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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
August 16, 2010

**MIDLAND CENTER FOR THE ARTS  
EMPLOYEES TURN THE TABLES  
ON THEIR VOLUNTEERS!**

MIDLAND – Employees of Midland Center for the Arts recently turned the tables on their own volunteers at the “Big MCFTA Volunteer Par-tay!”

MCFTA staff threw an after-hours party to celebrate the contributions of the people so important to their operations: their volunteers. Refreshments and entertainment by a Karaoke DJ were enjoyed by 114 volunteers, representing the Center Operations volunteers and every MCFTA member group: Alden B. Dow Museum, Center Stage Theatre, MATRIX:MIDLAND, Midland County Historical Society, Midland Symphony Orchestra, and Music Society – Choral. Fun door prizes including tickets to MCFTA performances, Museum Store merchandise, tote bags and mugs were given out.

Katy Schappel, House Services Manager and Volunteer Coordinator, commented that some of her volunteer friends have a hard time taking off their volunteer “hats.” “I can’t tell you how many times I had to remind tonight’s guests that they were off duty and should simply enjoy themselves while we did all the work! We are so pleased that we could treat these folks to an evening of food and fun. We need an army of volunteers in order to deliver our programming, and we value each and every one of them.”

If you’d like to share your talents and enrich the lives of others, contact Katy Schappel at [schappel@mcfta.org](mailto:schappel@mcfta.org), or 989-631-5930 ext. 1245, or download a Volunteer Application at [www.mcfta.org](http://www.mcfta.org). There’s a need for all sorts of abilities, from museum docents to vocalists, actors to ushers, musicians to stagehands – even hairdressers and blacksmiths!

- **Front-Liners Team:** Volunteers work directly with patrons as they enter the building or during their visit (training provided). Examples: Museum Store Assistant, Greeters, Ushers, Docents, Special Events Assistants, Ticket Office Assistants
- **Education Team:** Volunteers work as educators of the public or volunteers within a specific subject area (training provided). Examples: Blacksmiths, Peanut Gallery Directors, Choral Directors, Class/Camp Assistants, Outreach Volunteers, Tour Guides
- **Program Support Team:** Volunteers assist with administrative duties, helping to keep communication and programs running smoothly (training provided). Examples: Office Assistants, Symphony League, Hospitality Assistants, Court Record Project Volunteers, Production Team Members, Crew Committee Members
- **Artists Team:** Volunteers utilize their expertise to further the quality of productions/exhibitions.
  - Examples: Musicians, Actors, Visual Artists, Dancers, Vocalists
- **Technical Team:** Volunteers that work behind the scenes to help produce quality shows/exhibits (training provided). Examples: Set Construction Crew, Lighting Crew, Sound Crew, Make Up / Hair Crew, Backstage / Props Crew, Museum Installation Crew, Special Event Set-Up Crew.

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](http://www.mcfta.org).

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