

The Iowa African-American Journal

Volume 10, Issue 2

Winter 2004

Individuals to be presented Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards

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The Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday celebrated the life and legacy of a man who brought hope and healing to America. We commemorate the timeless values he taught us through his example, courage, truth, justice, compassion, dignity, humility and service that so radiantly defined Dr. King's character and empowered his leadership. The King Holiday honors the life and contributions of America's greatest champion of racial justice and equality. The citizens of Iowa who best represent these values are the recipients of the 2005 Martin Luther King, Jr. Lifetime Achievement Award and have shown their dedication and commitment to breaking racial barriers and serving the people of their individual communities. The award for Outstanding Service Project is presented to an individual or group whose project best represents Dr. King's call to service by strengthening their community. Awards will be presented at a special ceremony on January 17, 2005 at the Iowa Historical Building. The Historical Building is located at 600 East Locust Street in Des Moines. The program begins at 10:45 AM and is free and open to the public.

Janice Edmunds-Wells of Des Moines will be presented the award for Lifetime Achievement. Alice Clinton Boyd, Des Moines will receive the award for Outstanding Service Project. The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Ceremony is a state celebration sponsored by the Iowa Commission on the Status of African-Americans.

Past awardees include:

Governor Terry E. Branstad
Virginia Harper, Ft. Madison
Jimmie Porter, Waterloo
Celia Rangel, Davenport
Robert A. Wright, Sr., Des Moines
Joy Corning, Lt. Governor
Wilson Rideout, Waterloo
Mary Louise Smith, Des Moines
Beulah E. Webb, Sioux City
Dr. Julius Conner, Des Moines
Monroe Colston, Des Moines
JoAnn Jordan, Waterloo
Ida Johnson, Davenport
Ruby Sutton, Dubuque
Marian Coleman, Iowa City
Leo Roof, Waterloo
Rudy Simms, Jr., Des Moines
Joseph C. Ellis, Des Moines
Richard E. Hayes, Sioux City

Service Project Recipients:

Cedar Valley Diversity Appreciation Team & Study Circles, Waterloo
Global Health Corps UNI - Cedar Falls
Martin Luther King, Jr. Park Neighborhood Association, Des Moines

Service Projects:

Outside In: African-American History in Iowa, 1838-2000, Des Moines
The PEP (Partners in Economic Progress) Academy, Des Moines
Albert Williams - *The Traveling Artist*, Des Moines.

CONGRATULATIONS!

**Janice Edmunds-Wells,
Des Moines
Lifetime Achievement Award**

**Alice Clinton Boyd, Des Moines
Outstanding Service Project
Award**

**2005
State of Iowa
Dr. MLK
Celebration**



Keeping the Dream Alive in 2005

State-wide Dr. Martin Luther King Events

Date	Description of event	Location	Contact information
January 15	Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Fund, Inc. Reception & Banquet 5:00 pm, Dinner at 6:00 pm Speaker: Hon. Judge Don Nickerson and featuring The Langston Hughes Players	Drake University, Olmstead Center – Parents Hall South, 29 & University Ave. Des Moines	Melinda Mullenix at 515-334-6788, email: Melinda.mullenix@pioneer.com or Rudy Simms, past President at 515-991-4398
January 15	Martin Luther King Jr. Children's Day 1:00 – 2:00 pm Martin Luther King Jr. Dinner – Rev. Aaron McLeod, speaker 5:30 pm	African American Historical Museum and Cultural Center of Iowa 55 12 th Ave SE Cedar Rapids	Tel: 319-862-2101
January 16	Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Program 4:00 pm	Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church 824 8 th St SE Cedar Rapids	Church Office at 319-365-8492
January 16	Martin Luther King, Jr. Banquet – Theme: "Appreciating the Past, Looking Toward the Future" 5:00 pm – Social hour, 5:30 pm – Dinner and Program Speaker: Representative Deborah L. Berry	Five Sullivan Brothers Convention Center W. 4 th & Commercial St. Waterloo	Dorothy Turner at 319-235-6480 or 319-234-7543
January 16	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Service 5:00 pm	Union Baptist Church 1200 McCormick St Des Moines	Evelyn Clara Thomas 515-265-5185 or 262-1785
January 17	Iowa Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr Ceremony 10:45 am to 12:00 pm Speaker: Taj A. Brown Featuring presentation of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Lifetime Achievement Award and the Service Project Award	Iowa Historical Building, 600 East Locust St. Des Moines	ICSAA at 515-281-7283 or 800-351-4659 Email: ahr.icsaa@iowa.gov
January 17	MLK Day Workshops 10:00 am Performances by gospel choirs will begin at 3:30 pm All events are free and open to the public	Waterloo Center for the Arts 225 Commercial St Waterloo	MLK Center 319-234-7543
January 17	Black History Trivia Contest 10:00 am	Boys & Girls Club of Waterloo 515 Lime St Waterloo	MLK Center 319-234-7543

