

with the
**U-M Office of Academic
Multicultural Initiatives**
present

Take 6

Alvin Chea, *Bass*
Cedric Dent, *Baritone*
Joel Kibble, *Second Tenor*
Mark Kibble, *First Tenor*
Claude McKnight, *First Tenor*
David Thomas, *Second Tenor*

Featuring
The U-M Gospel Chorale

Program

Monday Evening, January 16, 2006 at 7:30
Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor

*Tonight's program will be announced by the artists from the stage
and will not contain an intermission.*

27th Performance of the
127th Annual Season

A Cappella Series

*The photographing or
sound recording of this
concert or possession of
any device for such pho-
tographing or sound
recording is prohibited.*

Media partnership for this performance provided by WEMU 89.1 FM, Michigan Radio/Michigan Television, *Metro Times*, *Observer & Eccentric* Newspapers, and *Michigan Chronicle/Front Page*.

The Steinway piano used in this evening's performance is made possible by William and Mary Palmer and by Hammell Music, Inc., Livonia, Michigan.

Take 6 appears by arrangement with Stacey Sussman, Pyramid Entertainment Group, New York.

Large print programs are available upon request.

Take 6 is defined by their patent originality and timeless musical artistry. Take three parts Gospel, add one part Jazz, one dash of Pop, and one touch of R&B. . . it equals six parts of soulful harmony. With a staggering 18 Grammy Award nominations, Take 6 is the most nominated Gospel, Jazz, Pop or R&B group in Grammy history. In their 20 year career, they have won 10 Grammy Awards, 10 Dove Awards, one Soul Train Award, and received two NAACP Image Award nominations. Take 6 has also won the "Favorite Jazz Vocal Group" award in *Downbeat* magazine's readers' poll for nine consecutive years. In spite of this, member Mark Kibble states, "It is important for us to continually challenge ourselves musically in order to keep our music and creative spirit fresh."

Take 6 has received some of its highest praise from the music industry's icons. Producer and longtime collaborator Quincy Jones has described Take 6 as "the baddest vocal cats on the planet." In their stellar career, they have been honored to perform with numerous musical legends including Ella Fitzgerald, Miles Davis, David Foster, Al Jarreau, Stevie Wonder, Denyce Graves, The Yellowjackets, and Wynton Marsalis. The Take 6 style has also reached today's pop culture, influencing pop groups from Boyz II Men and Backstreet Boys to *NSYNC.

The group has recently launched *Take 6 Records*, capitalizing on their many years of collective experience in the creative side of music by now taking a more proactive role in the business of music. Member Alvin Chea says, "This was a natural progression for us. Traditional record companies want to lock you into a particular category. If you are slightly askew of that, they really don't know what to do with you. We decided to take the reins on this project and in our careers so we could position our projects in the marketplace."

With the release of their much-anticipated album *Feels Good*, Take 6 returns to their rich musical heritage, bringing the listener along for one of their most uplifting, funky, and inspirational joy rides to date. Take 6 began crafting *Feels Good* a year and a half ago, yet this project represents everything that devout Take 6 fans have come to love and expect over the years from this multifaceted sextet. With a nod to their history, *Feels Good* boldly looks forward attacking a capella in new and exciting ways.

As wonderful as their successful career is, the members of Take 6 are still committed to using their music as a ministry. Founding member Claude McKnight beams, "I'm immensely proud of the fact we have had only one personnel change in the group which was founded 20 years ago. It is very much a testament to our commitment to one another and spreading the gospel through our music."

The **University of Michigan Gospel Chorale** (UMGC) is a 200-voice campus-based, non-profit, inter-denominational Christian organization run by undergraduate students at the University of Michigan and advised by Pastor Don W. Shelby, Jr. of Burning Bush Church, Ypsilanti.

In 1972, the vision for a gospel choir at the University of Michigan became a reality when Tonya Moorman founded and originally directed the then University of Michigan Gospel Choir. As a campus ministry and organization for over 30 years, UMGC has enjoyed exponential growth in both numbers and campus recognition.

UMGC has had many opportunities to spread the word of God through song. UMGC has participated in various concerts and workshops, including "Completing the Circle," "Commemoration of a Dream," workshops with the late Dr.

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Mattie Moss Clark and Minister John P. Kee, and concerts with Marvin Winans and Rev. John Resse, as well as various independently presented concerts throughout the years. Every year since 1994, they have participated in the MLK day celebrations where they opened for the Winans, Sounds of Blackness, and Yolanda Adams. In 1995, the Chorale continued their commitment to service by singing before Rev. Bernice King. In 1996, UMGC was blessed to spread the gospel through song by singing at the Washtenaw Juvenile Center and the Southern Christian Leadership Banquet. In 1997, the Chorale received the privilege of singing at a benefit presented by the University Musical Society, honoring the legendary Jessye Norman.

Today, UMGC is much more than just a gospel choir. They are a multifaceted ministry, which includes a weekly bible study, a powerful dance team, and a foot-pounding step team.

Take 6

UMS ARCHIVES

Take 6 has performed once before under UMS auspices to celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on January 17, 2000. Tonight's performance is the U-M Gospel Chorale's third with UMS. They previously opened for Sounds of Blackness, also for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, on January 20, 1997, as well as participating in the second annual Ford Honors Program, honoring soprano Jessye Norman.

