



# County of Fairfax, Virginia

## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **THREE COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS WINNERS ANNOUNCED FOR 2009 RESTON DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**

RESTON, VA — The 2009 Reston Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration Planning Committee named three recipients for its 2008 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Service Award. The awards are based on contributions to the community in support of tolerance and equal opportunities, efforts that reduce poverty, and promotion of non-violence and conflict resolution. The winners will be presented with a commemorative plaque to congratulate them on their exemplary work at the annual MLK Celebration event on Monday, January 19th at the Reston Community Center Hunters Woods. The commemorative program is from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. The 2008 winners are as follows:

- In the category of “Young Adult”, this year’s recipient is **Shirley Guetio** for her many volunteer efforts to support understanding between people of various ethnic backgrounds, religious perspectives and cultural roots as well as her work as an “artist ambassador” for her school, her family and her own generous and loving world view.
- In the category of “Adult”, **Alvarez LeCesne** for his tireless work to provide greater opportunities for less privileged young people to experience the best educational opportunities possible as executive director of the Emerging Scholars Program, his ongoing support of many of Reston’s most important community health initiatives and the organizations dedicated to promoting Reston values of inclusion and celebrating diversity.
- In the category of “Business/Organization”, this year’s recipient is **The Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce**. The Chamber exemplifies Dr. King's legacies in its commitment to supporting the entire community in partnership with Reston Interfaith through the Best of Reston Awards, partnering with RCC in the Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive, sponsoring South Lakes High School Ethics Day, its Business Incubator Program and many other initiatives that provide caring for the least fortunate in our community and for support for the aspirations of all to be successful in their character and economic development.

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To request this information in an alternate format, call BeBe Nguyen.

**Reston Community Center**  
2310 Colts Neck Road  
Reston, Virginia 20191  
[www.restoncommunitycenter.com](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com)



“This year’s awardees personify the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in that they represent people and an organization that look for ways to contribute to Reston’s heritage of inclusion and kindness. Each also personifies the great Reston attribute of seeking and building excellence in all we undertake, especially as we look for ways we can build community through our schools and businesses,” said Leila Gordon, RCC Executive Director.

“The Reston Celebration is made very personal and inspiring by celebrating people right here who do so much for us,” offers the 2009 Planning Committee Chair, Bea Malone. “We always have a difficult time selecting from many deserving candidates.”

Reston’s 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration weekend is co-sponsored by the Reston Community Center, Martin Luther King, Jr. Christian Church, Office of Fairfax County Supervisor Cathy Hudgins, Reston Community Orchestra, Reston Interfaith, the Northern Virginia Ethical Society, along with the support of many other religious and civic organizations, business groups, and schools.

Visit our website at [www.restoncommunitycenter.com](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com) for more details on the weekend celebration, or contact Kevin Danaher, Community Events Director, at 703-390-6166.

#### About the Reston Community Center

Each year RCC offers more than 1,800 positive, self-development experiences that enhance the quality of life for all people living and working in Reston. RCC provides a wide range of programs in arts, aquatics, enrichment and life-long learning. We also create and sustain community traditions through special events, outreach activities and facility rentals. To find the programs or events that are right for you, visit [www.restoncommunitycenter.com](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com) or call 703-476-4500.

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Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all county programs, services and activities. Reasonable accommodations will be provided upon request. For further information, contact the Reston Community Center at (703) 476-4500, Virginia Relay (800) 828-1120 (TTY) or visit the website at <http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com>. The Reston Community Center is located at 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston, VA 20191. The Reston Community Center is completely accessible to persons with disabilities and will provide reasonable accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

**So Close to You. So Much to Do.™**

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