



LOVING DECISION CONFERENCE 2007

THE NEXT 40 YEARS OF MULTIRACIAL COMMUNITIES



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Conference Extravaganza Celebrates 40 Years of Legal Interracial Marriage

Loving Decision Conference 2007: The Next 40 Years of Multiracial Communities

CHICAGO, IL – Authors, comedians, poets, musicians and more will energize a special extravaganza at *Loving Decision Conference 2007*, **Friday, June 24th** (7:00-10:00 PM) in the Chicago Center for the Performing Arts, an entertainment complex in the burgeoning River West area of Chicago, IL.

The gala will be free for all registrants of *Loving Decision Conference 2007*, an international conference from June 21 - 24, 2007 coordinated by The Association of MultiEthnic Americans (AMEA) to mark the 40th anniversary of Loving v. Virginia (1967), the US Supreme Court's decision to legalize interracial marriage.

In addition to over 65 concurrent sessions throughout the weekend, the Evening Extravaganza will be a place for the growing multiracial community and their advocates to unite. A diverse group of performers will be the highlight of the festivities. Writing Contest winners, award scholarships and volunteers will also be recognized.

Here are just a few of the extravaganza performers that will grace the lineup, not including possible surprise guests:

Comedians include **Kevin “Squishy Man” Barber** (national touring comedy routine); **Marilyn Campbell** and her daughter **Maria Merrin** (*Mixing It Up*, an original spoken-word duet of hilarious and touching personal stories of the difficulties of mixing the races, feminism and single motherhood).

Authors include **Safiya Dalilah Hoskins** (excerpt from her novel *An Infrequent Pairing*); **Janet Stickmon** (excerpt from her memoir, *Crushing Soft Rubies*, about life as an orphan and African-Filipino American woman); **Heidi Durrow** (excerpt from her novel *Light-Skinned-ed Girl*); **Connie Leone** (excerpt from *Tu-Tone*, her children's book on multiracial identity).

Filmmakers include **Octavio Warnock Graham** (clip from “Silences”, a documentary of an intimate personal journey and intense family drama); **Jessica Chen Drammeh** (clip from “Anomaly”, a documentary about people of mixed racial heritage)

Artists include **Laura Kina Aronson** (exhibit of life-size charcoal portraits of mixed-race individuals); **Mica Lee Anders** (photography exhibit exploring race and identity)

Choreographer and **Dancers** include **Jacinta Vlach** and **Nova Wilson** (“The Minstrel Effect”)

“We are truly looking forward to the dynamic lineup that continues to grow as we get closer to the conference. It is our hope that we will draw many local residents as well,” said Jungmiwha Bullock, President of the Association of MultiEthnic Americans (AMEA) and head conference coordinator.

For more information about the conference, including registration and a full schedule of events, please visit www.lovingconference.com. The event is being coordinated by the Association of MultiEthnic Americans (AMEA) with support from many of their affiliates and allies.

About Association of MultiEthnic Americans (AMEA): AMEA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization which serves as an international umbrella association dedicated to advocacy, education and collaboration on behalf the multiethnic, multiracial and transracial adoption community and allies. Donations for the conference can be mailed to: AMEA / P.O. Box 29223 / Los Angeles, CA 90029-0223

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