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NEWS RELEASE

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**GET A HENNA TATTOO FROM ARTIST ANNA SCHIERBEEK AT THE DOWNTOWN HOLLAND STREET PERFORMER SERIES TOMORROW**

Holland, MI – Attendees at the Downtown Holland Street Performer Series will have the opportunity to have one-of-a-kind henna tattoos drawn on them by artist Anna Schierbeek this Thursday night, July 2. The Street Performer Series, co-sponsored by Gentex Corporation and Holland Christian Schools, is held every Thursday night in Downtown Holland from 6:30 until 8:30 pm through August 27th. Each week, Downtown Holland hosts nearly 40 performers, including hula hoopers, dancers, musicians, magicians, aerial acrobats, jugglers, face painters, and much, much more! While The Series is free to attend, tipping the performers is highly encouraged.

Schierbeek is a graduate from West Ottawa High School and is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Drawing at Kendall College of Art and Design in Grand Rapids. Her interest in learning the art of henna tattoos began at the age of 17, when she was highly involved with the West Ottawa Art Department. While there, her classmates encouraged her to draw doodles on their arms, which lead her to research other body art alternatives. For over six years, Schierbeek has been performing as a henna tattoo artist both professionally and for personal enjoyment. As a current staff member at Carolyn Stich Studio in Downtown Holland, also keeps busy doing henna tattoos at personal appointments, birthday parties and other unique events!

**“I keep returning to the Downtown Holland Street Performer Series each year because it is so amazing to be able to use my passion of drawing as a way to make others happy, too,” said Schierbeek.**

Founded in 1974, Gentex Corporation (NASDAQ: GNTX) is the leading supplier of automatic-dimming rearview mirrors and camera-based active safety systems to the global automotive industry. Based in Zeeland, Michigan, the international company develops, manufactures and markets interior and exterior automatic-dimming automotive rearview mirrors that utilize proprietary electrochromic technology to dim in proportion to the amount of headlight glare from trailing vehicle headlamps.

Home of more than 1,700 students preschool – 12th grade, Holland Christian Schools embraces the educational excellence and a model of teaching and learning that integrates Christian faith into every experience. Holland Christian is a vibrant five-campus school system united by a common mission to equip minds and nurture hearts to transform the world of Jesus Christ. As part of their outreach to families in the community, staff from Holland Christian Preschool will host fun and interactive activities during the Street Performer Series free for children under the shelter in front of the Threads on 8th clothing boutique.

The complete lineup for the Street Performer Series on June 25 includes:

**The Balloon Guy**

Jim Perry, also known as “The Balloon Guy,” has been twisting balloons for more than 30 years. He can make more than 100 different animals, swords, flowers and hats and has been entertaining crowds at the Street Performer Series since 2006.

**Bangarang Circus**

Bangarang Circus Arts is a collective of performance artists who share a passion for all things circus and a desire for community. It is their goal to offer the circus arts to everyone who seeks it. Bangarang Circus specializes in aerial arts, hooping and acrobatics.

**Brad Lancaster**

Brad Lancaster has been performing his one-of-a-kind entertainment act for the past 30 years. Each of his performances offers a pervading sense of good, clean humor, quick-wit and surprise that makes his show simply marvelous.

**Bria West**

Bria is a third-year student and soccer player at Cornerstone University. She has been soccer juggling since she was nine, and has fallen in love with it. She enjoys teaching kids how to play soccer in her free time.

**Calico**

Calico has been playing at an assortment of local venues for over 20 years. Members Peg Becker, Dave Kinsman, Gary Vruggink, Joe Thorstenson and Jack Dastoli sing and play an eclectic mix of genres on the guitar, banjo, harmonica and percussion.

**Cello Duetto**

These two brothers, Matthew and Ethan Heyboer, are both active members of the Holland Symphony Orchestra, who began their musical careers in fifth grade at West Ottawa Public Schools. Matthew is a Western Michigan University graduate and Ethan is a junior at West Ottawa High School.

**Circle Junkeez Crew**

The Circle Junkeez are a dynamic b-boy style dance crew from Holland who love to perform and entertain audiences. They travel throughout the Midwest and across the United States to battle in top-notch break-dancing competitions.

**Clay Howard**

Clay Howard has been performing music as a solo artist and in bands for the past 25 years. He has played on stages from Memphis to Michigan and from Atlanta to New York City, playing both originals song and cover music.

**Caricatures by Corey Ruffin**

Corey is a nationally-renowned caricaturist, having illustrated for events all over the country. Trained under MAD Magazine’s Tom Richmond, his flair for comedy and exaggeration is guaranteed to tickle your funny bone.

**Danielle Stewart**

As a recent graduate of Grand Valley State University, Danielle has moved back to Holland and works with the American Red Cross as an AmeriCorps member. She will join the Series this year as an extraordinary acoustic guitar player and vocalist**.**

**Dixie Brass**

Dixie Brass plays traditional dixie music, jazz standards and a few popular tunes. The members are all lifelong musicians that display their talents at a variety of community events all over Michigan.

**Doug Marlink**

Doug began playing banjo in the mid 1970’s. He performs mostly bluegrass and some jazz music on the banjo. He is a regular performer both in Downtown Holland and at the Holland Farmers Market.

**Doug Peterson**

In the classic tradition of the ancient traveling minstrels, Doug takes his guitar and voice to the streets. Trained with over fifteen years of Renaissance Festival experience, he entertains passers-by with his originals, modern covers, and traditional Celtic songs.

**Dually Noted**After hearing about the Street Performer Series, Jared Norwood and Samantha Rithamel organized a group and began to practice! Jared, a recent high school graduate, plays electric guitar, while Samantha, a member of the audition only choir at West Ottawa High School, will accompany him with vocals. This will be their second summer at the Series.

