

MACOMB CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS PRESENTS

# Forgotten: The Murder at the Ford Rouge Plant

Friday, March 26, 7:30 pm

Music and Lyrics by Steve Jones

**TICKET PRICING:**

**\$30 Gold Circle, \$20 House/ \$10 Senior/  
Military/Student/Macomb College Staff/  
Unemployed Residents**

The jazz/blues opera, *Forgotten: The Murder at the Ford Rouge Plant*, chronicles the unionization of the Ford Motor Company. The story centers on the questionable 1937 death of union organizer and Methodist minister Lewis Bradford, a distant relative of the opera's composer, Steve Jones.

Set in the 1930s during the struggle to unionize the Ford Motor Company, *Forgotten* is based on the life of Reverend Lewis Bradford. Bradford and his wife Ella arrived in Detroit in the 1930s, he worked at the Howard Street Mission on the west side of downtown. When the family needed funds for medical care for their daughter, little Ella, Bradford went to work at the Ford Motor Company River Rouge plant in Dearborn. There he tried to help workers by urging Henry Ford to treat his employees fairly. Shortly afterwards, in November 1937, Bradford was found unconscious in a remote part of the Rouge plant. He died three days later. Bradford's widow left Detroit after receiving threats, but Bradford's story continued to be remembered by his family.

Composer: Steve Jones, an award-winning composer, composed *Forgotten* in tribute to his great-uncle and to the workers who fought side by side with him for justice in the 1930s. Today, as American workers face new challenges, the story of how labor and people of faith can work together for justice is a lesson that should never be forgotten.



ALBERT L. LORENZO

Cultural Center

MACOMB COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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[www.LorenzoCulturalCenter.com](http://www.LorenzoCulturalCenter.com)

586.286.2222 To Purchase Tickets

*Forgotten: The Murder at the Ford Rouge Plant*

is a Macomb Center Performance and part of the program series

*And Still They Prospered: Living Through The Great Depression*

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