State-wide Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Events, con't

Date	Description of event	Location	Contact information
January 17	KBBG FM 88.1 will dedicate a full-day of programming for Martin Luther King, Jr. – excerpts from historical speeches, addresses, along with many new features	KBBG FM 88.1 918 Newell St Waterloo	Doris Talbert 319-235-1515 or 319-234-1441
January 17-22	Martin Luther King, Jr. Week at Central College Monday, Jan. 17 Service Day Tuesday, Jan. 18 Reflection Day Wednesday, Jan. 19 Tim Wise, NINE Thursday, Jan. 20 Convocation — Tim Wise Friday, Jan. 21 Volunteer Dinner: CMCC House Saturday, Jan. 22 Isiserettes perform at half-time	Central College Pella	For more information, please contact: Abby Gonzales 641-628-5157 Intercultural Life Office 641-628-5656
January 21	Martin Luther King Celebration 6:30 pm	University of Iowa IMU 2 nd floor Ballroom Iowa City	Billie-townsend@uiowa.edu
January 19-20	MLK Jr. Movie Series Lunch hour beginning at 12:00 pm	UNI Center for Multicultural Education Cedar Falls	UNI Center for Multicultural Education 319-273-2250
January 21	Martin Luther King Celebration 6:30 pm	University of Iowa IMU 2 nd floor Ballroom Iowa City	Billie-townsend@uiowa.edu

Health Corner

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE ISSUES 2004 HEALTH AND SOCIAL AWARENESS STAMP



Sickle Cell Disease Awareness stamp dedicated during 32nd Annual Conference of Sickle Cell Disease Association of America

ATLANTA - With the issuance of the new Sickle Cell Disease Awareness stamp today, the U.S. Postal Service continues a tradition of raising public consciousness of health and social issues. The 2004 commemorative stamp was issued at the Renaissance Waverly Hotel in Atlanta before a crowd of medical professionals, sickle cell patients and family members, invited guests, philatelists and tourists.

"Through the Sickle Cell Disease Awareness stamp, the U.S. Postal Service has the opportunity to educate Americans about this dreadful illness," said Henry Pankey, Vice President, Emergency Preparedness, U.S. Postal Service. "It is our hope that this stamp will help save lives by encouraging people to get tested early."

Actor and writer Joseph Phillips, best known for his role as Lt. Martin Kendall on *The Cosby Show*, where he played Olivia's father and Denise Huxtable's husband, served as master of ceremonies for the first-day-of-issue event.

"I am pleased that this day is here-the day that the United States Postal Service will issue the Sickle Cell Disease Awareness stamp," Phillips said. "If you know or have known even one person with sickle cell disease, you understand its devastation and the need to heighten public awareness about it."

Joining Pankey and Phillips were Dorothy Norwood, world-renowned gospel recording artist and evangelist; Tatiana McConnico, recording artist and actress; Willarda Edwards, MD, MBA, President and Chief Operating Officer, SCDAA; Kwaku Ohene-Frempong, MD, Chairman, Board of Directors, SCDAA; Priaona Davis, 2003-2005 National Poster Child, SCDAA; Marjorie Brown, Postmaster, U.S. Postal Service, Atlanta; and Rev. Darrell Elligan, President, Concerned Black Clergy.

Affecting one in 12 African Americans, sickle cell disease damages blood cells, blocks blood flow and damages organs. Complications range from intense pain to stroke or death.

Sickle cell disease is an inherited condition. Two genes for the sickle hemoglobin must be inherited from one's parents in order to have the disease. A person who receives a gene for sickle cell disease from one parent and a normal gene from the other has a condition called "sickle cell trait." There is no cure for this disease, though many patients, given proper treatment, can lead fairly normal lives into their 40s and beyond. Researchers continue to look for a cure and for new, more effective treatment.

Stamp illustrator and designer James Gurney of Rhinebeck, NY, created a tender image of a mother holding her baby for the Sickle Cell Disease Awareness stamp, and features the inscription "Test Early for Sickle Cell," a design that conveys the importance of early testing.

The Postal Service has issued many stamps that increase awareness of important health and social issues, including Organ and Tissue Donation, Prostate Cancer, Hospice Care, Adoption, Diabetes, AIDS Awareness and Neuter or Spay.

To see the Sickle Cell Disease Awareness stamp, visit the online Postal Store at www.usps.com/shop and click on "Release Schedule" in the Collector's Corner.

Current U.S. stamps and stationery, as well as a free catalog, are available by toll-free phone order at 1-800-STAMP-24. In addition, a selection of stamps and other philatelic items is available at the online Postal Store at www.usps.com/shop. Custom-framed prints of original stamp art are available at www.postalartgallery.com.

