



PRESS RELEASE

Leadership for a Changing America

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Angela Perry, Director of Communications

212.730.1700 or 917.488.8396

aperry@nuf.org

NATIONAL URBAN FELLOWS HOLD 38TH ANNUAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
"LEADERSHIP FOR A CHANGING AMERICA"
IN MINNEAPOLIS, MN

LOCAL AND NATIONAL LEADERSHIP DIVERSITY EXPERTS TO ADDRESS CHANGING
LEADERSHIP NEEDS OF THE NATION

Speakers Include St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman, Minnesota State Legislators Mee Moua, and Carlos Mariani, Minnesota Science Museum President Dr. Eric Jolly, and New York Lieutenant Governor David A. Paterson

New York, N.Y. (January 14, 2008) -- National Urban Fellows will hold its 38th Annual Leadership Conference on January 17 – 18, 2008, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The Conference entitled *Leadership for a Changing America* will feature top multicultural leaders and diversity leadership experts who will examine the socio-political and economic impact of the changing complexion of America.

Scheduled plenary sessions on Thursday, January 17, 2008, will assemble to examine: *The Changing Demographics of America*, with **Dr. Ryan Smith, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Baruch College, New York City**; *Health Disparities* with **Dr. Patricia Walker, MD, Health Partners Center for International Health**; the *Impact of Government and Political Power*, with the **Hon Harvey Johnson, Jr. former Mayor of Jackson, Mississippi**, and *Labor and the Future of America* with **Dennis Rivera, Chairman of Service Employees International Union Healthcare**. Additional leadership highlights scheduled for Thursday include, a keynote luncheon speech by the **Honorable Mee Moua, Minnesota State Senator**.

Friday, January 18, 2008 begins with a keynote breakfast speech by **Jeff Johnson socio-political activist** and executive producer for BET who will address Leadership and Social Justice. Minnesota State **Representative Carlos Mariani** will offer luncheon remarks, followed by a keynote by New York **Lieutenant Governor, Hon. David A. Paterson** who will address Public policy leadership.

Public policy forums continue throughout Friday afternoon with sessions featuring noted change agents including: **H. James Dallas**, Senior V.P. and Chief Information Officer, Medtronic who will discuss *Corporate Leadership*, **Sean Kershaw**, President of the Citizens

League who will explore *Civic Participation*, and **Ronnie Brooks**, Director of Amherst Wilder Foundation Center for Communities, who will examine *Leadership Relationships*.

Paula Gavin, President of National Urban Fellows said, "We are pleased to bring our 38th Annual Leadership Conference to the Twin Cities, and grateful to a wonderful host committee and our sponsors who share our commitment to diverse leadership, and who have welcomed us to this great city."

The Host Committee for the 38th Annual Leadership Conference includes: **Keith Halleland, Chairman**, Halleland Lewis Nilan & Johnson; **Elsa Vega Pérez, Co-Chair**, and Member of the Board of Directors, National Urban Fellows; **Gary L. Cunningham**, Northwest Area Foundation; **David D. Etwiler**, The Medtronic Foundation and Member of the Board of Directors, National Urban Fellows; **Frank Forsberg**, Greater Twin Cities United Way; **Luz Maria Frias, Esq.**, Office of the Mayor; **Ellen Luger**, General Mills; **Sarah Lutman**, Minnesota Public Radio; **Trudy Moloney**, City of St. Paul; **Mike Newman**, Travelers Foundation; **John Pacheco**, Xcel Energy Foundation; **Jonathan Palmer**, formerly of the Minneapolis Empowerment Zone; **Mary Pickard**, Opus Philanthropy Group and **Sandra L. Vargas**, Minneapolis Foundation.

Sponsors of the 38th Annual Leadership Conference are Best Buy, General Mills, Greater Twin Cities United Way, Halleland Lewis Nilan & Johnson, Medtronic, Minneapolis Empowerment Zone, The Minneapolis Foundation, Northwest Area Foundation, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, The Saint Paul Foundation, Target, Travelers, United Health Group and Xcel Energy Corporate Citizenship Foundation.

About National Urban Fellows

National Urban Fellows was founded in 1969 in response to women and men of color who have historically faced challenges in their advancement to high level management and who more than ever are entitled and deserving of leadership. Forty years later, National Urban Fellows remains one of the country's foremost leadership development organizations and the major advocate of diverse national leaders, prompting the imperative to achieve accomplished and courageous leadership diversity in our nation, in pursuit of social justice.

For more information visit www.nuf.org

###

