

PRESS RELEASE

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The Whiting Proudly Presents Comedian SINBAD

Flint - The Whiting is pleased to present Michigan native *SINBAD* for one hysterical performance on **Saturday, January 30 at 8pm**. Ticket prices range from \$12 - \$39 and are available online at TheWhiting.com, by phoning (810) 237-7333 and by walk up at The Ticket Center located within The Whiting. The Whiting is located at 1241 E. Kearsley St. just off I-475 between the University of Michigan Flint and Mott Community College on the beautiful Flint Cultural Center campus.

Actor and Comedian Sinbad arrived on the comedy scene with a "hit'em in the face" style of comedy that has kept audiences laughing in the aisles for over the past two decades. He freely admits that he doesn't know any jokes, except for the ones that his dad told him "back in the day". Sinbad tells *stories*, and boy does he tell stories! The basis of his humor comes from everyone he's met, everything he's seen, and everything he's done.

Ranked by Comedy Central as one of the top 100 standup comedians of all time, Sinbad has built a loyal following by taking audiences' painful trials or embarrassing tribulations of day-by-day life, throwing them back in their faces, and causing an uproar of comedic hysteria. He can also make it sound profound without being profane. Not that he's any kind of choirboy, but by being the son of a preacher man he decided to keep his comedy clean after his father attended one of his early performances. Up to that time he had been what he describes himself as "semi-dirty". Sinbad says that he learned that night that "funny is funny", and that masters of dirty comedy such as Redd Foxx, Richard Pryor and Lenny Bruce could all work clean without losing a step.

Sinbad is internationally known for his starring appearances in hit movies like "Jingle All the Way," playing opposite Arnold Schwarzenegger; "Houseguest" co-starring the late Phil Hartman, and let's not forget his film debut "Necessary Roughness", where he did *none* of his own stunts! He has starred in the television sitcom "A Different World" as well as his own series, "The Sinbad Show". Entertainment mogul Quincy Jones sought out Sinbad to host UPN's first late night talk show, "Vibe". He also recently appeared as a recurring guest star on the Showtime Original Series "Resurrection Blvd." Sinbad has even written a self-help book entitled "Sinbad's Guide to Life: (Because I Know Everything)". Sinbad has drawn legions of fans from his HBO highly-rated comedy specials; "Brain Damaged" (1991), "Afros & Bellbottoms" (1993), "Son of a Preacher Man" (1996), and "Nuthin But The Funk" (1998). His annual HBO music concert series (*Oh! You didn't know he was musical?*) "Sinbad's 70's Soul Music Festival" received the prestigious NAACP Image Award consecutively for two years as the "Most Outstanding Variety Series/Special."

A one-time basketball standout for the University of Denver, Sinbad agrees that everything he needed to know for comedy, he learned from playing basketball. There are a number of things comedy and basketball have in common. One of the most important to Sinbad is "the competitive aspect that teaches you to never give up". Now there is one part of Sinbad's life that has been a well kept secret...he is a closet nerd. This comes in handy as a *Master of Technology* during private corporate engagements for clients such as: *Intel Corporation, Breakaway Technologies, Apple* and *Microsoft* as well as many others. As an intermediary to community focused technology solutions, Sinbad believes no one should be left behind in training and education. He has served as a spokesperson for the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering (NACME) encouraging minorities to pursue studies in science, math and engineering. In honor of his parents Donald & Louise Adkins, Sinbad has established an academic scholarship in their name at the esteemed Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia. Showing his appreciation for our armed servicemen, the comedian/actor has participated on USO tours and most recently performed at the USO of Hampton Roads Patriotic Festival.

Sinbad is generously supported by Health Alliance Plan, McLaren Regional Medical Center, ABC12, Cars 108, Z 92.7 and Fox 66.

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****Reviewer Tickets AVAILABLE. High Resolution Images available upon request.**

To secure tickets or request images, please contact Wendi Fournier at (810) 237-8689 or wfournier@thewhiting.com**