



For Immediate Release:

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PRESS RELEASE

'City of Shreveport hosts 1st Annual MLK Oratory Contest & Youth Leadership Award Program'

*Black History Month Event to honor
Legacy of Dr. King and Local Freedom Fighters*

Shreveport/Bossier City/Minden, LA—In honor of African American History Month, Mahogany Ensemble Theatre will present the 1st Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Oratory Competition & Youth Leadership Award. Mayor Cedric B. Glover and the City of Shreveport will host this inaugural event on Saturday, February 18, 2012, 10:00 AM, Independence Stadium Skybox. This free oratory event, honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the rich Civil Rights heritage in Northwest Louisiana, while showcasing emerging youth leadership, is held in partnership with the Shreve Memorial Library System, The Shreveport Sun, Crystal Clear Communications, Urban Progressives, and Urban Faith Magazine.

Themed: Fulfilling The Dream, the oratory competition consists of three divisions: grades 3-5 —must memorize and recite excerpts from Dr. King's speech; grades 6-8 and grades 9-12 – must memorize and present an original speech which is judged by representatives of the business, academia, and media community. Nearly 20 student orators and leadership nominees will participate in the event from the following Shreveport-Bossier schools: A.C. Steere Elementary, Apollo Elementary, Believer's Academy, Caddo Magnet High, Captain Shreve, C.E. Byrd, Evangel, Huntington, Lakeshore Elementary, Ridgewood Middle, University Elementary, and Word of God Academy.

Founding Artistic Director, Angelique Feaster Evans says ““This Annual Oratory Contest will not only provide a great opportunity for local students to understand and appreciate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Civil Rights Movement, but will also teach them public speaking and writing skills that will help them in all aspects of their lives.”

For more information, visit www.mahoganyensembletheatre.org, or call (318) 382-2841.

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