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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Local Actors, Singers, and Soup Makers This Friday at
the Ludington Area Center for the Arts**

LUDINGTON, MI (January 21, 2011)- The second installment of *Stories on Stage*, a quarterly event at the Ludington Area Center for the Arts featuring local actors and musicians performing the work of Michigan writers, will be performed live on January 21st from 7-9pm. The event will also be an occasion to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Ludington Visiting Writers, the Center's in-house literary arts program, which initiated the *Stories on Stage* series.

Inspired by the popular NPR radio show, *Selected Shorts*, *Stories on Stage*, is similar in the respect that an actor reads a short story. But, *Stories on Stage* is unique in its celebration of stories by Michigan writers read by local actors and its extension of the story to song with musicians performing songs that tells a story. This Friday's installment will have stories by Michigan authors George Dila, Bonnie Jo Campbell, Lisa Lenzo, and Michael Delp. The stories are to be preformed by local actors John Gerts, Sam Stein, Kathy Hansen, and Laura Powers. Stories in song will be performed by local singing talents Andy Thomas and Carrie Klemm.

George Dila, a featured writer in the upcoming *Stories on Stage*, as well as the director of the Ludington Visiting Writers, explains, "We don't only do *Stories on Stage* for the writers, actors and musicians involved, but for the public as well. We want to give people a reason to get out of the house on a cold and snowy night, and be entertained – adding to the cultural opportunities in our community."

Come support the local Michigan arts for this must-see event! And don't eat dinner before you come. Rounding out the evening will also be a soup competition of which your taste buds are required! George Dila and the Center's volunteer kitchen manager, Erin Whitaker will duke it out in the soup kitchen for bragging rights for the best soup. While you are enjoying the storytelling, eat up and vote for the best soup with your dollars. Admission for the evening is \$5 with another \$5 if you participate in the soup tasting.

About the Ludington Area Center for the Arts

The Ludington Area Center for the Arts is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to promoting and supporting the arts in West Michigan. The Center is located at 107 S. Harrison in the historic former home of the United Methodist Church in downtown Ludington. Parking for the Center events is available in the public lot south of the Center at the corner of Harrison and Loomis Streets. For more information about this event and the Ludington Area Center for the Arts please visit www.ludingtonartscenter.org or contact Terry Murphy at 231-690-6058 or terry@ludingtonartscenter.org.

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