



The Voice of Your Customer

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Cincinnatian honored at Ohio MLK Celebration for Advancing King's Dream

The 23 Annual Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Celebration was held on January 17, 2008, recognizing Ohioans for their efforts to advance nonviolent social change. The event, which is sponsored by the Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission, was held at Trinity Episcopal Church, 125 E. Broad St., Columbus.

The speakers at the celebration included the winners of the 2007 Statewide MLK Oratorical Contest and Ohio Senate Minority Leader Ray Miller.

“Dr. King had a global perspective on the central issues that impact our lives,” Miller said. “There are those with a pedestrian view that only extends between the Scioto River and the Olentangy. It is important for us to fully understand that the wage earner in Indonesia impacts the quality of life of the worker in Columbus and the student in Cleveland can ultimately be in competition with their counterpart in Cairo. There is an interdependence that we share as citizens of this world, and Dr. King had the foresight and the temerity to challenge those who too often seek comfort and convenience,” Miller said.

Crystal L. Kendrick, President of The Voice of Your Customer, was the recipient of the 2008 Ohio MLK Commission Economic Opportunity Award for demonstrated accomplishments in the small business community by creating economic opportunities through partnerships and workforce development.

In addition, the commission gave awards to the following individuals and organizations:

Governor's Humanitarian Award - Clarence A. Lumpkin, Columbus; Community Building Award - Eta Tau Lambda Chapter of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Akron; Cultural Awareness Award - The Rev. Leon L. Troy, Sr. and Mrs. Bernice Troy, Columbus; Educational Excellence Award - Delores L. McCollum, Cleveland; Health: Equity and Awareness Award - Marv West, Gahanna ; Social Justice Award - John Miller, Louisville; Capturing the Vision of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Award - Brittanie Jermon, Mayfield Heights; Dream in Action Award - Denison University, Granville.

The event also featured winners from the 2007 Statewide MLK Oratorical Contest, which also is sponsored by the Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission.

The commission conducts the MLK celebration with assistance from the Equal Opportunity Division of the Ohio Department of Administrative Services. Under the leadership of Director Hugh Quill, the department provides centralized support for state agencies. For more information, visit www.das.ohio.gov/eod.



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