



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Sweet humanitarian of the year award

WICHITA, KS - Donna Sweet, MD, professor, Internal Medicine, will host the Donna E. Sweet Humanitarian of the Year Award at 6 p.m., Tuesday, April 22, 2008, at the Crown Uptown Theater, 3207 E. Douglas. The award, now in its fourth year, honors a member of the community whose selfless work has made a genuine difference in the lives of others and is presented during a fund-raising dinner, which will include the entertainment by Music Theatre of Wichita members. The proceeds will benefit the honoree's charity of choice and the Sweet Emergency Fund.

This year's award recipient is Wayne Bryan, producing artistic director for Music Theatre of Wichita. Bryan has performed extensively on Broadway and television as well as directed numerous productions for theaters all across the county. However, it is in Kansas where he feels his most challenging and rewarding work has occurred.

Bryan has been a familiar face in the community, lending his support to a wide variety of charitable causes throughout south central Kansas. For eight-years he served as host for the Wichita edition of the Children's Miracle Network. He is a frequent volunteer for KPTS, KMUW, Red Stocking breakfasts, and several other local charities. He has received the Kansas Governor's Arts award; the Gordon W Evans award; and the Diversity Kansas Brotherhood/Sisterhood award honoring those who fight discrimination and encourage diversity.

Bryan's involvement in issues surrounding HIV/AIDS has included several years as chair of the AIDS Fund local chapter where he has worked closely with the Teens Hope program, and produced and directed fundraisers like "Cats Who Care," and "Ain't She Sweet?"

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The proceeds from the entertainment of this event will go to the Sweet Emergency Fund, which provides life saving medications to individuals with HIV/AIDS who would not be able to pay for these out of pocket expenses. A part of the proceeds will go to Bryan's charity of choice.

Community members are invited to participate in the celebratory dinner to honor Wayne Bryan and Music Theatre of Wichita for his involvement in issues surrounding our community and HIV/AIDS. For more information and to reserve your place at this prestigious event, call (316) 293-3595.