Health Corner

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Kerry Finnegan, Media Relations
American Cancer Society
Phone: (515) 727.0079
Kerry.Finnegan@cancer.org



STUDY SEEKS SISTERS OF BREAST CANCER SURVIVORS

*American Cancer Society Helps Recruit 50,000
Nationwide*

DES MOINES, IOWA – The American Cancer Society is collaborating with the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) on the Sister Study, a nationwide study to learn about the environmental and genetic causes of breast cancer. The study has expanded to recruitment of Iowa women. Recruitment is already underway throughout the U.S.

The Sister Study is the only long-term study in the United States of women aged 35 to 74 who have sisters with breast cancer. The study, which is funded by the NIEHS, will follow 50,000 women for at least 10 years to collect information about genes, lifestyle, and environmental factors that may cause breast cancer. Researchers are interested in studying a diverse group of women, so African-American, Latina, American Indian, and Asian women are particularly encouraged to volunteer.

“The American Cancer Society supports the exploration of genetic and environmental links to breast cancer by spreading awareness of and encouraging participation in the Sister Study,” said Carl Olson, MD, member of the American Cancer Society Midwest Division Board of Directors. “The American Cancer Society’s specific goal in this endeavor is to increase general awareness and understanding of the study so that women can make well-informed decisions about whether participating in this study is right for them.”

Researchers believe the Sister Study will help better understand reasons women get breast cancer, especially reasons that concern genes and the environment. Studying sisters of women with breast cancer is an innovative approach that is more likely to

yield answers about the causes of breast cancer than studies of the general population.

Sisters of women with breast cancer have higher risk of developing breast cancer than the general population, and sisters share genetic factors, early environmental exposures, and often lifestyle factors. Results from the Sister Study may also help determine why women get other types of cancer and other diseases, such as heart disease.

“Volunteers will complete several questionnaires and provide a sample of their blood, urine, toenails, and household dust. With that, we’ll be able to look at how activities of daily life, occupational and environmental exposures, and genes are related to breast cancer risk,” said Dale Sandler, Ph.D., Chief of the Epidemiology Branch at NIEHS.

For information about the Sister Study or ACS breast cancer programs and services log onto www.cancer.org or call 1.800.ACS.2345. Cancer information specialists in any language are available 24-hours a day, 7 days a week. The American Cancer Society is dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by saving lives, diminishing suffering and preventing cancer through research, education, advocacy and service.

I'll Make Me A World In Iowa

IMMAWII offers a World of Culture

January 28 & 29, 2005.

7th Annual All-State Celebration of African-American Culture

The I'll Make Me a World in Iowa celebration comes on strong January 28 & 29, 2005 with another incredible weekend of cultural activities, learning opportunities, performing and visual artists, historical exhibits, soul food and good old fashion fun. Celebration Day, I'll Make Me a World in Iowa's signature event, which draws thousands of attendees from Iowa and the Midwest, begins at 10:00 a.m. on January 29, 2005 and provides non-stop festivities until 6:00 p.m. Award winning Actor Darryl Van Leer, Dance Legend, Frankie Manning and Lisa Nichol, Co-Author of *Chicken Soup for the African American Soul* are among the featured speakers. Patrons will also enjoy Iowa's largest assemblage of African American performing artists. Admission is Free. Everyone is welcome to this community wide event.

Featured Presenters/Performers

Darryl Van Leer – Power on Earth

He's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr! He's Malcolm X! He's Muddy Waters!

Darryl Van Leer's one-man show, "Power on Earth," is a tour-de-force performance in which Van Leer creates living history by vividly portraying some of history's most important and influential African-American figures.

Lisa Nichols – *Chicken Soup for the African American Soul*

Lisa Nichols is a professional speaker and powerful facilitator of personal empowerment. She is the founder of Motivating the Teen Spirit LLC, which provides life-changing transformational workshops for teenagers. Lisa partnered with the *Chicken Soup for the Soul* series and Tom Joyner of the Tom Joyner Morning Show to produce this "tribute to a culture that prides itself on survival, resiliency, healing, prayer and perseverance." *Chicken Soup for the African American Soul* will be available for purchase at IMMAWII and Lisa will be autographing copies of the book for both days of the Celebration.

Frankie Manning – Legendary Dancer, aged to perfection

...if you have ever swing danced...it's time you met your benefactor – GQ Magazine. During the Harlem Renaissance Manning was king of the Lindy Hop swing dance craze. With a career that began at the famous Savoy Ballroom and took him all over the world.

Iowa Performers – Something For Everyone

In one of the most spectacular shows in Iowa IMMAWII Celebration Day will feature the multi-venued performances of a host of R&B and hip hop bands, gospel choirs and groups, artist, jazz musicians, blues singers, steppers, storytellers, actors and poets from all over Iowa.

