

[insert school district's logo here]

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

[Insert Muse Editor name and contact information here]

[insert city or town's name here] — Guitarist and singer-songwriter Michael Kelsey kicked off the school year with a bang at Bradford High School on Wednesday, September 15—as well as a few stomps, beats, shouts and even a thunderstorm or two. The multi-talented musician, whose performance brews soul, funk, rock, blues and other genres into a dynamic melodic fusion, brought his interactive one-man-band show to Muse student members, teaching them about the craft of songwriting and using audience suggestions to improvise everything from guitar chords and beatboxing to vocal loops and the sounds of thunder and rain. **"Music is everywhere, songs are everywhere," Kelsey told students, "you just need an idea. You just need a seed you can nurture."**

[insert school's name] Muse program is headed by advisors [insert names] and gives students the opportunity to attend in-school presentations and workshops with professional actors, musicians and performers from across the Miami Valley and beyond.

A finalist in Guitar Player Magazine's national competition who also shared the stage with many legendary guitarists at Eric Clapton's Crossroads in 2004, Kelsey approaches his performances with a mature appreciation of his instrument's capabilities and a strong rapport with his audiences. **He'd prefer his audience not walk away saying, "Wow, what a great guitarist!" Instead he hopes they go home and paint a picture, write a poem or make music with whatever is in their top kitchen drawer. He encourages each student to "always be looking for new sounds and new ways of expressing yourself through music—find the music around you."**

The Muse Machine is a nationally recognized arts education organization, providing creative experiences and resources for young people of the Miami Valley. Since 1982, they have

produced 26 annual musicals and 14 summer concerts for the community and engaged thousands of students through academic-relevant lessons, workshops and in-school projects. For more information, visit www.musemachinedayton.com.