

# UNIVERSAL XPRESSION

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## The Versatile and Entertaining Caribbean musical sensation.

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From the heart of the Caribbean and Africa comes *Universal Xpression* one of the most versatile, authentic and entertaining Caribbean show band in the United States. This Detroit based phenom stays true to its mission by emanating a variety of music, original and cover. You are whisked away on a sweet, melodious and danceable escapade of rhythms like Reggae, Soca, Zouk and African. Their immense musical talents, rich backgrounds and over fifteen years of touring has enabled a most envied style and groove likening them to Morgan Heritage, Byron Lee and Burning Flames in one solid band with a multigenerational and multinational appeal.

This awesome four-member group features the talents and creativity of prolific songwriter, arranger and energetic showman **Richard 'Richie B' Parris** on keyboards, lead and background vocal. Keeping the pulse is the naturally gifted and flamboyant **Noel Parris** on drums. The Genius **Oliver (Pluto) Mensah** solidifies the foundation with his remarkable feel, quick fingers and flair on the bass and lead vocals. Complimenting the rhythm section, is the amazing **Ras Kente** with his nifty strums and awesome leads.

**UNIVERSAL XPRESSION** is synonymous with quality, variety and originality. It is absolutely amazing to hear different styles of music done so well by one group. 'Beautiful' says **Minister Louis Farrakhan**, and 'Amazing' says **Calypso Rose**. The group has amassed a loyal following and numerous accolades in its' 20 years. 'Best Live Music' for nine consecutive years in the Detroit Carnival Parade. 'Best Live Music' Mecca Parade, San Francisco. *Universal Xpression* has released fifteen excellent albums of original music. In 1997 *Universal Xpression* had the number 1 and 2 Best Sellers in the Virgin Islands and Album of the Week on WAVS radio in Miami, Florida. From the Christmas on the Beach album, 'Santa Baby' was also Number 1 in 1997. In 1999, the single 'Meow' was number 1, and was featured for four weeks on BBC Radio in England and 'Cest' si bon' was number 2 in the Virgin Islands. Besides appearing in numerous commercials, **UNIVERSAL XPRESSION** has shared stages with such great Caribbean international performers as **Percy Sledge, Beenie Man, Shaggy, Luciano, Calypso Rose, Mighty Sparrow, Arrow, Burning Spear, The Mannhattans, Maxi Priest** and **Wayne Wonder**.

**UNIVERSAL XPRESSION** has thrilled thousands all over America, Canada and the Caribbean at numerous venues: High schools, colleges, universities, clubs, festivals, weddings, parades, corporate parties, and parks. In twenty great years the group has built a tremendous fan base which continues to grow with every performance. 'Music is spiritual, emotional and mental food' says Richie B. Seeing **UNIVERSAL XPRESSION** live is an awesome experience of strong and beautiful vocals, sweet harmony, solid and tight groovy music topped off with wonderful showmanship. The music flows through them and you are embraced and involved in the mental, physical, educational and emotional awe. **UNIVERSAL XPRESSION** is ultimately satisfying.

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