

## Jubilee Ringers Perform at the Annual Luncheon of the Philadelphia Martin Luther King Jr. Association for Nonviolence, Inc



Pictured with the Jubilee Ringers are Dr. William Tucker, President of the Philadelphia MLK Jr. Association for Nonviolence, Inc. Joye Nottage (far right) the Association's Director, Louise Moss - Fortune, MLK Association Board member, and Drum Major Honorees, Dr. Joshua Feldstein, Former President, Delaware Valley College; Charisse Lillie-Vice President, Comcast Corporation and President, Comcast Foundation; Dean Weitzman, Esq., Managing Partner, Silvers, Langsam & Weitzman; Jill M. Michal, President & CEO, United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey; and a Representative from the South African government who accepted the award posthumously for Nelson Mandela.

In 1984, one year after the MLK Jr. holiday was enacted, Coretta Scott King requested that there be a symbolic ringing of the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia, at 12:00 noon, as bells ring simultaneously around the world as a symbol of freedom, justice and equity. The Philadelphia Martin Luther King Association for Nonviolence, Inc, the only affiliate commissioned by Mrs. King of the Martin Luther King Center for Nonviolent Social Change, Inc. in Atlanta, Georgia, was bestowed the honor of hosting and sponsoring the event under the leadership of the late Dr. C. Delores Tucker. The historic list of Drum Major honorees and national bell ringers for the ceremony includes Coretta Scott King, Rosa Park, Ossie Davis, Cicely Tyson, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Colin Powell to name a few.

The King Association continues to honor this tradition each year. The Jubilee Ringers rang simultaneously at the luncheon venue with the symbolic tapping of the Liberty Bell. After the symbolic ringing, they welcomed dignitaries such as Philadelphia Mayor, Michael Nutter and Pennsylvania State Senator Robert Casey and the Drum Major honorees by ringing "Roll Jordan Roll" and "Glory Train." At the conclusion of the ceremony they rang as their director, Rachel Merrill led the audience in singing "We Shall Overcome" The mission of Jubilee Music Enrichment is to cultivate young leaders through the discipline of music training. It was an honor for the Jubilee Ringers to be a part of this prestigious event to witness and learn about the achievements of our great leaders, Drum Majors, who set an inspiring example for them to follow.



Mannerly, dignified, young leaders eating lunch at the Annual Philadelphia Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolence Luncheon. An ensemble of Jubilee Ringers welcomed dignitaries as they rang Roll Jordan Roll, and Glory Train. At the end of the program they rang as their director led the audience in We Shall Overcome.