



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**THE EMMETT TILL LEGACY FOUNDATION™ TO HONOR NAMESAKE
DURING 55TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHICAGO TEEN'S MURDER**

**FOUNDATION HOLDS FUNDRAISING GALA TO BE ATTENDED BY CONGRESSMEN,
ENTERTAINERS, AND NEWSMAKERS**

MINNEAPOLIS – (August 9, 2010) [The Emmett Till Legacy Foundation™](#) (ETLF) Board of Directors will present “A Time of Reflection and Remembrance” fundraising gala in Chicago, Illinois on August 27th, 2010 commemorating the 55th anniversary of the slain Chicago teen, Emmett Till.

WHAT: “A Time of Reflection and Remembrance” features “Music for Emmett,” a charitable benefit with a red-carpet welcoming for special invited attendees of Honorary and Advisory Ambassadors, celebrity supporters, community and civic leaders, activists, philanthropists and volunteers. The gala includes a museum tour, reception, live entertainment featuring the talented songstress **Sheila Raye Charles**-daughter of the legendary Ray Charles and others, a silent and live auction featuring art, jewelry, sought memorabilia from around the country and other items, while launching the “[Never Again](#)” national movement and pledge.

WHO: Invited Guests to include Author, Cousin and Eyewitness to the kidnapping of Emmett Till, **Simeon Wright**; Honorary Ambassadors: Author and syndicated talk show host **Tavis Smiley**; former Young and the Restless actress **Victoria Rowell**; Comedian, **Sinbad**; Illinois Congressman **Jesse Jackson, Jr.**; Minnesota Congressman **Keith Ellison**; National Urban League CEO **Marc Morial**; President of Bennett College **Dr. Julianne Malveaux**; Super Bowl Champion and current NFL player **Fred Robbins**; Former NBA player **Troy Hudson**; NFL player **Danny Clark**; Little Rock Nine **Ernest Green**; Ambassador **Andrew Young**; President National Urban League Young Professionals **Barton Taylor**; President Rainbow Push **Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr.** and more.

WHEN: Friday, August 27, 2010 7-10 p.m.
Red Carpet & Media: 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Event Photo opportunities: 6:30 p.m. - conclusion

WHERE: Smart Museum of Art at The University of Chicago
5550 S. Greenwood Avenue Chicago, IL 60637 [Map and directions](#)

TV Journalist and Honorary Ambassador **Dara McIntosh** will be the Mistress of Ceremonies for the 55th anniversary gala. She will unveil video presentations from supporters of the historic event and read remarks for the family of Emmett Till.

IT'S AN EMMETT TILL WEEKEND: In addition to the benefit gala, ETLF will support First Lady Michelle Obama's “Let's Move!” initiative and launch the Never Again Movement and Pledge at a community gathering on Saturday August 28th, 2010 and on the same day, the actual day of Emmett Till's lynching, the Foundation will support the Emmett Till Commemoration Initiatives at the “[Hands Across Emmett Till Road](#)” (71st street and Wentworth) on Chicago's South Side from 1-3:30 p.m. The ETLF Time of Reflection and Remembrance weekend concludes on Sunday afternoon, August 29th, 2010 with a graveside wreath ceremony at Burr Oak Cemetery, 4400 W. 127th Street, Alsip, IL.



About the Emmett Till Legacy Foundation:

The Emmett Till Legacy Foundation (ETLF) is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization, committed to “creating a legacy of hope” offering programming; opportunities and scholarships that equip inspire and empower youth, women and families for a better future. Founded in 2005, ETLF dedicates its on-going efforts to turn the painful part of our history into a positive future, by helping youth and others reach their fullest potential.

Till's untimely death at the age of 14, his mothers choice for an open casket funeral and the acquittal of the confessed murders sparked the Civil Rights movement. August 28, the date of Till's murder, is also the date of the 1963 March on Washington and the day the America's 44th President of the United States, Barack Obama, accepted his Commander-in-chief nomination at the 2008 Democratic National Convention.

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