

The Whiting, 1241 E. Kearsley St., Flint, MI 48503

PRESS RELEASE

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Michigan-Native Jeff Daniels Returns to The Whiting as Part of Its 2010-11 Season!

Flint, MI – The Whiting is thrilled to present *An Evening with Jeff Daniels* live in concert as part of its 2010-11 season on **Friday, October 8, 2010 at 8pm**. Become a Spotlight Member today and get advance tickets to see Jeff Daniels live before single tickets go on sale May 21 at 11am. Ticket prices range from \$12 - \$35 and can be purchased online at TheWhiting.com, by phone at (810) 237-7333 or (888) 8-CENTER or by walk-up at The Whiting Ticket Center. The Whiting is located at 1241 E. Kearsley Street in Flint, just off I-475 between the University of Michigan Flint and Mott Community College on the Flint Cultural Center campus.

When you think of “grassroots” and “down to Earth,” you don’t normally think of a movie star. You especially don't think of a movie star the caliber of Jeff Daniels. Yet that is exactly what Jeff has accomplished with his second CD *Grandfather's Hat*.

With the follow-up album to *Live and Unplugged*, Daniels has proven that he is not an actor who sings, but an accomplished singer/songwriter who’s musical talent does not require the support of his acting. Further proof of his talent is supported by the musicians Daniels has performed with over the last couple of years. Although it took him some time to feel comfortable on stage behind his guitar, Daniels’ confidence has matured with his songwriter, being invited on stage to perform a few songs with legends Lyle Lovett, John Haitt, and Guy Clark during their rare “Songwriters” tour. Having his pal Keb Mo’ join Jeff on stage was equally rewarding (Jeff calls it a “free guitar lesson”). From time to time he’s also been fortunate to expand his shows to sold out venues outside of the Midwest.

Grandfather's Hat showcases Daniels' range as a songwriter, from the laugh-out-loud humor of "Have a Good Life (Then Die)" to the quiet and poignant lyrics of "Middle of the Night." His honest, sincere, and relatable approach to the songs on the CD remind us of our own lives, hopes and dreams.

A Michigan-native, Daniels never forgets his roots. The rowdy rendition of "Detroit Train" with guest artist Alto Reed; saxophonist with Bob Seger's Silver Bullet Band, is a fun, energetic, rock and roll tribute to the city that bares its name. On Live and Un-plugged, "The Lifelong Tiger Fan Blues" was a lament to the team with the second worst season in baseball history. On *Grandfather's Hat*, Jeff had the rare opportunity to rewrite the lyrics ("The Lifelong Tiger Fan Blues, Revisited") as an ode to the almost-World-Series-Champion team, reinforcing again his love of all things Michigan.

Fans of Jeff's popular original stage play and independent feature film *Escanaba in da Moonlight* have eagerly awaited the musical tribute to the subject, and he delivers, with *The Ballad of the Buckless Yooper*. Teaming up with the energetic foursome *Step-pin' In It*, he spins the folk tale of Ruben Soady, the only man in Michigan's Upper Peninsula never to bag a buck.

Grandfather's Hat is an evolution of a career in motion. What started out as a means of raising money for the equity theatre he founded (The Purple Rose Theatre in Chelsea, Michigan) has become a back road journey that taps into the storyteller's head. But now it has a melody, as well as a story to tell. And if you happen to find your foot tapping along, then that would be just fine.

"The man can sing, the man can play the guitar, the man can write a song." — Detroit Free Press

To learn more about Jeff Daniels, visit www.jeffdaniels.com.

Jeff Daniels is generously supported by McLaren Regional Medical Center, Health Alliance Plan, abc12 and Regent Broadcasting.

The Whiting is a member organization of the Flint Cultural Center Corporation and is dedicated to bringing the performing arts to the community. The Whiting is a nonprofit organization and an Equal Opportunity Employer providing programs and services without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex or handicap.

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****Reviewer Tickets ARE AVAILABLE. High-res images and interviews are available upon request.**

To secure tickets, request images or interviews, please contact Wendi Fournier at

(810) 237-8689 or wfournier@thewhiting.com**