



NEWS RELEASE

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Mayor Bill White and Council Member Ada Edwards To Unveil Martin Luther King, Jr. Statue

Mayor Bill White, Council Member Ada Edwards, the Hermann Park Conservancy and the Houston Parks and Recreation Department will unveil a bronze statue of Martin Luther King, Jr. on Sunday, December 9 at 3:00 p.m. at the Houston Garden Center in Hermann Park.

"We are thankful to Council Member Edwards and the Hermann Park Conservancy for their vision and hard work to bring this dream to reality," said Joe Turner, Director Houston Parks and Recreation Department. "Dr. King's statue will join the Mahatma Gandhi statue already in place at the Garden Center as a visible reminder to all who visit of their shared belief in nonviolence, community service and social justice."

The Hermann Park Conservancy and Council Member Ada Edwards teamed together to launch a special project to build a statue of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to be placed at the Garden Center in Hermann Park. Denver artist Ed Dwight was commissioned to design and create the statue. He has designed and installed over 35 major memorials across the nation. He's been recently commissioned to create the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial, for the National Mall in Washington. Other works have included the MLK Memorial in Denver, the Underground Railroad Memorial in Detroit, the Harold Washington Memorial Sculpture in Chicago's blues district and other permanent works on display in the Smithsonian.

The dedication is open to the public and speakers include Mayor Bill White and Council Member Ada Edwards. The Buffalo Soldiers Museum will present the colors and St. John's Downtown Choir will perform.

For information on the MLK Statue Installation or the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, call (713) 845-1135 or visit us online at www.houstonparks.org.