FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

University of Minnesota to Host 34th Annual
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Tribute featuring IU Soul Revue, 1/22/15

MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL (12/12/14) – On Thursday, January 22, 2015 at 7:30 pm, the University of Minnesota will host the 34th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Tribute featuring the IU Soul Revue ensemble, which is a part of the Indiana University African American Arts Institute, plus performances by the U of M Carnaval world music ensemble, and U of M School of Music graduate choral conducting student G. Phillip Shoultz, III.

The concert will take place at the University’s Ted Mann Concert Hall (2128 4th Street South, Minneapolis, MN 55455, U of M West Bank campus). This program honors Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Dr. Reginald Buckner, founder of the MLK, Jr. Concert.

When the University of Minnesota’s Martin Luther King, Jr. Tribute began more than 30 years ago, it was the only tribute of its kind in Minnesota. The late Reginald Buckner, School of Music professor and an accomplished performer and composer, founded the concert and began the tradition of celebrating the life and accomplishments of Dr. King through the performing arts. After professor Buckner’s death in 1989, the University continued to honor Buckner’s memory and artistic genius by carrying on the inspiring legacy of this annual program. The Martin Luther King Celebration is now a joint program of the University of Minnesota’s Office for Equity and Diversity and the School of Music.

The concert is free of charge and open to the public; no advance tickets or reservations are required. For more information about the program, or for disability accommodations, contact the Office for Equity and Diversity at oed@umn.edu or 612-624-0594. Visit z.umn.edu/MLK2015 for more information.

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES


The IU Soul Revue was founded in 1971, with ethnomusicologist Portia K. Maultsby appointed as the ensemble’s first director. For more than 40 years the “Revue” has wowed its local audience and audiences across the country with dynamic performances of timeless R&B, Soul, Funk, and contemporary Black popular music styles delivered by its commanding male and female vocal ensemble, powerful horn line, and tight rhythm section. The group makes annual appearances in schools, colleges and universities, nightclubs, and other venues. Revue has also opened for renowned artists, including The Emotions, James Brown, The Temptations, Con Funk Shun and Booker T. Jones. Several Soul Revue alumni have gone on to professional careers in the music industry, such as Isaiah Sanders, former keyboardist with Stevie Wonder and Michael Jackson; Crystal Taliefero, former backup singer and percussionist for Bruce Springsteen, John Mellencamp, and Billy Joel; Keith Mitchell and Kevon Edmonds of the group After Seven; Michael Burton, saxophonist for Tyler Perry, Jill Scott and Mary J. Blige; Lance Tolbert, bassist and keyboardist for Mariah Carey; James Strong, bassist and band leader for LL Cool J.
The U of M Carnaval world music ensemble, led by School of Music faculty member Scott Currie, explores the music of the African diaspora in the Americas, particularly the Brazilian samba/tropicalia and Cuban son/mambo traditions. The group has performed at the Whole, the Acadia Cafe, and Lloyd Ultan Recital Hall; in addition to its annual collaborations with Batucada do Norte in the MayDay parade.

G. Phillip Shoultz, III is a doctoral candidate in conducting at the University of Minnesota School of Music. He serves as director of music and arts to Good Samaritan United Methodist Church, conductor of the Minneapolis Youth Chorus Satellite Choir, an assistant director of Minnesota Chorale, and coordinator of ¡Cantaré! for VocalEssence. Recent engagements include travels to Germany for the Weimar Bach Academy and England for the C.S. Lewis Choral Institute in Oxford and Cambridge.

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