

BEDELL STARTS INDE AWARDS SHOW

Since moving to Syracuse in November 2005, **Kendric T. Bedell** has become fond of the place. Come Nov. 17, he hopes to bring his hometown a bit of acclaim.



That's the date Bedell's set aside for the first-ever Upper State Inde Awards show at the Palace Theatre on James Street.

"There are so many different artists that are working hard that we feel need recognition," Bedell says of his motivation for starting the new awards show.

Bedell says he's met many such deserving artists as he tours the country under his hip-hop performance name, **Jimmy Black**.

"It's for all different genres," he says. "And this is not just for Syracuse. It's for anybody from the northern states. California, even. And Canada."

Fans can vote for their favorites in hip-hop, R&B, rock 'n' roll, folk, blues, country, jazz, hip-hop DJ, hip-hop techno, mix tape, alternative/pop, comedian, reggaeton, reggae/cultural roots, photographer and dancer/choreographer categories. To obtain ballots, e-mail Bedell at upperstateindeawards@yahoo.com.

Go to the Jimmy Black myspace page (www.myspace.com/geondalaj) and you'll see his busy schedule has him performing all over the country.

That's why he won the "Street Grinder" award at the D.C./Maryland/Virginia music awards in November. That's where he lived before coming to Syracuse.

"For getting out there promoting, getting on the streets," he says proudly of the award.

He loves his time at home, too. "It's quiet and peaceful. It's a good place to raise your family," he says.

That doesn't mean that Bedell takes it easy. Besides his frequent touring, the rapper is working on a new CD that'll be titled "YTT." "That's for 'Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow.' It drops this summer," Bedell says. He's also helping produce a CD, "All Is Never Said," for his brother, **Rinnessy**, who lives in California. And working on the cable access TV show "A Star on the Rise," which airs at 9:30 p.m. Thursdays on Time Warner channel 98, and planning a new cable access show "Live," to be shown at the Westcott Community Center and Club 48 in Fulton.

Also recently finished is a video, "Get Your Groove On," filmed with Brother Maniac in Washington, D.C., and projects to come with Florida rapper **Grim da Reapa**.

"I sleep during the day," Bedell says.