



PERFORMING AND FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

JUNE 26, 2009

DEAR FRIENDS,

AS DIRECTOR OF THEATRE AT FAYETTEVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY, IT HAS BEEN MY PRIVILEGE AND RESPONSIBILITY EACH JANUARY TO COORDINATE THE ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION. MY FIRST YEAR AT FSU, IN 2001, I DISCOVERED STEPHON FERGUSON, A TRULY A GIFTED ARTIST AND A LIVING TRIBUTE TO ONE OF THE MOST NOTED MEN IN HISTORY. SINCE THAT FIRST PERFORMANCE, I HAVE USED STEPHON'S TALENTS TIME AND AGAIN TO BRING ALIVE THAT ELEMENT OF HISTORY FOR BOTH FSU STUDENTS AND INTERESTED COMMUNITY MEMBERS.

I HAVE KNOWN STEPHON FERGUSON NOW FOR SEVERAL YEARS AS BOTH AN MLK IMPERSONATOR AND AS A FRIEND. I CAN SAY WITHOUT HESITATION THAT HIS RENDITION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. IS UNCANNILY ACCURATE. STEPHON HAS DEDICATED TREMENDOUS TIME AND EFFORT INTO PERFECTING HIS PERSONA AS MLK AND IN COMMITTING TO MEMORY MANY OF THE IMPASSIONED AND BELOVED SPEECHES HE DELIVERED OVER THE YEARS. CLOSE YOUR EYES AND MERELY HEAR THE VOICE—YOU WOULD BELIEVE THAT THE REVEREND KING WERE STANDING RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU.

I CANNOT IMAGINE CELEBRATING MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. IN ANY WAY WITHOUT STEPHON FERGUSON'S BEING A PART OF THAT CELEBRATION. HE IS A DYNAMIC SPEAKER AND A SEASONED PROFESSIONAL PERFORMER WHO BRINGS MLK TO LIGHT AND TO LIFE. HATS OFF TO HIM FOR HIS CONTINUED STELLAR WORK!

*Phoebe Hall*

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