Thanks to our IMMAWII emcees who provide community, business, civic, social, religious and political leadership in the state of Iowa.

Soul Food, Vendors and Exhibits – Part of our "world"

Food, glorious soul food. One of the absolute highlights of IMMAWII is the opportunity to enjoy a vast menu of delectably spiced and sumptuously prepared food. Look for assortments from various vendors of greens, barbeque, fried chicken, catfish, sweet potato pie and cobbler along with other food so good it lifts your spirits – there's a reason they call it soul food! And if you're in the mood for just a snack, churches will be on hand with delicious baked goods. Food is moderately priced.

The Art of A Culture

You'll find a wide variety of exhibitors and vendors at IMMAWII offer everything from information to afro-centric apparel and art.

Sponsors- Supporting a Wealth of Culture

IMMAWII sends sincere appreciation and gratitude to our sponsors Iowa State University, The Des Moines Register, Wells Fargo, Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc., State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines Area Community College, Clear Channel Outdoor, United Financial Systems – Dan Mc Fall & Principal Financial, Inc.

Other IMMAWII Activities

Exhibit pays tribute to Ike "Big Daddy" Seymour

Youth Stage serves up Hip-Hop, Spoken Word, Dance and more

Look for the release of IMMAWII 7th Anniversary Commemorative Publication in the January 24th addition of the Des Moines Register. Available through partnership with The Des Moines Register.

IMMAWII Education Day, January 28 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. State Historical Building. Students and educators from all over the state attend to participate in the IMMAWII Black History Game Show, workshops and art activities. Contact your middle or high school to ensure they are participating.

(Continued on page 7)

I'll Make Me A World in Iowa

(Continued from page 6)

IMMAWII Gala Reception, Friday evening January 28, at Pioneer Hi-bred, International's George Washington Carver Center, Johnston Iowa. A night to remember includes up close and personal interaction with featured presenters, performances by Waterloo's Effie Burt, and Kevin Burt and the Instigators and the presentation of the 2004 Heritage Legacy Awards. Tickets are \$40 in advance and \$50 at the door and support IMMAWII Programming. Contact IMMAWII for tickets.

IMMAWII Heritage Legacy Awards. Recognizing Iowans whose creative and civic activities in African-American life and culture in Iowa have contributed to making the world and the state a better place for all. Areas of Award are Organization/Business Leadership Award; African American Individual Award; Evelyn K. Davis African-American Youth Award. Nominations are due January 10, 2005. Contact IMMAWII for more information.

For general information on IMMAWII activities contact

Betty C. Andrews Executive Director: 515-987-9571, bettycandrews@yahoo.com, or visit www.worldiniowa.org

For IMMAWII Vendor Information Contact

Kevin Officer: 515-225-2310 or marketing@enviroconn.com

To volunteer for IMMAWII Contact

Terry Nettles: 515-225-2069 or terry.nettles@eds.com

For Special IMMAWII Hotel Rates Contact

Holiday Inn Downtown at 1050 6th Ave: 515-283-0151 or holidayinn@mchsi.com

ICSAA News

ICSAA

Iowa Commission on the Status of African-Americans

WEBSITE NEW LOOK!

Please visit ICSAA's new website at
www.state.ia.us/dhr/saa



February 8, 2005

**Please join ICSAA at a
Breakfast with the Legislators
Iowa State Capitol
Legislative Dining Room
1007 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines**

Check the website for updated information

ICSAA

Statewide Calendar of Events

ICSAA is interested in events for African Americans taking place across the state of Iowa. We would like information about your events to announce in the Iowa African American Journal (published quarterly) and post on our website.

Submission(s) must be made at least **30 days** prior to the scheduled event in order to ensure it gets published.

To submit information about your event(s), please provide the following information:

Organization / Business Name
Contact Name / Title
Address City / State / Zip
Telephone / Fax Number / Email Address Website
Name of Event
Date of Event
Address / Location of Event (Include city, state, zip)
Event E-mail or Web Site address (if applicable)

ICSAA

Iowa Commission on the Status of African-Americans

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Editor: Kim Cheeks

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Across Black Iowa...

My Pledge to Make A Difference

I pledge to honor the life and works of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

I pledge to serve to ensure Iowans will continue to enjoy equality, justice, freedom, and peace.

Do you wish to make a donation to the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Ceremony on January 17, 2005, sponsored by ICSAA? If so, please send your gift.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone (home & business): _____

Email: _____

Payment Options: _____ Check _____ Money Order \$

Please make payable to the Iowa Commission on the Status of African-Americans

Please include my/our name in the Annual Report _____ Yes _____ No