Virginіа Civil Rights Memorial
State Capitol
Dedication Celebration
July 21, 2008
PROGRAM
Monday, July 21, 2008 10:30 a.m.

Instrumental Music

Presentation of Colors
Franklin Military Academy Color Guard
accompanied by Fort Lee Brass Quintet

National Anthem
Carlton Blount accompanied by Russell Wilson

Welcome & Greetings
Judith C. Anderson, Chair, Capitol Square
Civil Rights Memorial Foundation
The Honorable Thomas K. Norment, Jr.
Representing the Lieutenant Governor
The Honorable William J. Howell
Speaker of the House of Delegates
The Honorable Dwight Jones, Chairman
Virginia Legislative Black Caucus

Poetic Reading
Nikki Giovanni
Virginia Civil Rights Memorial Honorary Co-Chair
Renowned Poet, Activist and Distinguished Professor
at Virginia Tech

Historical Significance
Lisa Collis, Former First Lady of Virginia
Julian Bond, Virginia Civil Rights Memorial
Honorary Co-Chair, NAACP Chairman

Acknowledgement of Special Guests &
Introduction of the Governor
The Honorable Viola O. Baskerville
Secretary of Administration

Unveiling
The Honorable Timothy M. Kaine
Assisted by:
Blair E. Underwood
Virginia Civil Rights Memorial Honorary Co-Chair
Actor, Producer and Author
Moton School Representatives, Family Members
Representing Honorees, NAACP Leaders
Civil Rights Commission Members, Civil Rights
Foundation Members
Members of the Virginia General Assembly and
Elected Officials
Interfaith Religious Leaders, Students of
Prince Edward County
Civil Rights Champions & Trailblazers

Musical Selection
“We Shall Overcome”
Friends Association for Children
Hand Bell Ensemble

Conclusion & Recessional Music
Richmond Boys Choir and Carlton Blount
accompanied by Russell Wilson

Arts Reception & Jazz Combo
immediately following in Patrick Henry Building
security check required

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE
On April 23, 1951, 16-year-old Barbara Johns and several fellow students led a strike to protest the deplorable conditions at their racially segregated Prince Edward County school. The Rev. L. Francis Griffin united parents in support of the strike and encouraged the students to contact NAACP attorneys Oliver Hill, Sr. and Spottswood Robinson, III. The lawsuit that followed was brought before the U.S. Supreme Court and joined with four other cases as Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas (1954), in which the Court ruled that racially separate educational systems are inherently unequal and unconstitutional. The Virginia Civil Rights Memorial is dedicated to these Virginians and countless others who courageously fought for the principles upon which the nation and this Commonwealth were founded.
The Capitol Square Civil Rights Memorial Foundation would like to thank the following corporations, foundations, organizations, and individuals for their generous support.

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The Family of Barbara Rose Johns --
In Loving Memory of Barbara
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In Memory of My Brother,
Michael L. Gee
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“Micki” Zorn

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