



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Media Contact: WardHill Omni Media
Tonie Bell (313) 802-1817
LaToya Henry (313) 447-6404

Freedom Institute is Gearing Up for Freedom Weekend 2015

DETROIT -- Freedom Institute will host Freedom Weekend 2015 from April 30 – May 2, 2015. Freedom Weekend will feature a multitude of events that are centered around educating and inspiring Metro Detroiters to work, live and play in Detroit.

“Freedom Institute continues to provide useful dialogue and important events that work for the betterment of our great City,” says Rev. Dr. Wendell Anthony, Founder and Chairman, Freedom Institute. “We strive to have events that are geared for the family and cross sections of the community who are impacted by the revitalization of Detroit.”

The Freedom Institute for Economic, Social Justice and People Empowerment is 501©3 organization created to impact and enhance the quality of life for individuals with a particular emphasis on people of color. Over a decade ago, Freedom Institute began Freedom Weekend as a vehicle to help uplift the local Detroit community with hopes of making an impact statewide and nationally.

“We are excited about the lineup for Freedom Weekend 2015,” says Monica Anthony, Executive Director, Freedom Institute. “Freedom Weekend 2015 consists of our signature events and a few new ones that are sure to please all who attend.”

Most activities are free and open to the public. Attendees are encouraged to pre-register by visiting www.freeinstitute.org. For more information please call (313) 347-2834.

Schedule of Activities is attached.

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Freedom Weekend 2015

Thursday, April 30, 2015

Jobs! Jobs! Jobs! – A Super Career Expo

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Fellowship Chapel, 7707 W. Outer Drive , Detroit, MI 48235

Jobs! Jobs! Jobs! is hosted in partnership with the Detroit Branch NAACP. It will feature employers and career readiness workshops such as

- Criminal Convictions, Background Checks and the EEOC
- Acing the Interview
- Resume Writing
- Dressing For Success
- Online Job Searching
- Social Media and the Workforce

The job fair is free and open to the public. Attendees can pre-register by calling 313-664-2422 or visiting www.detroitnaacp.org and selecting the Jobs link under the Events tab.

Senior Safety, Fun & Fitness

10:00 a.m., Fellowship Chapel, 7707 W. Outer Drive, Detroit, MI 48235

A day of fun activities and information sessions for Seniors focused on how to prevent fraud and safety tips from the Detroit Police Department.

Friday, May 1, 2015

Church Labor Summit II “Finding Common Ground”

7:30 a.m. Registration, 8:00 a.m., UAW- Ford National Programs Center, 151 W. Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, MI 48226

The Church-Labor Summit II “Finding Common Ground,” is a continuation from a conversation that began during the 50th Anniversary Commemorative Walk Down Woodward in June 2013. Labor leaders and faith-based leaders will convene to discuss ways they can continue to collaborate on issues which they share a common ground. Rev. Terrance L. Melvin, Secretary-Treasurer, New York State AFL-CIO will serve as the Keynote Speaker.

Friday, May 1, 2015 (Continued)

Power Economics Luncheon – “What About the Neighborhoods?”

12:00 p.m., Fellowship Chapel, 7707 W. Outer Drive, Detroit, MI 48235

Moderated by Murray Feldman – Fox 2 News Detroit

Downtown and Midtown are making a comeback but what about the neighborhoods? Discussion will be centered around how development can happen outside of the 7.2 miles of Downtown and Midtown Detroit post bankruptcy. Remarks will be brought by Mayor Mike Duggan and Gary Torgow, Chairman, Talmer Bancorp. Inc. Some of the featured panelists include – Roderick Miller, CEO, Detroit Economic Growth Corporation; Founder/CEO, Strather Academy and Linda Smith, Executive Director, U-Snap-Bac.

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2015 Freedom Weekend

Justice Awards Tribute

Reception -- 5:30 p.m., Program -- 6:30 p.m.

UAW-Ford National Programs Center, 151 W. Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, MI 48226

Invitation Only Event

Reception will honor Judge Victoria Roberts of the Eastern District of Michigan Federal Court and Barbara McQuade, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan. WXYZ Channel 7's Editorial Director and host of Spotlight on the News, Chuck Stokes, will serve as the Master of Ceremonies for the event. The event is co-chaired by Judge Kathleen M. McCarthy, Presiding Judge, Wayne County Circuit Court – Family Division and Judge Linda Parker, U.S. District Court Eastern District of Michigan.

Freedom Friday Fete

9:00 p.m., Ignite – MGM Grand Hotel, 1777 3rd Street, Detroit, MI 48226

Must RSVP online at freeinstitute.org

Freedom Weekend Party

Saturday, May 2, 2015

Youth Empowerment Symposium

9:00 a.m. Registration, 10:00 a.m. Program

UAW-Ford National Programs Center, 151 W. Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, MI 48226

The Youth Empowerment Symposium will feature the Detroit Branch NAACP's "Stops and Cops" which is an interactive program between youth and local law enforcement that focuses on three key areas: traffic stops, street stops and domestic violence situations. Attendees will also be addressed by author Dr. Velva Burley Flowers on "Choices: Making Moves to Win."

Dr. Ron Walters National Town Hall Meeting "The Future of Education in Detroit and Michigan"

2:00 p.m., UAW-Ford National Programs Center, 151 W. Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, MI 48226

Members of the Coalition for the Future of Detroit Schoolchildren will hold a community discussion that delves deeper into the report they released at the end of March 2015 that provided recommendations to the Governor on how to provide a quality education for all of Detroit's children. Featured panelists include – Dr. Jeffrey Robinson, Principal, Paul Robeson/Malcolm X Academy; David Hecker, President, AFT-Michigan, John Rakolta, President/CEO, Walbridge Aldinger.

Freedom Institute is a 501©3 nonprofit organization for economic, social justice and people empowerment.

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