

MansMark Africa Announces

Drum Call to Stop the Violence Save the Children

A musical event in honor of late Babatunde Olatunji

MansMark Africa is pleased to announce *Drum Call to Stop the Violence Save the Children*, a national celebrity tour bringing awareness about issues surrounding violence and missing and abused children. The festival-styled event will begin in Richmond, CA before traveling to New York, Atlanta, Chicago, Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. *Drum Call* is free of charge and open to the general public.

Drum Call will be held in Richmond's Nevin Park, at 4th Street and Macdonald Avenue, Saturday, October 21, from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Richmond's *Drum Call* is also to salute the people of Tent City for their courage and determination to promote peace in their communities.

MansMark Africa, a leading, independent African World Music record label, is creating this special day to bring together community members who want to get involved in these important issues. *Drum Call* will also raise funds for organizations dedicated to promoting peace and the recovery of missing and abused children.

In the spirit of Master Drummer Babatunde Olatunji, *Drum Call* will feature hand drummers and other performers from a wide variety of regions, prominence and influence. The list of speakers includes mothers who lost their children due to acts of violence and mothers of missing and abused children. Crime prevention authorities will tell participants how they can help end violence in their neighborhoods. Other specialists will educate people on the growing problems of child abduction and child abuse. "People want to get involved, but they don't know what to do," says Prince Ayo. "*Drum Call* will provide answers."

Drum Call is organized by MansMark Africa President Prince Ayo, who shares Babatunde Olatunji's vision for humanity. "The event is important because it will allow us to share the pain of people who lost someone due to an act of violence," says Prince Ayo, a musician and peace activist. "And it will allow us to feel the sorrow of the parents of missing children. Participants will leave the event with a sense of compassion and empowerment that they, too, can do something to help end violence and protect our most vulnerable citizens."

Among the organizations co-sponsoring *Drum Call* include NAACP Richmond, CA Branch, Richmond Improvement Association, S.T.V. (Stop The Violence), Attorney John Burris, Able World Foundations, Inc., Linen Life and Peralta Community College District.

Drum Call to Stop the Violence Save the Children project will also include a compilation album featuring unreleased recordings of Babatunde Olatunji, an international World Music superstar. The release scheduled for January 2007 will consist of an assortment of hand drummers, many who have worked with the Master Drummer, and others who have been inspired by his music. MansMark Africa will donate \$2.00 from each CD sold to organizations committed to providing solutions to the issue of violence and the protection of children throughout the world. The album is MansMark Africa's way of staying committed to the cause beyond the *Drum Call* events.