



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## “BACKSTAGE AT THE LINCOLN” CONCERT SERIES ANNOUNCES REMAINING 2013 PERFORMANCES

Backstage at the Lincoln, the Lincoln Theatre’s intimate, new concert series, has scheduled three concerts for the remainder of 2013. These concerts offer patrons the extraordinary opportunity to be seated on stage with the featured local artist, providing concert goers an up-close-and-personal performance set against the hand-painted grandeur of the Lincoln’s rare Egyptian Revival-style motif.

The schedule is as follows:

Oct 16 – MoJoFlo

Nov 21 – Priscilla Woodson & the TP Project

Dec 18 – Spoken Word – Speak Williams featuring Barbara Fant & Naki Akrobettoe

Tickets are \$10 and seating is limited. All concerts begin at 7pm at the Lincoln Theatre (769 E. Long St.).

Tickets can be purchased at the CAPA Ticket Center (39 E. State St.), all Ticketmaster outlets, and [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com). To purchase tickets by phone, please call (614) 469-0939 or (800) 745-3000. Tickets can also be purchased at the door on the night of the show if still available.

The Backstage at the Lincoln series is made possible through the generous support of the Ohio Arts Council.

### **About MoJoFlo**

Over the last five years, MojoFlo has established themselves as one of the most energetic and entertaining performing groups in the Midwest. The group has released two EPs—*Waiting* (2009) and *Whatcha Think About That?* (2010)—and the single “Home to You/Dance” (2011). They are currently completing work on their third EP which is due out this winter and will pay tribute to classic soul and R&B.

### **About Priscilla Woodson & the TP Project**

Co-founded by Priscilla Woodson, a classically trained, multi-dimensional vocalist and songwriter, the TP Project covers many musical genres including Christian, gospel, jazz, soul, neo, R&B, and inspirational. Tony Woodson, her husband and co-founder of the project, plays keyboards and is joined by Jamaal Woodson on drums, Tony Cooper on guitar, Darnell Sheridan on saxophone, Mark Pinkston on bass, and James Shaw on keys. The group has released three CDs—*The Message* (2003), *Trevitt St. & 169th Terrace* (2006), and *Juneteenth LIVE* (2009)—and Priscilla Woodson has released *Christmas Expressions* (2010) and *Song Bird* (2011).

### **About Speak Williams**

Keith "Speak" Williams is a multi-faceted artist, writer, musician, and emcee who weaves the raw lyricism of classic hip-hop with the eclectic, soulful melodies of old-school bebop and jazz to produce his own distinct sound. Williams has further enhanced his style through collaborative efforts with numerous musicians, most notably his work with internationally acclaimed producer J. Rawls and esteemed jazz-hop band, the Liquid Crystal Project. He is known to be a dynamic speaker and performer who delivers relevant and inspiring messages to youth, encouraging them to become leaders in their communities. He also assists educators and youth service providers in the area of cultural competency to create relevant approaches to engaging youth. His presentation, titled Passport, inspires youth to use their education, skills, and gifts to reach their destiny.

### **About Barbara Fant**

Barbara Fant is a minister, poet, and artist facilitator. She has been on three National Poetry Slam teams from Columbus, and has represented the city in four Individual National and World Poetry Slam competitions. Her first poetry collection, *Paint, Inside Out*, was released in 2010 when she was awarded The Cora Craig Award for Young Women Authors. She is a former employee of the Huckleberry House and Art for a Child's Safe America, working in shelters, prisons, correctional juvenile facilities, and elementary schools teaching art as a form of healing. She is also a member of Transit Arts, *ArtFluent* of REACH communications, Is Said and the Advance Party, and has also been a regular performer on the radio show "Street Soldiers." Her poem "Today, Beginning Again," commissioned by The Columbus Foundation for Columbus' bicentennial celebration can be found in *Revealed: Columbus, The Story of Us*.

### **About Naki Akrobettoe**

Granddaughter of Ghanaian royalty and an American coal miner, Naki Akrobettoe has opened for hip hop artist Talib Kweli, performed on the same stage as Grammy-nominated artist Dwele, and landed a position as co-host of the radio show "The Session" on WXUT 88.3 FM. In 2010, Naki released her debut album, *PENSTROKES*, and launched the live poetry series "The E-Zone." In 2011, she opened for the SB5 rally organized by Stand Up For Ohio with her soul-stirring piece, "I SPEAK," and founded the "Face of Africa Artist Series," an ongoing event that provides a platform for the exhibition of African culture through creative arts. In 2012, Naki opened for Melanie Fiona, performing "A Poem That Healed" at The Pink Gala, Mix 92.3 FM's annual benefit for the Karmanos Cancer Institute, and at the Sista Strut, an annual breast cancer walk at the Detroit riverfront. Naki's will release her next album, *D.O.P.E.*, in 2013.

### **About the Lincoln Theatre**

First opened in 1928, the Lincoln Theatre is a landmark in African-American and jazz history. After undergoing a \$13.5 million renovation funded by a partnership of public and private support, the Lincoln reopened in May 2009 as a multi-use, state-of-the-art performing arts and education center serving the diversity of the Columbus and central Ohio community and ten resident Columbus arts organizations. The restoration is the foundation of revitalization plans for the King-Lincoln District, providing a bustling hub of activity 365 days a year with performances, rehearsals, and classes in the performing arts, as well as a wide variety of community events such as film festivals, meetings, and receptions.

[www.lincoltheatreolumbus.com](http://www.lincoltheatreolumbus.com)

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The Lincoln Theatre Association acknowledges the support of many supporters, including Franklin County. In addition, the Ohio Arts Council helped fund this program with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans.

**Contact:** Rolanda Copley  
(614) 719-6624  
[rcopley@capa.com](mailto:rcopley@capa.com)