrews Rd., Midland, on **Saturday, November 12, at 8 pm!**

Presented by MATRIX:MIDLAND, *DRUMLine Live* features dozens of high-energy performers in a thrilling spectacle of fancy footwork, comedic scuffles and the resounding sounds of the great brass tradition. An eclectic mix of sounds – including Motown, Gospel, Swing and tribute to Michael Jackson – dazzling choreography and talented singers create a one-of-a-kind show for the whole family that explodes with energy and athleticism.

"We've taken the excitement of an HBCU football game halftime show, increased the intensity by a thousand watts, and created a musical journey that will touch every emotion."
~ Don P. Roberts, *DRUMLine Live* Creator and Director

Tickets are \$45, \$37 and \$20 and are available by calling the MCFTA Ticket Office at 800-523-7649 or at mcfta.org. Sponsored by The Dow Chemical Company.

www.drumlinelive.com

Information: Call Ticket Office at (989) 631-8250 or (800) 523-7649 or www.mcfta.org
Find this on our website: <http://www.mcfta.org/OnstageGroups.html#drumline>

**"YOUR SOLO" CONTEST –
Local Musicians Vie for a Chance to Perform with *DRUMLine Live!***

DRUMLine Live is searching for the best musicians in the Great Lakes Bay Region! *DRUMLine Live's "Your Solo"* contest allows musicians from around the region to post on YouTube videos of their best solos for the chance to perform November 12 on stage at Midland Center for the Arts with the cast of *DRUMLine Live!* One winner will be selected based on votes cast by their friends and families online at *Drumline Live's* Facebook page: www.Facebook.com/DrumlineLive

In addition to performing their solo on stage, the winner will receive 2 VIP tickets to *DRUMLine Live's* November 12 performance and get to meet the cast backstage. Solo submissions can be uploaded to YouTube and submitted at www.DrumlineLive.com/yoursolo.html.

HISTORY

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) are institutions of higher learning that were established before 1964 with the intention of serving the African American community. There are

more than 100 Historically Black Colleges and Universities in the United States, located almost exclusively in the Southeast.

The HBCU were established after the Civil War as places of dignity and hope where young people had an opportunity to become professionals instead of maids or laborers. Along with the private black colleges and universities founded later by the AMA, these Reconstruction-era schools became the backbone of higher education for African Americans.

It was in these bastions of higher education that the tradition of the show-style marching band was born. The tradition began over 50 years ago at Florida A&M University, which has long been considered the nation's preeminent black college marching band school. HBCU marching bands began, as most do, as support for the college football team. They have since grown into a sport of their own, featuring characteristic high stepping, funky dance rhythms, and exciting musical repertoire ranging from classical to Top 40.

Celebrations of HBCU marching culminate in competitions such as the Big Southern Classic and the Bayou Classic. These competitions, which draw audiences of roughly 60,000 fans each, are a testament to the popularity of the sport. But it is only recently, with films such as *Drumline*, backed by a flurry of high-profile marching band appearances, that this tradition has begun to capture the imagination of the American public.

MATRIX:MIDLAND presents professional, world-class entertainment to the mid-Michigan region. For over 30 years, Matrix has hosted an extraordinary schedule of cutting-edge entertainment including cinema, music, comedy, family programs, world-renowned authors and more.

Midland Center for the Arts, Inc. is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation formed under the laws of the State of Michigan incorporating six groups: Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art, Center Stage Theatre, MATRIX:MIDLAND, Midland County Historical Society, Midland Symphony Orchestra, and Music Society – Choral. Activities at Midland Center for the Arts are supported in part by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. For the latest Center news, visit our web site at www.mcfta.org.

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