



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, INC.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Council of Negro Women Hosts 23rd Annual Reunion Celebration *Black Families "Living and Learning Together"*

Washington, DC – The National Council of Negro Women, Inc. (NCNW), in collaboration with Freddie Mac, will present the 23rd Annual National Black Family Reunion Celebration, to be held on Saturday and Sunday, September 6 and 7, 2008 on the Washington National Mall. This year's theme, "Living and Learning Together," encourages families, communities, and cities to come together, learn more about each other and the conditions of the world, as they unite for change together. This free, family festival celebrates the enduring strengths and traditional values of the African American family.

On Saturday, September 6, the opening ceremonies kick off on the National Mall at 7th Street, between Madison and Jefferson Drives with the Ecumenical Prayer Breakfast. The Ecumenical Prayer Breakfast starts at 8:30 AM and the keynote speaker is Bishop Eddie Long from New Birth Missionary Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia.

Free, festival activities will be held all day Saturday, September 6 and Sunday, September 7. Theme pavilions will showcase local talent performances, food demonstrations, and health screenings. In addition, individuals and groups can learn about issues concerning children and teens, education, sports and fitness, men, and health for women and family. There will be hands on children's activities, fitness tips, as well as food vendors selling authentic dishes from the African American culture. All festival activities are from 12 noon to 5:00 PM.

Each day closes with a free concert sponsored by Coca Cola and McDonalds. Saturday's concert showcases *2004 American Idol Winner and National R&B recording artist, Fantasia*, alongside *R&B Singing Sensation, Tank*. Sunday's gospel concert features *Grammy Award-winning recording artist Smokie Norful*.

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Sharing the stage with Norful will be Verity/ Zomba Records recording artist *Deitrick Haddon* and R&B singer *Jason Champion* (former member of *Men At Large*). Both concerts are held on the National Mall from 5:30 PM until 8:00 PM.

Created in 1986 by human rights activist, Dr. Dorothy I. Height, Chair and President Emerita of NCNW, the Black Family Reunion Celebration is recognized as one of the nation's largest family events attracting more than 400,000 people annually. It is through the generous support of national and local corporations, nonprofit and government agencies, and local media partners that all activities are provided free to the public.

This year's participating sponsors include:

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For tickets to the Opening Ceremonies/ Ecumenical Prayer Breakfast, please call (202) 383-9109.

For more information about the 2008 Annual National Black Family Reunion Celebration or to learn more about NCNW, visit our web site at www.ncnw.org.