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American Idol's Blake Lewis Among Celebs at Wine & Roses More Stars, More Food, & More Wine

Grand Rapids, MI October 9, 2009 — The Greater Michigan West Chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation is proud to announce that Blake Lewis will join local media celebrities at the *6th Annual Wine & Roses* for Cystic Fibrosis presented by the **Lighthouse Group – Insurance & Title**.

Celebrating the release of his sophomore album released this week, *Heartbreak on Vinyl*, Blake will join local media celebrities for the 6th annual *Wine & Roses on Friday, October 16*, at **6:30 p.m.** at the **Hilton Hotel** located at the northwest corner of 28th St. and Patterson Ave. *Wine & Roses* is made possible by the generosity of our Presenting Sponsor - **Lighthouse Group – Insurance & Title** and the Wine Glass Sponsor - **Unum**.

Anyone who tuned into season six of *American Idol* knew to expect the unexpected of Blake Lewis. The Washington native, who admitted he hadn't watched a single episode before auditioning in Seattle, arrived in Hollywood without a hint of a plan, other than to be himself. Yet through talent, instinct, creativity and unapologetic brashness, Blake managed to make it all the way to the finale as the first runner-up to Jordin Sparks, each week showcasing a different side to his endlessly eclectic musical identity.

Two years later, the beatboxing wunderkind is going on record with a fully realized follow-up to his 2007 debut, *Audio Day Dream*, which sold more than 350,000 copies. *Heartbreak on Vinyl*, Blake's first album for groundbreaking label Tommy Boy, blends his intrinsic pop sensibility with a love of electronic and dance music, which began taking shape long before he hit the *Idol* stage.

Blake Lewis will join local celebrities from West Michigan at *Wine & Roses*. Your wine will be served by media members from radio, newspaper, and television. *Wine & Roses* is a great way to mingle with and to get your know favorite West Michigan personality.

The 6th installment of *Wine & Roses* will feature a diverse menu that will make your palate dance. The menu will have exceptional tastes from **Smokey Bones Bar & Fire Grill**, **Bar Divani**, **Shogun**, **Papa Vino's**, **The Melting Pot**, and the **Spinnaker**.

Will the Riesling or Merlot be your favorite? There will be a fantastic assortment of wines provided by **Constellations Wines** for you to sip, savor and to discover. Along with the great wines, guests will be able to enjoy beverages from **Bacardi** and **Martini & Rossi**. Coffee will be provided by **Bigby Coffee**.

A general admission ticket for *Wine & Roses* is \$80.00 (\$60.00 of which is tax-deductible) and includes admission to the event, all food and wine tasting and a keepsake tasting glass and journal. To purchase tickets or a corporate table, please go to <http://grand-rapids.cff.org/wineandroses09> or call the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation at 616-241-2100.

CF is a life-threatening genetic disease that affects the lungs and digestive systems of approximately 30,000 children and adults in the United States (70,000 worldwide). One in 31 Americans (more than 10 million people) is an unknowing, symptomless carrier of the defective CF gene. When the CF Foundation began, few children lived to attend elementary school. Today, thanks to the efforts of scientists and caregivers supported by the CF Foundation, the median age of survival for a person with CF is 37.6 years old. In fact, nearly 40 percent of the CF patient population is age 18 and older. This is a remarkable improvement, but it is not good enough, as we continue to lose at least one precious life to CF every day.