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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**The Gem Theatre seeks local African American woman
For *Respect: A Musical Journey of Women***

DETROIT, MI - The Gem & Century Theatres has announced that it will hold general auditions for African American women for the Detroit production of ***Respect: A Musical Journey of Women***, **Wednesday, March 14 beginning at 10:00 a.m.** The production is seeking an African American understudy for a paid Actor's Equity position. Auditions are open to union and non-union actresses.

Directed by Three-Time Tony Award winner Hinton Battle, ***Respect: A Musical Journey of Women*** is a high-energy, historical and hysterical look at women's changes from 1900 to today as illustrated by more than 64 popular songs. Since opening February 7th, the Detroit production has received critical praise and is continuing at the Gem Theatre with an open-ended run.

Interested actresses should prepare a 1-minute comic monologue; bring a book with sheet music and be prepared to sing 16 bars or more from a pop ballad and up-tempo song; bring a headshot and resume; and be prepared to learn a short dance step. Actresses must register for an audition appointment by calling the Gem & Century Theatre box office at (313) 963-9800.

Description of role: (African-American Female, Plays young up to mid -40's) At the start, she is too abrasive—the hard-hearted Hannah – and her journey is to find her vulnerability; She learns that real courage is not displayed by aggression or overdone power; Ultimately, she learns to temper her strength, to push back in more productive ways; attractive. Vocally, must be able to sing JAZZ, SOUL, & R&B.

The Historic Gem & Century Theatres, Century Grille, and Elwood Bar and Grill are the gems in the heart of Detroit's entertainment district offering theatre packages, dinner, lunch, brunch, wedding packages, special events, boxed lunches, tours and more! For more information, call (313) 963-9800; visit online at www.gemtheatre.com, or in person at 333 Madison Ave, Detroit MI 48226.

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