



BLACK MARRIAGE DAY

A CELEBRATION OF THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAMILY

FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 2012

Opening, Rotunda, 6 pm

- WELCOME (CARLA TRIPLETT, SEASON 7 CONTESTANT, NBC'S "THE BIGGEST LOSER")
- TOGETHER AS ONE, AN ENSEMBLE OF MARRIED COUPLES PERFORMING TO "THE ONLY ONE" BY AYIESHA WOODS (CHOREOGRAPHY BY SONDRA JACKSON, DIRECTOR, SPIRIT OF THE MOMENT)
- "MARRIAGE IS FOR US," KEYNOTE ADDRESS (JANICE AND TYRONE WINFREY, DETROIT CITY CLERK AND CHIEF OF STAFF, EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENT AUTHORITY OF MICHIGAN, RESPECTIVELY)



Reception

Photo/Essay Contest

- COUPLES WILL BE ABLE TO HAVE THEIR PHOTO TAKEN BY KENNETTE LAMAR OF ANNISTIQUE PHOTOGRAPHY. THEY CAN THEN SUBMIT THAT PHOTO ALONG WITH A FULLY FILLED-OUT CONTEST ESSAY FORM HIGHLIGHTING THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO A TEAM OF EXPERTS WHO WILL JUDGE A WINNING PAIR IN EACH CATEGORY:

Most Enduring - For a couple married at least 15 years and still passionate about one another **Overcomers** -- For a couple that has, or is, facing great hardship yet still staying together

Most Bountiful - For a couple that, together, has four (4) or more children (not to include blended marriages)

Against The Odds - For a couple currently facing hardship, yet staying together in spite of it all odds

Most Romantic Proposal - For an officially engaged couple (marriage date must be set, and location booked)

Couple of the Year - Taking into account such factors as how this couple met, how long they have been married, what they have overcome to be together; their enduring passion and the well-being/success of their children

**Winning couples will receive such prizes as a \$500 Meijer gift card; an overnight stay at Best Western Sterling Inn (site of the Indoor Water Park Recreation Center); a "Marriage Bootcamp" enrichment program hosted by Songs of Solomon Marriage Ministries; a photo session with Images & Moments Photography, a one-year subscription to BLAC Detroit magazine; complimentary fine dining and more. Contact annistiquephoto@gmail.com to inquire about purchasing images*



SATURDAY, MARCH, 24, 2012

Opening, General Motors Theater, 11 am

- IS IT WORTH IT? PANEL DISCUSSION/Q&A AMONG MARRIED COUPLES (FACILITATED BY RANDI MYLES, MIDDAY HOST AND ASSISTANT PROGRAM DIRECTOR, PRAISE 102.7, "DETROIT'S INSPIRATION STATION")

Breakout Sessions, Classrooms

A Sessions, 3 pm

- MARRIED WITH KIDS (C. PTOLEMY AND TOSHA PRUDEN, AUTHOR, BUSINESS OWNER AND PUBLIC SPEAKER, AND FORMER STAFFER FOR U.S. SENATOR SPENCER ABRAHAM)
- PILLOW TALK: COMMUNICATING WITH EASE (RON AND LASHUN FRANKLIN, BOARD PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY, RESPECTIVELY, MARRIAGE RESOURCE CENTER)
- BEFORE YOU SAY "I DO:" FOR COUPLES WITH MARRIAGE ON THE HORIZON (SHELITA WILLIAMS, AUTHOR, MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER AND GOALS COACH)

B Sessions, 4 pm

- YOURS, MINE, OURS AND OTHER BLENDED FAMILY DYNAMICS (CHRISTINA DIXON, VICE CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, MARRIAGE RESOURCE CENTER)
- MONEY AND MARRIAGE: MAKING IT WORK FOR YOU (EARHEL PARKER, AUTHOR, "FINANCIAL NUGGETS")
- ESSENTIAL LIVING FOR THE URBAN SINGLE (SABRINA JACKSON, PHD, FOUNDER, SABRINA JACKSON ENTERPRISES INC.)

Finale, Multipurpose Room, 5 pm

**Hosted by the Marriage Resource Center*

- STROLLING RECEPTION
- VOW RENEWAL CEREMONY (THE REV. STANLEY RAYFORD, PASTOR, RESTORATION FELLOWSHIP TABERNACLE)

➤ BALLROOM DANCING

➤ AWARDS - ANNOUNCE WINNERS OF PHOTO/ESSAY CONTEST

- DANCE OF LONGEVITY - ALL MARRIED COUPLES WILL START ON THE DANCE FLOOR AND, PERIODICALLY BEING ASKED FROM THOSE MARRIED THE LEAST AMOUNT OF TIME TO THOSE MARRIED LONGEST, WILL LEAVE THE FLOOR UNTIL THE LONGEST-MARRIED COUPLES ARE THE LAST DANCING

**Music and ballroom dancing instruction provided by MC Jae Sweeps and DJ Red of DetroitDJ.net*

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