MEDIA ADVISORY

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ROSE GARDEN INSPIRES ATLANTA-AREA SCHOOLCHILDREN TOWARD PEACE

• Schoolchildren’s Messages of Peace to be Unveiled

What: Join the International World Peace Rose Gardens and the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site in celebrating the Sixteenth Anniversary of the Martin Luther King, Jr. “I Have a Dream” World Peace Rose Garden in Atlanta.

This year’s celebration features:
• A keynote address by Elder Bernice A. King; and
• Unveiling of winning Messages of Peace by Atlanta students, engraved on plaques to be displayed in the World Peace Rose Garden for one year.

Each year, Atlanta-area schoolchildren participate in the Inspirational Message Contest and winning messages are unveiled on bronze plaques featured in the garden for an entire year. (www.WorldPeaceRoseGardens.org.) **This year’s winners are students of Atlanta International School, John Hope Elementary School, Inman Middle School, Walden Middle School, and St. Peter Claver Regional Catholic School**, ranging from grades 4 through 8.

The International World Peace Rose Gardens program is a worldwide effort to help youth recognize the importance and value of peace. In March 1992, the Martin Luther King, Jr. World Peace Rose Garden was planted at the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site. The garden is an artistic interpretation of Dr. King’s life and ideals of peace through non-violence. The garden’s “starburst” design brings attention to the brilliance of Dr. King’s ideals using the Official Flower of the United States, the rose.

The Atlanta garden is one of five major World Peace Rose Gardens established around the world by International World Peace Rose Gardens.

When: Thursday, May 8, 2008, 1p.m.

Where: Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site
450 Auburn Avenue, Atlanta (in front of Visitor Center)

Visuals/Interview: * Visuals of schoolchildren unveiling plaques and reading messages of peace;
* Interviews with organizers regarding the worldwide mission to impact peace by creating rose gardens that serve as centers for community action.

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