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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 18, 2009

**Henna Art  
Ancient Tradition, Contemporary Trend**

**What:** Henna Painting  
**When:** Friday, March 27, 2009; 1 – 3 pm – *for Adults*  
Saturday, March 28, 2009; 1 – 3 pm – *for Teens*  
**Where:** Creative Spirit Center, 1517 Bayliss Street, Midland  
**Cost:** \$20/\$15 members plus \$8 materials fee  
**Information:** Call 989-837-1885 or visit [www:creativespiritcenter.org](http://www.creativespiritcenter.org)

[Midland] – Darlene Cyr paints the delicate patterns and images of classical henna art on hands and feet, cheeks and arms – anywhere a trendy fan of this ancient art would like to sport a flourish. The class includes a history of henna art, sources of henna, and variations in design from different traditions. Each student will practice henna art and learn to apply a design for temporary flair. The henna design will gradually fade with washing and time, disappearing completely within 2 - 4 weeks. For longest-lasting images, participants should bring a pair of thin gloves to protect the henna paste application and wear them overnight. Henna art is a great embellishment to special occasion wear, or the first bare feet of the season.

**About Darlene Cyr and Henna**

Darlene Cyr was born in Welland, Ontario, Canada. Her daughter, Morgan, a talented henna artist, enlisted Darlene to help her with henna painting about 7 years ago. Darlene learned the technique for drying and sealing the henna paste for Morgan's popular booth at the summer Artists' Market in Midland, and in other venues. A little over a year ago, at the age of 23, Morgan passed away after a struggle with Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Darlene decided to continue offering henna painting in memory of her daughter and in tribute to her daughter's love of the art. Darlene says that she too loves the art of henna body painting and seeks to convey that same passion to those who take the class. Henna art is traditionally applied to a bride's hands and feet before her wedding in India. Fragrant henna blossoms, said to bear the aromas of roses, chocolate, and fine cigars, are an ingredient in perfumes around the world. The plant, known from ancient times, is referred to in the Bible as *camphire*, and mentioned in the Song of Solomon, where the beloved is addressed with the following praise: *"Your shoots are a royal garden full of pomegranates with choice fruits: Camphire and spikenard."*

**About Creative Spirit Center**

Creative Spirit Center is a not-for-profit community arts organization founded in 1994. The Center's mission is to create an environment for people of all ages to experience the creative process through ongoing classes, conferences, concerts, speakers and outreach programs; and its goal is to enhance the development of physical, psychological and spiritual wellness through the arts and humanities.

Printed Winter/Spring 2009 schedules showing all classes and events at Creative Spirit Center are available at no charge. Telephone 837-1885 to have schedules delivered to your business or location, or mailed to your home.

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**Hands Embellished with Henna Art**