

“...[G]enuine brotherhood and peace is more precious than diamonds or silver or gold...”  
—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: Nobel Peace Prize Acceptance Speech, 12/10/64



In Association With



**HOLMAN**  
united methodist church

Presents

**The 4th ANNUAL JCWWP BENEFIT**  
**“Seeds of Peace: Something Inside So Strong”**

**Keynote Speaker**

**Dr. Maya Soetoro-Ng**



Spark M. Matsunaga Institute for  
Peace & Conflict Resolution

**Director**

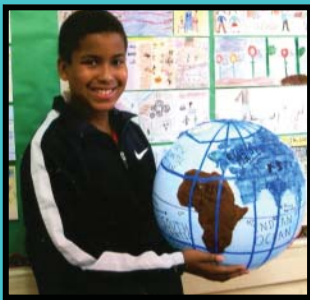
**Saturday, February 25, 2017**

**6:00 pm**

**Holman United Methodist Church | Los Angeles, CA**

*J. Carr*  
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Background art is by Justin Carr  
“Turquoise Swirls” in acrylic



# JUSTIN CARR WANTS WORLD PEACE FOUNDATION



On February 22, 2013, popular Harvard-Westlake student leader **Justin Carr**, died suddenly during swim team practice due to an undiagnosed heart condition, idiopathic hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. His parents, Susan and Darrell Carr decided to launch a foundation in their only child's name. Four years later, the **Justin Carr Wants World Peace Foundation (JCWWP)** has a heart health awareness program, as well as provides mentoring and tutoring programs. JCWWP also grants scholarships for visual and performing arts programs, in tribute to Justin's passion for the arts. To volunteer, support or inquire about JCWWP, please reach out via the contact information below:

[JustinCarrWantsWorldPeace.org](http://JustinCarrWantsWorldPeace.org) ■ [Programs@JustinCarrWantsWorldPeace.org](mailto:Programs@JustinCarrWantsWorldPeace.org) ■ (424) 257-5297



JCWWP has an ongoing heart health awareness campaign in Justin's memory.

In homage to Justin's love of the arts JCWWP has visual and performing arts programs & enrichment scholarships for 7th -12th graders, such as violin prodigy **Alexandra Leavatter**, who is now at the University of Michigan's acclaimed School of Music, and 13 year-old **Aniya Connors**, who is performing at tonight's benefit.



Darrell Carr at the first **Justin Carr Memorial Swim Meet** at Harvard-Westlake. The 4th annual meet is on Friday, March 10, 2017.

## HOST | ERICA GIMPEL

Erica is internationally known for her acting-singing-dancing performances in the groundbreaking hit *FAME* as "Coco Hernandez". She's continued to have a star presence on TV over the years: *ER*, *Profiler*, *Veronica Mars*, *Nikita*, *True Blood*, *Criminal Minds*, *House*, *Grey's Anatomy*, *Rizzoli & Isles*, *The Catch*, *Code Black*, and more... Her numerous film credits include: legendary works such as: *Tuesday Morning Ride* with Ruby Dee, Wayne Wang's *Smoke* opposite Forest Whitaker, Abel Ferrara's *The King of New York* with Christopher Walken, Hal Hartely's *No Such Thing* with Helen Mirren, and *Romeo and Juliet in Harlem*, opposite Harry Lennix and Aunjanue Ellis... Working Off-Broadway and in regional theaters across the country, she originated the roles of "Mayme" in Lynn Nottage's award-winning, *Intimate Apparel*. "Glory Bee" in Sam Shepard's



*States of Shock* opposite John Malkovich, and "Nelly" in Jose Rivera's *Each Day Dies With Sleep*. Also a producer and screenwriter, Erica's recently formed her company, *Womans Paradise Productions*... As an accomplished music artist, Erica garnered gold and platinum records for her work on *FAME*, but also writes and performs her own music. Her debut CD, *Spread Your Wings And Fly*, quickly found its place in the top albums' and digital downloads for Jazz & Pop on *CDBaby.com*... She also uses her talents to highlight different causes by producing benefit concerts and performing her original music for the *Los Angeles Downtown Women's Center*, *1736 Family Crisis Center*, and *One Million Rising*... Invited to be a *Huffington Post* contributor, she also published an open letter entitled *UPROOTING RACISM -The Movement*. She's an active member of the world peace organization the *SGI-USA*, and serves on the advisory board of *The PA Legacy Foundation*, dedicated to making the arts available to underserved youth in New York City... We are honored Erica joins us as our host for the 4th Annual JCWWP Benefit.

