50th Anniversary of the 1963 March on Washington TUCSON-SOUTHERN ARIZONA COMMEMORATION





PRESS RELEASE

50s Anniversary Committee

Chairperson Elwood McDowell Pastor Trinity Church

Sam Newsome A Phillip Randolph Institute

Donna R. Liggins President NAACP

Mary Stoute CAAHW President

Phil Lopes 1963 March Participant

Barbara Newsome A Phillip Randolph Institute

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Maria Moore
University of Arizona

Avraham Alpert Cantor Congregation Bet Shalom

Clarence Boykins President Tucson Black Chamber

Gloria Smith Research

Annie Sykes Research

Lupita Valencia Souvenir Book Design

Doris Snowden NAACP

Reggie Kennedy Finger de Freedom Clothing Contact: Elwood McDowell Trinity Church (520) 869 6973 Clarence Boykins TSABCC (520) 623-0099

Tucson Community organizers have planned events to mark the historical 1963 March on Washington. Our purpose is to pay tribute to the participants of the past. However, our goal is clear this is not a march down memory lane, but a call to action. We are still in an environment where we can easily lose what was gained 50 years ago.

In light of the most recent Supreme Court ruling on the 1965 Voter Rights Act, a 5-4 decision struck down a pivotal portion of that act. This should remind us of the importance of our constant vigilance and actions. There remains much for us to accomplish, this is not the time for neutrality.

The gains made by African Americans over the past 50 years are being threatened.

The 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom drew hundreds of thousands of predominantly Black, but also white people, from around the country to the National Mall to protest segregation and other discriminatory laws. It also was intended to bring attention to the joblessness and economic condition of African Americans.

On August 28, 1963, the world was introduced to the most thought-provoking speech of our time: "I Have a Dream" by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He brought to our attention our reason for being there stating, "We have come here today to dramatize a shameful condition." He also shared his vision of what America could become.

In many ways the Tucson events will mirror the 1963 March on Washington. Much emphasis will be placed on the struggles and successes of African Americans in Tucson, Arizona. The seats at the table have many new faces and many new voices that were not heard in 1963. We welcome them, and together we won't be turned around.

Events will cover a four-day period, featuring a church service and several panel discussions including: Racial and economic impact on African Americans in Tucson 50 years later; Job disparity of African Americans; and the impact of immigration on African Americans.

The famous Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "I Have a Dream" speech will be delivered by four young individuals representing the Anglo, Native American, Hispanic, and African American communities.

Individuals wishing to participate in this historical reenactment please call the above contacts. If you were in attendance at the 1963 March please contact us.

50th Anniversary Commemoration Program
5:30 pm March
6:30 pm Program
Armory Park 220 South 5th Avenue
Tucson, Arizona

A CALL TO ACTION





Continuation of the Battle for JOBS – JUSTICE – AND FREEDOM



July 30, 2013 – 6:00 pm Community Town Hall – A Call to Action Dunbar Culture Center

Tucson 50thAnniversasry Commemoration Events

325 W. 2nd Street Tucson, AZ

August 6, 2013 – 6:00 pm African American Health Rising Star Baptist Church 2800 East 36th Street Tucson, AZ 85713

August 13, 2013 – 6:00 pm Disparity of Justice for African Americans Panel discussion Donna Liggins Center 2160 N. 6th Ave Tucson, Arizona