

PALM BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Feb. 10, 2005

MEDIA ALERT

PBCC to Dedicate Lake Worth Fountain Courtyard in Honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. – January 13

**Guest Speaker at Celebration Breakfast is Xernona Clayton,
Former Co-worker and Biographer of Civil Rights Champion**

Five Community Leadership Awards Also Will Be Presented

WHAT:

As part of its sixth annual Breakfast Celebration of the birth of **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**, **Palm Beach Community College** will rename the fountain courtyard of its Lake Worth campus in honor of the slain civil rights pioneer. Hundreds of PBCC students, and employees, community leaders and civil rights activists have been invited to attend the free breakfast, which will be themed "Together in Celebration" and will include the unveiling of a nine-foot monument and plaque. In addition, four local community leaders and one major organization will be given Leadership Awards from PBCC at the event.

WHEN:

Thursday, January 13 -- 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.

(The breakfast starts at 7:30; the guest speaker is scheduled for approximately 8:15; the monument dedication will be around 8:45.)

WHERE:

PBCC, 4200 Congress Ave., Lake Worth
Fountain Courtyard, just east of the Administration Building

WHO:

Keynote speaker will be **Xernona Clayton**, a former co-worker of Dr. King at the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in Atlanta, and co-author with her late husband, Ed Clayton, of "The Peaceful Warrior," a biography of the civil rights crusader. For more than 25 years, Ms. Clayton has been employed at Turner Broadcasting

System, where she created and serves as executive producer for the network's Trumpet Awards, a prestigious televised event highlighting African-American accomplishments and contributions.

As part of the breakfast, PBCC present the recipients of this year's Community Leadership Awards, including:

+ **Dr. Joseph DePaolo**, a full-time education professor at PBCC in Palm Beach Gardens, where he has established a partnership program with high-risk elementary schools in Riviera Beach.

+ **Evelyn R. Johnson**, a 36 year veteran of the School District of Palm Beach County who has been primarily focused on helping migrant children get settled into the school system and get connected, along with their families, to available health and social services.

+ **Bobbi A. Marsh**, who has been a part of PBCC's Crossroads program for displaced homemakers since 1985, first as a participant, later as a seminar instructor and now as program manager.

+ **Samuel Bruce McDonald**, who spent more than 30 years working for the School District of Palm Beach County as a classroom teacher, assistant principal, principal and South County administrator before retiring in 1984. During his tenure, he was appointed the county's first African-American principal of a predominantly white school, Boca Raton Junior High School (now Boca Raton Middle School). He also served as interim president and chief executive officer of the Urban League of Palm Beach County and interim executive director of Hope House of the Palm Beaches, Inc.

Dr. Maria M. Vallejo, provost of PBCC at Lake Worth, will make opening remarks, and **Dr. Celeste Beck**, provost of PBCC at Boca Raton, will serve as MC. **Dr. Dennis Gallon**, president of PBCC, and **James L. Watt**, chairperson of the District Board of Trustees, will unveil the monument.

CONTACT:

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