



Media only: Marcia Baird Burris (202) 633-4876; (202) 320-1735

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Media Web site: <http://newsdesk.si.edu>; <http://anacostia.si.edu>

Media Advisory

WHAT: Media opportunity for Smithsonian's Anacostia Community Museum 25th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Program featuring a special lecture by Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie, the first female bishop in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. The program includes musical performances by Afro Blue, Howard University's premier jazz vocal ensemble.

WHEN: Thursday, Jan. 21
6–6:30 p.m.: Media opportunity (executive conference room)
7–9:30 p.m.: Program (auditorium)

WHERE: Baird Auditorium, National Museum of Natural History
10th Street and Constitution Avenue N.W.
Use Constitution Avenue entrance.

WHO: Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie, presiding prelate, 13th Episcopal District, African Methodist Episcopal Church
Camille Giraud Akeju, director, Anacostia Community Museum

The first female to hold the highest position in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie is a highly regarded leader across all denominations in the religious community. In 2009, President Barack Obama appointed her to a one-year term on the Advisory Council for the White House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships.

The bishop has been recognized by *Ebony Magazine* as among the “Top 150 Most Influential and Powerful Blacks in America.” Her lecture topic for this event is “Defining Moments: Maximizing Life’s Milestones.”

Interested media should RSVP to (202) 633-4876. Evening phone number for the day of the event: (202) 320-1735.

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