## MUSIC PERFORMERS



An alumna of USC's revered Thornton School of Music, when she was the only African-American vocal student, **Lura Daniels-Ball** is also a friend of Susan & Darrell Carr. Like Justin she began singing young, and was selected to the world-renowned UC Berkeley Summer Music Institute. A two-time national finalist in the prestigious *American Traditions Competition for Singers*, she's also released a CD and an EP, with an upcoming Christian Music CD. Her daughter, Lauren Ball, also sings with superstar Katy Perry...

**CLAY** knew Justin Carr growing up, like family. She is now emerging with her exquisite voice on the music scene at a time when people are feeling divided, alone and underrepresented. A San Francisco native and a self-described "purple-haired unicorn", after a stint at a music conservatory, she realized her message was needed more outside of the classroom than inside of it. She hopes her music will help shine a light for others...and we know it will tonight, when she performs her original work...



**Jensen McRae** was a close friend and Harvard-Westlake classmate of Justin Carr's, and is now a student in USC Thornton School of Music's prestigious Popular Music Program. She is an extraordinary young singer-songwriter, who was not only selected to attend Grammy Camp, but has performed for such industry icons as Linda Perry, Desmond Child, and Mike Stoller. She has over a quarter of million views of her performance videos on YouTube. She also has a catalogue of over 400 original songs, one of which we'll hear tonight, especially written for the JCWWP Benefit.

While fans love **LaMont Zeno** as one of the stars of **Bravo** hit, *The People's Couch*—along with his wife, Princella and son, RaShawn—the show is not his first foray into entertainment. He was signed to the historic **Motown Records**, as a singer-songwriter until he fell victim to Motown's famed sale... After releasing music under Teddy Riley's previous management team, LaMont eventually took a hiatus from music... But now he's back, and is sharing his powerful talent with us this evening...



Tonight's JCWWP Youth Performer, **Aniya Connors** is a JCWWP "Dare 2 Dream" student at Frank Parent School. Her "Dare 2 Dream" art project in 2013 won among many hundreds of submissions for the 38th Annual Monte-Carlo International Circus Festival, a worldwide art contest sponsored by H.S.H. Princess Stephanie of Monaco. The first prize was a trip to Monaco for Aniya and her family.

The JCWWP Benefit title includes **"Something Inside So Strong"**, which is from the 1987 classic anti-apartheid anthem by acclaimed artist **Labi Siffre**, and unfortunately still resonates 30 years later as a rallying cry against racism and all other forms of oppression both here and abroad... Fortunately, the song's words have not lost their strength of resilience and hope, as captured in the opening lines—"The higher you build your barriers...the taller I become...The further you take my rights away...the faster I will run..."

# PROGRAM

## WELCOME

**Susan Toler Carr & Darrell Carr**  
*Justin Carr Wants World Peace Foundation*

## GREETINGS & INVOCATION

**Rev. Kelvin Sauls**  
*Senior Pastor, Holman United Methodist Church*

## HOST

**Erica Gimpel**  
*Award-winning Performer & Peace Activist*

## MUSIC PERFORMANCES

- “Lift Every Voice And Sing”.....**Lura Daniels-Ball**
- “Love in The Heartland” .....**Jensen McRae**
- “Water Your Garden“ .....**CLAY**
- “Something Inside So Strong”.....**Read Lead Freedom School Choir**

## SPECIAL GUEST KEYNOTE SPEAKER | DR. MAYA SOETORO-NG

**Dr. Maya Soetoro-Ng** has a rich background in peace education, as well as global and multicultural education. One of the founders of the Hawaii-based non-profit, **Ceeds of Peace**, she's now **Director of the Matsunaga Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution at the University of Hawaii (UH) at Manoa**...and she's not the only one in her family that has been engaged in peace work—her brother, the 44<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, Barack Obama, received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2009...

