



DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. LIBRARY

*A collaboration between the City of San José and San José State University*

# *Media Advisory*

For Immediate Release

Monday, January 12, 2009

Contact:

Lorraine Oback, (408) 808-2176; CELL (408) 406-5305

## **“DREAM TO REALITY”**

### ***An 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Anniversary Celebration Honoring the Legacy of Civil Rights Leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.***

**WHAT:** Cake-cutting ceremonial event marking the actual birthday of renowned civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Local officials and community members share reflections on the significance of groundwork laid by Dr. King and others in light of current events and the challenges of making the dream reality.

Celebration continues on Saturday and in February with evening performances of gospel music, poetry and dance; a Freedom March and other re-enactments from the Civil Rights Era; a speaker panel and lecture; a community resource faire; story time, crafts and more characterize this special commemorative event for all ages honoring the enduring legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. For public information, check [www.sjlibrary.org/mlk80birthday.htm](http://www.sjlibrary.org/mlk80birthday.htm) or call (408) 808-2397.

**WHEN:** Thursday, January 15, 2009; 12:30 – 2 p.m. – Cake ceremony  
*See below for details of subsequent events*

**WHERE:** Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, 150 E. San Fernando St., San Jose King Collection Area, 3rd Floor  
*See below for details of subsequent events*

**WHO:** Honorable Mayor Chuck Reed, City of San José  
SJSU President Jon Whitmore  
Library officials, community speakers, students from Escuela Popular

**WHY:** The event is a tribute marking the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; an individual whose life work profoundly changed the course of American history and set the stage for the historic election of the first U.S. president of color. See event website for more detail:  
[www.sjlibrary.org/mlk80birthday.htm](http://www.sjlibrary.org/mlk80birthday.htm).

- more -

*“Dream to Reality” - An 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Anniversary Celebration Honoring the Legacy of Civil Rights Leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Monday, January 12, 2009

P2

**SPONSORS:** Friends of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library Library  
San José Public Library  
San José State University Library  
*and*  
African American Faculty & Staff Association  
Arts Council Silicon Valley  
Associated Students (SJSU)  
Bijan Bakery  
Black Infant Health Program, Santa Clara County Health Dept.  
Colla Signs  
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Association of Santa Clara Valley  
Emmanuel Baptist Church  
Jaliya, Inc.  
MOSAIC Cross Cultural Center  
SJSU Gospel Choir  
SJSU Theater Arts Department/ Hal Todd Theater

**FULL SCHEDULE of ACTIVITIES/PHOTO - OPS**

Venues: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, 150 E. San Fernando Street  
Hugh Gillis Hall, Hal Todd Theater, S. 5th and E. San Fernando streets

**THURSDAY, January 15**

12:30 – 2 p.m., King Collection Area, 3rd Fl.

*“Happy Birthday Dr. King”* – Cake ceremony kicked off by remarks from local officials, featuring songs and community members sharing their personal experience of the struggle for civil rights.

3:30 – 4 p.m., King Library, Children’s Room, Ground Fl.

*Story Time* – Explore the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as well as themes of peace, friendship and diversity through books and songs, featuring Jacqueline Woodson’s *The Other Side*.

4 – 5 p.m., King Library, Children’s Room, Ground Fl.

*Crafts: Friendship Bracelets* – Create a special bracelet to give to your friend or family member.

**SATURDAY, January 17**

11 – 11:30 a.m., King Library, Children’s Room, Ground Fl.

*Story Time* – Explore the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as well as themes of peace, friendship and diversity through books and songs, featuring Jacqueline Woodson’s *The Other Side*.

11 a.m. – 3 p.m., King Library, 4th St. Lobby, Ground Fl.

*Community Resource Faire*

A gathering of civil rights and social service agencies\* share information on available resources.

- more -

*“Dream to Reality” - An 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Anniversary Celebration Honoring the Legacy of Civil Rights Leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Monday, January 12, 2009

P2

2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m., King Library, Children’s Room, Ground Fl.

*Jali-tyme* – In Celebration of African/African American Art and Literary contributions, Jaliya, Inc presents the Guardians of the Word and their oral, music, and Arts and Crafts showcase.

5:30 – 9 p.m., Hal Todd Theater, Hugh Gillis Hall

*“Dream to Reality” - Evening Tribute to Dr. King*

Gospel music, drum drama, youth song and dance, rendition of “I Have a Dream.” Reception follows.

**SATURDAY, February 14**

11 – 11:30 a.m., King Library, Children’s Room, Ground Fl.

*Story Time* – Explore the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as well as themes of peace, friendship and diversity through books and songs, featuring Jacqueline Woodson’s *The Other Side*.

11:15 a.m. – 1 p.m., SJSU campus starting from King Library, 4th St. Lobby

*Freedom March* – Community participation invited in this re-enactment of a civil rights march designed to highlight the power of exercising the First Amendment right to free assembly to effect social change, non-violently.

1 – 2 p.m., Hal Todd Theater, Hugh Gillis Hall

*Jaliya* – A 40-minute drum-drama highlighting events such as the 1500-1800’s enslavement and emancipation of Africans; 1900’s Civil Rights War and 1955 Montgomery Bus Boycott trial.

2:25 – 4:15 p.m., Hal Todd Theater, Hugh Gillis Hall

*“Reinterpreting King’s Dream for the 21st Century”* – A multicultural community panel discusses Dr. King’s legacy in the context of current events.

5:30 – 9 p.m., Hal Todd Theater, Hugh Gillis Hall

*“Dream to Reality” - Evening Tribute to Dr. King*

Gospel music, drum drama, youth song and dance, rendition of “I Have a Dream.” Reception follows.

**THURSDAY, February 19**

5 – 9 p.m., King Library, Rms. 225/229, 2nd Fl.

*“Post-Traumatic Slavery Syndrome”*

**Part I:** *Banished*, a film screening of a documentary examining ethnic and social cleansing in society. Start time: 5 p.m.

**Part II:** *Lecture* by Derethia DuVal, Ph.D, examining how perceptions of slavery shape attitudes and behaviors of most Americans, past and present. Start time: 7 p.m.

Light refreshments will be served.

---

\* Participating organizations:  
- American Civil Liberties Union

- more -

*“Dream to Reality” - An 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Anniversary Celebration Honoring the Legacy of Civil Rights Leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Monday, January 12, 2009

P2

- Anti-Defamation League
- Arab American Cultural Center
- Asian Americans for Community Involvement
- California Department of Fair Employment and Housing
- County Office of Human Relations - Network for Hate Free Community
- League of Women Voters
- MLK Association of Santa Clara Valley
- National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
- Partners in Reading
- Silicon Valley Conference for Community and Justice

####