



For immediate release

**REV. JESSE JACKSON AND FANTASIA ON HAND FOR JUNETEENTH TELETHON
TO BENEFIT INTERNATIONAL CIVIL RIGHTS CENTER & MUSEUM**

GREENSBORO, N.C., (June 7, 2013)—The International Civil Rights Center & Museum (ICRCM) will serve as the venue for a “Juneteenth” Telethon and Radio-thon on Wednesday, June 19, 2013, from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the lobby, 134 South Elm Street, downtown Greensboro. On hand for this fundraising event will be noted civil rights icon Rev. Jesse Jackson and Grammy award winning vocalist Fantasia. The legendary Franklin McCain, one of the A&T Four who led a sit-in protest against the segregated lunch counter facility at the F.W. Woolworth store in 1960 will also be present. The hosts for the fundraising freedom celebration—slated for simultaneous broadcasts on WFMY-TV 2 and WQMG—will be veteran television journalists Sandra Hughes and Lee Kinard.

“Juneteenth”—June 19, 1865—is the date when the last enslaved men, women, and children in Texas learned about their emancipation from bondage. This was more than two months after the end of the Civil War, and more than two and one-half years since President Abraham Lincoln’s “Emancipation Proclamation” of January 1, 1863. While the original celebrations took root in Texas, today “Juneteenth” observances are held across the United States to celebrate the ultimate civil right—freedom.

On June 6, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Guilford issued a resolution encouraging citizens to commemorate Juneteenth with ICRCM. Commissioner Bruce Davis, reading from the resolution, reminded: “when we commemorate those who fought for freedom, we affirm our collective belief in the values of life, liberty, and equal protection under the law for all those desiring a more just and humane society.”

The “Juneteenth” Telethon and Radio-thon will raise funds to launch ICRCM’s new education initiative, “Building a Better America through Core Democratic Values,” that will bring 4th, 5th, 8th, and 11th grade students from across the state to the Museum to explore the significance of equal protection under the law, justice, liberty, and other treasured concepts that served as foundations in the quest for civil rights.

For more information please contact ICRCM by telephone at (336)274-9199 ext 235.

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