

NEWS RELEASE

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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 Fifteenth Annual Legacy Awards Banquet. Mary Scott Nursing Center, at 3109 Campus Drive, is Dayton's oldest non-profit nursing home. The event will be held Thursday, April 29, 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, Bridgid Slivken, Mary Scott's Executive Director, said, "We are delighted to have Melba Moore as our keynote speaker again. She is a positive role model for all people and is a firm believer that through faith all things are possible. In her previous appearance at our banquet, Ms. Moore electrified the audience with an outstanding evening of inspiration and entertainment. During this evening we honor Dayton area women leaders who exemplify the caring tradition as our founder Mary Scott."

Ms. Moore's historic career has endured, despite the ups and downs of a tumultuous life. Today she's stronger, in spirit and in talent, and is enjoying a dynamic career revival with several new projects including her first ever gospel recording, "I'M STILL HERE." She also marks her return to films with her role as "Bessie Cooley" in the hilarious new comedy "THE FIGHTING TEMPTATIONS."

Her theatrical career revival includes her starring role in the wildly successful “The Jackie Wilson Story,” and Ms. Moore’s two-act one-woman play with music, “SWEET SONGS OF THE SOUL,” which has been playing to standing room-only audiences.

Ms. Moore started her career by originating the role of “Dionne” in the groundbreaking 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’s 1990 recording of ‘LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING’ was instrumental in having the song officially recognized and entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as the African-American national anthem.

Melba Moore has also enjoyed a flourishing television career. Her portrayal of “Harriet Tubman” in the ‘WOMEN OF COURAGE’ TV series gained her an Emmy nomination.

As a philanthropist, the deeply spiritual Moore is an ardent advocate for the rights of children. Her commitment to help and protect them inspired the creation of the MELBA MOORE FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN, which has raised tens of thousands of dollars to support programs around the country, such as Harlem Hospital’s “HIV Boarder Babies” program.

Being honored that evening are Lois J. Elmore, Mary E. Frazier, Mary L. Gaines, Miriam S. Gates, Irene Gilbert, Fannie P. Moore, Irma Morgan-Johnson, Martha A. Moss, Phyllis J. Robinette, Elizabeth Upchurch and Patricia A. Whrighter. Also, Mr. John E. Moore, Sr. will be presented Mary Scott’s prestigious President’s Award

Banquet tickets are \$40 each, \$400 per table (10 tickets), and are available by calling (937) 278-0761 or (937) 436-5082.

The Mary Scott Nursing Center is in its 90th 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.

For further information, contact:
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