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MOSAIC'S ANNUAL GALA – A 'SWEET 16' SUCCESS!

DETROIT, March 27, 2009 – Dancers greeting them as they made their way into DIA's Great Hall, the more than 250 guests arriving for the 2009 Mosaic Gala, *An Evening of Magic* presented by DTE Energy Foundation, had little doubt that they were in for a very special evening. Hosted by charismatic Detroit media personality and self-professed "*Detroitaholic*" Charles Pugh, the black tie fundraiser featured the presentation of the 2009 *Mosaic Service Award* to Mosaic Board Chair and Henry Ford Health System EVP/COO, Robert Riney.

After hearing moving testimonials from Governor Jennifer Granholm and First Gentleman Daniel Mulhern (via video), Henry Ford Health System CEO, Nancy Schlichting his son Shaun Riney, a visibly moved Riney approached the stage as Mosaic Founder & CEO Rick Sperling announced that the *Mosaic Service Award* would be renamed the **Robert G. Riney Service Award** in perpetuity. Serving as Mosaic's Board Chair since 2003, Riney has provided direction and oversight to the organization named "*Best Managed Non Profit*" by *Crain's Detroit Business* in 2006.

Among the evening's many highlights was a live performance by Mosaic Singers, featuring a solo vocal from DTE Energy Foundation Vice President and 2009 Mosaic Gala Chair, Karla Hall.

The 2009 Mosaic Gala, *An Evening of Magic* was made possible by the generous presenting sponsorship support of DTE Energy Foundation. Additional sponsors of *An Evening of Magic* included Henry Ford Health System, Miller Canfield Paddock & Stone, Comerica Bank, GMAC Financial Services and Right Management.

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Named *Best-Managed Nonprofit* by *Crain's Detroit Business* in 2006, Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit is a national model for youth development through the arts. Mosaic's mission is to empower young people to maximize their potential through professional performing arts training and the creation of first-rate theatrical and musical art. Mosaic's all-teen performances have toured Africa, Asia, Europe and the U.S., and have been featured on NBC's *Today Show*, NPR's *All Things Considered*, and was the subject of the Michigan Emmy Award®-winning PBS documentary, *And They Flew: The Story of Mosaic Youth Theatre*. For more information about Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit visit www.mosaicdetroit.org.