



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF CHICAGO

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**CITY OF CHICAGO PAYS TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.**

*27<sup>th</sup> Annual Interfaith Breakfast Honors Chicagoan Timuel D. Black and Congressman John Lewis for their Lifetime of Service to Civil Rights*

This morning, Mayor Rahm Emanuel was joined by Governor Pat Quinn and Senator Dick Durbin at the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Interfaith Breakfast to honor and celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

“There is much to celebrate on this Martin Luther King Day, but we cannot be satisfied with past successes, but must remember our own obligation to carry Dr. King’s mission forward,” said Mayor Emanuel. “Whether we are fighting for strong schools or safer streets, we must begin, as Dr. King began, with the belief ‘that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word.’”

Dr. King’s life work represented a steadfast commitment to ensuring and advancing equality for all and the City of Chicago is honoring these ideals by recognizing Timuel D. Black, Jr. as the inaugural recipient of the *City of Chicago Champion of Freedom Award* for his work as an educator, activist and community leader in the Civil Rights movement.

Civil Rights hero and Congressman John Lewis of Georgia served as keynote speaker, reflecting upon his time as young man marching alongside Dr. King and the need to continue to champion the struggle of human rights in the United States, whether in Congress or in our communities.

Each year the City of Chicago hosts a ceremony and breakfast to reflect on the accomplishments of Dr. King and acknowledge his profound impact upon American history.

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**Photo Caption:** Mayor Emanuel honors Civil Rights activist and recipient of the *City of Chicago Champion of Freedom Award* Timuel D. Black

**Photo Credit:** Brooke Collins - City of Chicago

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