

Community Harlem News

"Good News You Can Use"

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FREE

ALL STARS PROJECT ALUMS BREAKING NEW GROUND

By Linda Armstrong

I have had the pleasure of seeing Michael Alcide in several All Stars Project's Youth Onstage! productions, including "Crown Heights," "Robinhood," "Have You Ever Seen A Dream Rapping?" and most recently "Over There/Over Here." He is definitely a very gifted young man, who is able to handle roles with intensity and focus. This 20 year-old, talented African-American has also been in other Youth Onstage! productions such as "Casper Hauser," "Our City" and "Word On The Street" - a poetry show he directed. Alcide is now preparing to take a chance and star in a production by a new production company Yet 2 Evolve Productions - leaving his All Stars base for the first time.

"I feel like I'm moving and growing as a person. The All Stars has motivated me, it's my home, but I can also go into different things - theater, films, commercials," Alcide said.

From February 14th to February 25th, he will star as Mikey in "Love, Greed and the Pursuit of Happiness," which will be performed in the Grand Theater at the Producer's Club at 358 West 44th Street between 8th and 9th Avenues.

Discussing his role Alcide said, "Mikey is a very loveable, cool, laid back kind of person. A good guy. He gets involved with his older brother's secrets. Mikey looks out for his older brother and his older

brother looks out for him. Mikey also has a secret of his own."

The story is about a martial affair gone wrong. Mikey is the younger brother of Reginald and tries to steer his brother on the right road, after he learns that his brother had an affair and cheated on his pregnant wife. Alcide playing a role that includes a close relationship with a brother is very appropriate, since he got into acting because of his older brother's influence.

In addition to Alcide, another All Stars alum is involved. The production company — Yet 2 Evolve Productions — is the creation of Brandi Webb and was started by her in 2005. Webb started the company after writing a few plays and taking playwriting workshops with the youth theater organization.

The opening night performance, February 14th, is going to be a fundraiser for the American Heart Association (AHA). One dollar from every ticket purchased will go to the AHA to bring awareness to heart disease, which is the number one



Michael Alcide

killer in this country, especially for African-American women.

Performances will run Wednesday through Sunday, 7:00 PM. Saturday and Sunday matinees are at 4:00 PM. Tickets: \$22/\$17. For tickets, call the box office at (212) 868-4444 or visit www.smarttix.com, or www.theatermania.com.