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8th Annual Creating Opportunity Conference Offers A Wealth of Business Potential, Oct. 25-27 in Atlanta

Get Informed, Get Inspired, Get Involved in Three Days of Possibilities

ATLANTA (October 17, 2007) – Creating Opportunity: Get Informed, Get Inspired, Get Involved is the theme for the 8th Annual Creating Opportunity Conference in Atlanta, to be held in Atlanta Oct. 25-27 and hosted by the Rainbow PUSH Coalition, Citizenship Education Fund and Rev. Jesse L. Jackson Sr., founder and President of the Rainbow PUSH Coalition.

Rich in business prospects and potential, Creating Opportunity opens Friday, October 25, at the Atlanta Life building, 100 Auburn Ave., and continues Saturday and Sunday, October 26 and 27, at the Hyatt Regency Downtown, Peachtree Street, Atlanta.

“Saturday Morning Forum,” Rev. Jackson’s weekly television program, will be broadcast internationally at 10 a.m. Saturday from historic Ebenezer Baptist Church on Auburn Avenue.

A stellar list of political leaders scheduled to appear during Creating Opportunity includes Democratic U.S. Reps. John Conyers of Michigan, Danny Davis of Illinois and Hank Johnson of Georgia; DeKalb County Commissioner Lee May; Georgia Sens. Gail Davenport, Emmanuel Jones, Robert Ford and Vincent Fort; Georgia Reps. Randall Mangham and Dave Mack; Georgia Labor Commissioner Michael L. Thurmond, and Charleston, S.C., Councilman Wendell Gilliard.

From the arenas of education and faith, Creating Opportunity will feature Dr. Julianne Malveaux, President of Bennett College for Women, and Bishops Paul Morton and William P. Deveaux.

“The conference agenda is packed with features that will inform and inspire you,” Rev. Jackson said, “including a Town Hall Meeting on the economics of the criminal justice system, the latest information on mortgage foreclosure, the role of faith in achieving social justice, and an update on the ongoing effort to promote dignity and decency in media.”

CREATING OPPORTUNITY

Business-oriented workshops will be offered on topics including writing a viable business plan, gaining access to capital, assuring supplier diversity, and conducting mergers and acquisitions. Representatives from Fortune 500 corporations – such as The Home Depot, Southern Company, Compucredit, SunTrust Bank, UPS, Novartis, Kodak, Nationwide and Blue Cross-Blue Shield -- will be present to explain how businesses may access lucrative contracts with corporations. A career fair will be open to those seeking employment.

The three-day conference will also host the Keep Hope Alive Gala Friday evening, with a performance by chart-topping artist Musiq Soul Child. Receiving awards during the gala will be Tony Award-nominated actress Sheryl Lee Ralph, receiving the C. Delores Tucker Woman of Dignity Award; “Rolling Out” magazine publisher Munson Steed, receiving the Journalist of the Year Award; and Melanie Few, Super Bowl Gospel Celebration founder, and Terance Mathis, former Atlanta Falcons star wide receiver, honored with the Sports Person of the Year Award.

“We must be informed, inspired and involved to gain the opportunities that we seek and create the world we want to live in,” says Janice Mathis, Esq., Vice President and Executive Director of Rainbow PUSH and Citizenship Education Fund Peachtree Street Project.

The Rainbow PUSH Coalition is a progressive organization protecting, defending and expanding civil rights to improve economic and educational opportunity. The organization is headquartered at 930 E. 50th St. in Chicago. To learn more about the RainbowPUSH Coalition, please visit www.rainbowpush.org, or telephone (773) 373-3366. For more information about the Peachtree Street Project and the Create Opportunity Conference, please call the number listed above.