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Dream Keepers

Metro Choir Wows Black History Month Celebration

- [Plus](#), BOC serves up Soul Food and History at annual Exhibit and Luncheon.



(February 28, 2006) Choir Director Renee Willis conducts Metro Choir in a program that included Spirituals, Contemporary and Traditional Gospel Music. The fifth annual Metro Choir Black History Program, "Dream Keepers," drew standing room only crowds on Wednesday, February 22. Dramatization of a dialogue of Rosa Parks, by actress and singer Carrie Walker, guest soloists, praise dancers and congo drums gave this year's event a profound and special meaning. Black History Month events are sponsored by the agency's African American Employees Association (AAEA).



Metro's most senior employee Arthur Winston was honored during the program. At right, Mistress of

Ceremonies Dana Coffey, general manager of Metro South Bay, set the stage for a variety of performance and presentations. Deputy CEO John Catoe sent words of encouragement to "slow down long enough to appreciate and enjoy each other as we work at Metro. We are a diversified agency full of talents and gifts."



Featured speaker Gerald Francis talked about the importance of family: "We branch out but our family remains the roots and foundation of our ability to change the future." William "Bill" Satterfield hit home with his dramatization of Martin Luther King's speech, "I Have a Dream."



Guests Patryce Horne and Freddie Williams from the Civic Center Choir at the Hall of Administration and guest soloist Betty Gay Dillard join the Metro Choir for closing anthem "Lift Every Voice and Sing." Backdrop is an image similar to the bus where Rosa Parks staked her claim to a simple dignity for all mankind.



Praise dancer Victoria Collins from Monrovia Second Baptist Church, and guest soloist Sherri Bryant drew thunder from the standing room only audience.



Drummers Tony Martin and Doncosta Seawell kept the energy flowing. At right, Tahir Davis directs soloist Patryce Horne and Metro Choir in a performance of "Celebrate our History," a song he wrote.



TOS's Dietra Thompson, above, and Bonnie Bradford transform Bus Operations Control into Black History Month museum for BOC's annual Black History Month exhibit and luncheon.



Stan Casper, proprietor of Shauntay's Catering, dishes up mouth-watering dish of Soul Food for TOS Francisco Chavez. At right, exhibit includes Bonnie Bradford's collection of African figurines.

Photos by Gayle Anderson