

For Immediate Release

Contact: Courtney McCall
(314) 340-3391
mccallc@hssu.edu

**Harris-Stowe Commemorates 50th Anniversary of the March on Washington
During 2013 Welcome Week Activities**

ST. LOUIS, MO (August 22, 2013) – As citizens across the country converge on August 28, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the 1963 March on Washington – where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his legendary “I Have a Dream” speech – Harris-Stowe State University along with Missouri State Representative Michael Butler and other area legislators and community leaders will welcome back students for the fall semester by celebrating this historic event in the Emerson Performance Center at 7 p.m.

Dr. King’s “I Have a Dream” speech was a defining moment of the American Civil Rights Movement. His speech, delivered from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial during the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom to more than 250,000 civil rights supporters, called for an end to racism in the United States.

“We are looking forward to hosting this event on our campus, and exposing our new freshmen class and returning students to community leaders who, on a daily basis, work to preserve Dr. King’s legacy,” said HSSU Interim President Constance Gully, who also chairs the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. State Celebration Commission of Missouri. “Dr. King’s words were historic that day in Washington, and we’re hoping to emphasize what an important event that was in America to our students.”

Rev. Earl Nance, Jr., pastor of Greater Mt. Carmel Baptist Church and member of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. State Celebration Commission of Missouri, will serve as the keynote speaker. Admission is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served and music will be provided by the HSSU Don and Heide Wolff Jazz Institute.

For more information or questions about this event please call (314) 340-3381.

Harris-Stowe State University, located in midtown St. Louis, is a four-year institution that offers 15 degree programs in the areas of Accounting, Business Administration, Biology, Criminal Justice, Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Health Care Management, Hospitality and Tourism Management, Information Sciences and Computer Technology, Mathematics, Middle School Education, Educational Studies, Professional Interdisciplinary Studies, Secondary Education and Urban Affairs. Ranked by *U.S. News* as one of America’s Best Colleges in the Midwest, the university, which has been in existence for more than 150 years, offers the most affordable bachelor’s degree in the state of Missouri. HSSU is home of the Don and Heide Wolff Jazz Institute.

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