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4TH ANNUAL CRUISIN' GRATIOT IDOL HITS ALL THE RIGHT NOTES FOR KIDS



Local Children's Charity – "Champions For Life Kids' Camp" – Benefits From Cruisin' Gratiot-Supported Event

(Eastpointe, March 23, 2009) – **Metro-area singers** should rev up their voices because the popular "**Cruisin' Gratiot Idol**" contest returns for the season. As the voices of talented youth and adult vocalists are heard during the 4th Annual Cruisin' Gratiot Idol competition, proceeds raised during the preliminaries will once again benefit the children's charitable organization, **Champions for Life Kids' Camp**. **Open auditions for the 4th Annual Cruisin' Gratiot Idol Contest begin Monday, April 6 (5:30-8:30 p.m.) for the Youth Divisions and Tuesday, April 7 (7-10 p.m.) for the Adult Division. All auditions will be held at the Cloverleaf Restaurant in Eastpointe.**

Quickly becoming a much-anticipated event for singing hopefuls to compete in – drawing contestants from across the state and Canada – the Cruisin' Gratiot Idol Contest is sponsored by Colonial Dodge and hosted by Lear Music. **All proceeds – collected through a one-time entry donation (\$5 for Youth divisions and \$10 for the Adult division) at time of initial contestant registration – will benefit the Champions for Life Kids' Camp.** A program established by Vision Hope (www.visionhope.org), 'Champions for Life Kids' Camp is dedicated to sending foster children in the community to a one-week summer camp. The camp experience is geared for success in building self esteem and recognizing the special needs of abused, abandoned and neglected children.

Eight weeks of open auditions will be Mondays from 5:30-8:30 p.m. for the Youth Divisions (Division A: 6-12 years old & Division B: 13-17 year olds) April 6-June 1 and Tuesday evenings April 7-May 26 from 7-10 p.m. for the Adult Division (ages 18 & older). Youth contestants must be accompanied by a parent. The competition is limited to the first 25 contestants on each day of the competition.

All contest hopefuls must register before the competition and may do so on-line at www.cruisin-gratiot.com. If one has not been chosen as a semi-finalist in one week, singers are still allowed to return for another shot during other weeks.

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The Top 4 Adult performers chosen from every preliminary Tuesday competition advance to the Adult semi-finals' rounds held during Cruise Week (June 16-19). During the Youth preliminaries on Mondays, the Top 2 youth performers from *each* Division will move on to the youth semi-finals round held on Monday, June 15 at Eastpointe Manor Hall.

The **Finals held on Saturday, June 20 (Cruise Day) at Colonial Dodge** will have The **Top 8 Adult semi-finalists and the Top 6 Youth semi-finalists** (3 from Division A & 3 from Division B) vying for prizes.

For more information, including a complete list of rules & regulations and to download entry forms, visit www.cruisin-gratiot.com or call 586-552-1366.

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