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## PRESS RELEASE

### Unity Heritage Festival & groundbreaking ceremony for the Unity Corner at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park

**WINTER PARK, FL, an internationally recognized, award winning city with multiple accredited agencies (December 27, 2023)** The City of Winter Park is proud to present the **22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Unity Heritage Festival** scheduled for **Sunday, January 14**, and **Monday, January 15, 2024**. This annual community festival will promote family heritage and raise funds for the Educational Fulfillment Fund to benefit local economically disadvantaged youth.

The heritage festival begins on **Sunday, January 14**, from **1 to 5 p.m.**, in [Shady Park](#) at Hannibal Square, located at the intersection of Pennsylvania and New England avenues. Special activities will include children's games, career booths, food and retail vendors, as well as job training/health literacy by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Nu Iota Omega Chapter. Sunday's entertainment will feature various gospel artists, along with mime and praise dance performances. Patrons are also encouraged to visit the [Hannibal Square Heritage Center's](#) current exhibit just across the street from Shady Park. The center pays tribute to the past, present and future contributions of Winter Park's historic African-American community.

The festival continues **Monday, January 15, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**, beginning at **9:15 a.m.**, as the city and Community Redevelopment Agency invite the community to a special **groundbreaking ceremony for the Unity Corner**, located on the northeast corner of Martin Luther King, Jr. Park at Denning Drive and Morse Boulevard. This will be the future home of the "Ripple," a larger than life-size, bronze statue of Dr. King. *Just as a single drop of water creates a ripple, so too does Dr. King's influence.* The community is invited to join the city in honoring the legacy of Dr. King at this ceremonial event.

The celebration continues in Shady Park from **10 a.m. to 5 p.m.** Winter Park city officials and community leaders will join in the day's impactful activities. These will include an official program at 11 a.m., kids' activities, food & retail vendors, career booths, job training/health literacy assistance, Zoo Mom Science, and blues & jazz bands featuring Jabari Clay and various artists. Special thanks to event sponsors including the Winter Park [Community Redevelopment Agency](#) and [Parks & Recreation Department](#), Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Nu Iota Omega Chapter and [Crealdé School of Art](#).

For more information regarding the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Unity Heritage Festival, please call [407-599-3397](tel:407-599-3397). ###

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