

Date: April 26, at 6:00 pm, 2002
Release Date: Immediate
Subject: SPEAKER AT MARY SCOTT LEGACY AWARDS BANQUET
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SINGER MELBA MOORE

SPEAKER AT MARY SCOTT
LEGACY AWARDS BANQUET

EVENT HONORS DAYTON AREA WOMEN VOLUNTEERS



(Dayton, OH) Tony Award-winning singer, actress and philanthropist Melba Moore, has been announced as the featured speaker at Mary Scott Nursing Center's Twelfth Annual Legacy Awards Banquet. Mary Scott Nursing Center, at 3109 Campus Drive, is Dayton's oldest nursing home. The event will be held Thursday, **April 26, at 6:00 pm**, at the Mandalay Banquet Center, 2700 East River Road in Dayton. Open to the public, the evening honors and recognizes Miami Valley women, age 55 years and older, who exemplify the spirit of Christian

service to persons who are elderly, homeless or disabled.

In making the announcement, Sophia Gordon, Mary Scott's Executive Director, said, "We are delighted to have Melba Moore as our keynote speaker. She is a positive role model for all people and is a firm believer that through faith all things are possible. Our founder, "Mother" Mary Scott had a similar strong faith joined with caring and compassion. During this evening we honor Dayton area women leaders who exemplify this same tradition as our founder Mary Scott."

Melba Moore was born in New York City to musicians, Ted and Bonnie Hill, a successful jazz saxophonist and singer. Her stepfather, Clem Moorman, was a popular pianist/singer and the inspiration behind her career. After moving to Newark, New Jersey, she studied piano and voice at a high school for the performing arts and received a bachelor's degree in music education from Montclair State Teacher's College.

After teaching for some time, Melba Moore returned to her dream of becoming a performer. Initially she worked as a solo artist and background vocalist for several recording studios. In 1968, she became a cast-member in the Broadway musical, "Hair."

From "Hair," Moore moved on to even greater theatrical success in the musical "Purlie." In "Purlie" she received rave reviews and received the prestigious New York Drama Critics Award, the Drama Desk Award and the Tony Award for Best Supporting Actress in a Musical.

In January of 1996, Melba Moore returned to the Broadway stage in "Les Miserables" in a triumphant run in the role of Fantine. Moore was the first African-American to play the role in the production anywhere in the world.

Moore has worked in television as a featured actress in many dramatic series and specials. She has starred in several network musical variety shows. As a vocalist, she has recorded several albums and established herself as a powerhouse entertainer.

She has added a new dimension in her life and career by founding the Melba More Foundation for Children, a non-profit organization that funds various charities for needy youth. Sharing a portion of her earnings to worthwhile causes, she's a born-again Christian who said, "I think each of us has a calling and if each of us does our part, our life would be worthwhile. I want my life to be worth something."

Banquet tickets are \$40 each, \$400 per table (10 tickets), and are available by calling (937) 278-0761 or (937) 436-5082. Also, Mary Scott is proud to include Premier Healthcare-Good Samaritan and Miami Valley Hospitals, WDAO-AM, WROU-FM/92.1, WHIO-TV/Channel 7, the Dayton Daily News, the Dayton Urban League, Dayton Power and Light, University of Dayton, the Dayton Weekly, Battelle and Battelle, the Miller-Valentine Group, Roth, Rolf and Goffman- LPA, Mead Corporation Foundation, Weber Jewelers, Otterbein Retirement Living Communities and Bob Ross Buick GMC, Inc. as sponsors of the Year 2001 Mary Scott Legacy Awards Banquet.

The Mary Scott Nursing Center is in its 87th year of service to the Dayton Community. Guided by its, "Caring Comes From Inside," theme, Mary Scott Nursing Center is licensed for 120 beds and offers highly skilled, long-term, respite and rehabilitative health care services.