**Dying Will Be Easy**

Brothers James and Ben Woiwode, along with friend Cameron Hurd, have been playing music together on and off for more than 10 years. The three have compiled an extensive repertoire consisting of many originals along with covers of old blues tunes such as “Jesus Gonna Make Up My Dying Bed” by Blind Willie Johnson, their namesake song.

**E2**

E2 is made up of friends and singers Emmalyse Kleyn and Esther Pleune, who also play the keyboard, ukulele and guitar. E2 started playing together six years ago and have performed in churches and camps around the area along with multiple local theatre productions.

**Face Painting by Dez**

Dezarae Begay draws a variety of face paintings, including flowers and cartoon characters, using fluorescent paints, facial glitter and stick on gems. She enjoys entertaining children, including her own son and other young family members, with her face painting.

**Giggles and Chuckles Carnival**Lia McCormick Le-Tran and Thao-Chau Le-Tran are proud owners of Giggles and Chuckles Carnival Cart, a balloon-twisting, face painting, and specialty shop cart now in its third year at the Rivertown Mall.

**Grace VanZanten**

Grace is twelve years old and has performed in Downtown Holland for a number of years. She studies violin with Mary Hofland and has enjoyed the opportunity to share her love of music with the Holland community.

**Henna Tattoos by Anna Schierbeek**

Anna Schierbeerk is a senior at Kendall College of Art and Design who currently studies drawing and painting. She started her henna tattoo business six years ago and is grateful for the continued the opportunity to participate in the Street Performer Series.

**Henna Tattoos by Jahara Begum**

Jahara has been a Street Performer in Downtown Holland for several years. She is able to use her talent as a henna tattoo artist to impress crowds, both young and old alike.

**Joe Heemstra**

Joe is a sophomore at City High School in Grand Rapids. He has been playing electric guitar for seven years, and currently acts as the lead guitarist for the band Vertical Bridge. He has performed as part of the Grand Rapids Festival of the Arts and the Street Performer Series, along with performances at Wealthy Theatre, John Ball Zoo and his church.

**Justin and Abigail**

Justin Merriman and Abigail Postema have both been interested in music from an early age, starting with their school orchestra program in fourth grade. Despite being high school students, this duet shows a talent and knack for performing that is well beyond their years.

**Kayden Bryce**

Kayden has been singing all her life, and playing guitar for the last three years. She has performed at a number of venues, including local coffee shops, last year’s Street Performer Series and the Backpacks for Success Music Festival in Detroit. Kayden also loves art, theatre, animals and gymnastics.

**La Bella Vita**

La Bella Vita has been singing together for over five years. They sing in many parts, harmonies and languages (Japanese, Spanish, Italian, German, French and English) and have earned top ratings while competing in large and small ensembles.

**Liv Panozzo**

As a student at Zeeland East High School, Liv got her first guitar at the age of ten and has developed her skills ever since. She is a singing, acoustic guitarist who plays music from a large variety of genres.

**Marlies Otteman**

Marlies is a 14-year-old singer and guitarist who plays a mix of pop and country favorites as well as a few well-known classics. She has been playing since she was eleven, and loves to captivate audiences with her musical talents.

**Mat Emerick**

Mat engages the audience with a gift for comedy, mimicry and silent acting reminiscent of great mimes and physical comedians like Charlie Chaplin, Buster Keaton and Red Skelton. Mat tosses, balances and spins a variety of objects in a juggling show that will both excite and amuse an audience of any age.

**McKenzie and Michaela Stock**

Born and raised in East Lansing, McKenzie and Michaela are a sister duo with an indie-folk sound. They have grown up performing in church and at school. Each sister plays both piano and guitar, and Michaela enjoys singing as well.

**Middle Ground**

Returning for his sixth year in the Street Performer Series, Dan has performed country, folk, pop, and Irish music for 50 years in a multitude of different venues. This year, musician Meredith VanWieren will accompany Dan on guitar and vocals.

**Mystic**

Maribel Garza has been a belly dancer for over 12 years and Middle Eastern dancing is her passion. She has attended a variety of dancing seminars where she gets to meet and continue learning more about the art of belly dancing from professionals.

**Randy & Darlene Schaap**

Proud new owners of Poppin Huis on River Avenue, Randy and Darlene have been a part of the Street Performer Series for nine years. Darlene plays a number of different instruments including, flute and Irish penny whistle, while Randy plays cajon, Irish penny whistle, harmonica, congas, djembe, bodhran, keyboards, bass guitar, udu drum and hand percussion.

**Seasonal Ginger**

Peter Smedley, from Grand Haven, has been performing his juggling act since fifth grade. Over the years, Peter has expanded his skill set to include juggling balls, clubs, and knives. This is Peter’s first year in the Street Performer Series.

**Steven Michael**

This is Steven’s first year as a Street Performer Series participant. Although his love for magic was sparked several years ago, Steven has recently been taking private one-on-one lessons with John Sterlini, in Colon, MI, the Magic Capital of the World.

**String Fury**

Luke Westrate and Sky Lownds are a yo-yo duo out of Whitehall. They have been yo-yoing together for the past four years. On Thursday nights, they will be performing intermediate to advanced yo-yo tricks and skills to music.

**Thumb Buddy Loves You**

“Thumb Buddy Loves You!” is a multi-generational family art project. Grandma Melody Peterson and her granddaughter Clarissa Kovacs work together to create artwork keepsakes out of a child’s own thumbprint.

**Will Juggle**

Will Oltman has been juggling for over 15 years. You will be impressed by the multitude of objects he can juggle while bantering with the crowd. Clubs, balls and rings, yes, but also traditional cigar boxes, shaker cups, Chinese yo-yo, knives, a hat, cane and more!