She has an Masters in Secondary Education from NYU, and a PhD in Multicultural Education from UH. She has taught and developed curriculum at a progressive public middle school in New York City, and taught at the UH Laboratory High School and La Pietra Hawaii School for Girls, where she facilitated classes on world cultures, U.S. History & the Constitution; and “Peacemakers,” a course she designed to teach the power of nonviolence. Maya worked as an Education Specialist at the East West Center, facilitating exchange between teachers in Asia and the U.S. For many years, she worked at the University of Hawaii's College of Education where she taught Multicultural Education, Social Studies Methods, and Peace Education at both the graduate and undergraduate levels.

Maya has published a number of book contributions, and in 2011 authored a children's book, *Ladder to the Moon* (illustrated by Caldecott Medal winner, Yuyi Morales) that was inspired by her mother, Dr. S. Ann Dunham and her oldest daughter, Suhaila. Maya sits on many voluntary boards, and also is a board member for the Obama Foundation.



## SPECIAL JCWWP YOUTH PERFORMANCE

**Aniya Connor** ■ JCWWP Dare 2 Dream Student

## OFFERING

**Rev. Kelvin Sauls**

## SPECIAL MUSIC PERFORMANCE

**Erica Gimpel**

## CLOSING REMARKS

## FINALE

**LaMont Zeno**

[Reception Follows]

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LA City Councilmember, Marqueece Harris-Dawson  
Black Women for Positive Change

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Catherynne Jean & Mark Riddlesburger  
Dona Mitoma & Marvin Inouye  
Kevin & Phyllis Kregel  
Dr. & Mrs. Dwayne Logan  
Jodi McLaughlin & Trevor Bryant  
Michael & Jennifer Mills  
SCLC of Southern California

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## EVENT TEAM

*Writer / Producer* J.M. Morris  
*Producer / Director* John E. Sampson III  
*Co-Producer* Regina Williams  
*Catering* Gail Catering

*Audio* Keith McGruder  
*Visual* Audio Visual West  
*Videographer* Matthew Louie  
*Photographer* Ricky Lin

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## THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

JCWWP thanks everyone for supporting tonight's benefit and our programs throughout the year.

## SPECIAL THANKS

Joni Arlain  
Danya Bacchus  
Pamela Bakewell  
Ray Bell  
Phil Berman  
Rita Cash  
Cassandra Chase  
Ceeds of Peace  
CLAY  
Aniya Connors  
D-Printing  
Lura Daniels-Ball  
Angela Daves Haley  
Pamela Daves  
Juan Fernandez

Bettye Fontenot  
Frank D. Parent Elementary  
Marsha Gambles  
Jennifer Gates  
Erica Gimpel  
Dennis Greene  
Damon Green  
Marianne Hall  
Hon. Marqueece Harris-Dawson  
Harvard-Westlake School  
Pat Harvey  
Holman United Methodist Church  
Holman UMC Greeters  
Greg Huskisson  
Lisha & Gary Lett

Ricky Lin  
Emma Lynch  
Matsunaga Institute for Peace &  
Conflict Resolution  
Jensen McRae  
Marcellus & Suzanne McRae  
Hon. Holly Mitchell  
Sylvia Morris  
Pacific Platinum Security Service  
Pasadena Community Foundation  
Otto Petersen  
Proof Creative Group  
Aurora Quinones  
Irene Quinones  
Rev. Reginald Ragland &  
Knox Presbyterian Church

Read Lead Freedom School Choir  
SAFE Heart Screening  
Saint Marks Episcopal Church Altadena  
Rev. Kelvin Sauls & Rev. Judi Sauls  
David Sears  
Derek Shields  
Jackie Soria  
Anjee Thomas  
The Toler & Carr Families  
The Martel Toler Family  
Laurel Travis  
Eleanor Wallace  
Iann Williams  
Renee Worland  
LaMont & Princella Zeno

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## EVENT EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS

MoSamp Productions & The JCWWP Foundation

For Production Inquiries Please Contact ■ (424) 372-7676