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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Classic soul, R&B, and blues comes to the riverfront Wednesday

Lansing, Michigan – August 8, 2017 – The first August date of the Grand Concert Series is this Wednesday, August 9th, when Lansing favorite, Root Doctor, performs live on the Lansing City Market's lower plaza on the riverfront. The event starts at 6:30 pm with opening act, Taylor Taylor, and will last about two hours. The concert will be held rain or shine – in the event of rain, it will be moved inside the market. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own camp chair to the outdoor concerts. City Market merchants will remain open throughout each concert, some with refreshments for sale. Admission is free.

Root Doctor was born of the fertile Lansing, Michigan music community, and had its humble beginnings in the open mic scene of the late 1980s. The deeply rooted, soulful connection shared by founding members Freddie Cunningham (lead vocals) and James Williams (bass guitar & vocals) anchors the band's sound. Root Doctor has kept one other constant over the years: a powerful soul-blues sound with precious few peers. The current lineup features prodigal original band mate Mike Skory (Hammond B3, keyboards & vocals), Bill Malone (guitar & vocals), and Bobby Gardner (drums), all veteran performers whose abundant abilities allow Root Doctor to continue their long tradition of amazing audiences and wowing critics.

Root Doctor plays a diverse mix of classic soul and R&B alongside traditional blues and inspired original material. Along with over 20 years of club, concert and festival performances, they have released four recordings to local and national acclaim. The Root Doctor resume' includes appearances with Tab Benoit, Ray Charles, Macy Gray, Buddy Guy, Koko Taylor, Little Richard, Otis Clay, Bobby Rush, James Cotton, Taj Mahal and many more. Their performances have electrified audiences at numerous nightclubs and festivals including the prestigious Poconos Blues festival, the Detroit Jazz festival and The Great Woods Music Festival in Beausejour, Manitoba, Canada. Root Doctor is proud to have played the historically significant Idlewild Music festival three times in recent years.

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Another Lansing favorite, Taylor Taylor, will be opening for Root Doctor. Taylor Taylor is a 20-year-old native of Lansing with African American and Colombian roots. She has been cultivating her jazzy-pop style with classical guitar skills, warm, charismatic vocals and lyrical songwriting, which reveal intelligence beyond her years. Most recently Taylor has been accepted to Pandora Radio for her single, "Right Here," through the Genome Project and was selected by award-winning Grammy Producer, John Shanks, as Indi.com's 2014 Musician of the Year. You can find her performing as an acoustic, stand-alone artist as easily with a trio or her full band. Performances include originals from her three EP's and popular covers from yesterday and today. Taylor's blend of talent and exceptionally-experienced musicians can fit any venue and crowd, whether it's a high-energy mass or a more ambient atmosphere. Taylor is soon moving to California to further her music education, however, so her live Lansing shows are numbered.

The headliners for the remaining Grand Concert Series dates include blues/rock artist, Pat Zelenka, on August 16th; local blues band, Frog & The Beeftones on September 6th; and jazz flutist Brandon Marceal on September 14th.

"The Grand Concert Series is a great summer, family- and dog-friendly event that brings the community together on the riverside plaza," said Scott Horgan, VP of sales and services at Lansing Entertainment and Public Facilities Authority, which manages the market. "I encourage everyone to come down here tomorrow evening for a great night of music and a scenic atmosphere."

Haslett resident, Whitnie Preuss Zuker, agreed. "Going to the Lansing City Market's outdoor concert is a perfect midweek escape from the daily grind," she said.

The Grand Concert Series is sponsored by LAFUCU, Wolverine Development, Forsberg Real Estate Company, and WKAR.

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About the Lansing City Market *Lansing City Market was established in 1909. The urban market is home to a variety of merchants offering artisan cheese, specialty foods, gifts, flowers, jewelry, kayaking, biking, and a full bar and restaurant experience on the riverfront. Hours for the year-round market are: Tuesday – Friday 10 am – 6 pm.; Saturday 9 am – 5 pm. For more information, visit the Lansing City Market website.*

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