



Media Alert

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Interdenominational Theological Center CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY DURING ANNUAL CHARTER DAY AND COSTEN AWARDS Dinner

ATLANTA (March 1, 2008) – The Interdenominational Theological Center is poised to present its annual Charter Day and James H. Costen Awards Dinner. The event is particularly special this year as it celebrates the institution's 50th year as the world's premier academy for afro-centric theological study. The event is scheduled for April 25, 2005 at 6 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Atlanta.

Persons are awarded for excellence in several areas of achievement. The following persons were nominated, selected, and will be honored on April 25, 2008 in the following categories:

- ◆ Education, David Satcher, M.D., Ph.D., Director, Center of Excellence on Health Disparities and Poussaint-Satcher-Cosby Chair in Mental Health, Morehouse School of Medicine. Satcher is the 16th Surgeon General of the United States;
- ◆ Civic and Community Affairs, Distinguished Actor of Stage and Screen, Mr. Danny Glover;
- ◆ Government, the Honorable C. Jack Ellis, Former Mayor of Macon, GA;
- ◆ Business, Ms. Scarlet Pressley Brown, General Manager of Community Affairs at Delta Air Lines and Vice President of the Delta Air Lines Foundation, and
- ◆ Religion, the Distinguished Dean of Preachers, Dr. Gardner C. Taylor Pastor Emeritus of Concord Missionary Baptist Church, New York, NY.
- ◆ The *Travelin' Shoes* award is given to an unsung hero or heroine. This year's honoree is Mrs. Sallie Pope Howard, Advertising and Operations Manager of the Atlanta Inquirer Newspaper.

ITC is pleased to recognize three other outstanding leaders in the community with special ties to the institution – they are alumni. Two will receive the Emerging Leaders Award – The Rev. B. Lance Eden and Rev. Valerie Green..

Dr. Charles R. Stith, also an alumnus of ITC's Gammon Theological Seminary, the United Methodist Church affiliate, will receive the President's Award.

The 50th Charter Day and 11th Annual James H. Costen Awards Banquet begins with a Silent

Auction and Reception at 6 p.m., Friday April 25, 2008, Hyatt Regency Hotel. Tickets are \$150 per person.

The event is sponsored by the Office of Institutional Advancement, the fundraising component of the ITC and represents the department's signature event for garnering non-restricted funds to underwrite institutional operations. Among the major contributors for this year's celebration are Georgia Power Company, The Coca-Cola Company, Delta Airlines and Georgia Pacific. The public is invited to attend. For further information, call 404-527-7719.

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Interdenominational Theological Center:

Chartered in 1958, the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) is a Christian, graduate professional school of theology specializing in the education of women and men for ministry and service in the African American Church and the world community. The institutional consortium is comprised of six denominational seminaries: Morehouse School of Religion, Gammon Theological Seminary, Turner Theological Seminary, Phillips School of Theology, Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary, and Charles H. Mason Theological Seminary.

ITC also welcomes into its enrollment students of denominations other than those of its six constituent denominations through the at-large designation of The Harry V. Richardson Fellowship and the Lutheran Theological Center. The institution's broadly pluralistic and ecumenical environment is maintained by virtue of its international, ethnically and racially diverse Board of Trustees, faculty, staff, and student body.

Located in Atlanta, Georgia, ITC is a member of the United Negro College Fund, and the Atlanta Regional Consortium for Higher Education (ARCHE), and is fully accredited by the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada (ATS) and the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).