

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Nov. 24, 2003
Ref: Celebrating the 200th Anniversary of the Haitian Slave Revolution
VICTORY (1804-2004) in Massachusetts
January 3, 2004, Lombardo's, Randolph

Contact: Haitian-Americans United Inc, (H.A.U.) :(617)298-2976, (617)899-2629

H.A.U. is proud to announce its Haitian Independence Day Gala, scheduled for **Saturday January 03, 2004, 7PM to 12AM at Lombardo's, Route 28, Randolph, MA.** This year's gala is particularly important for the Haitian community and for people of African origins, due to the universality of the event being celebrated.

Haiti became the first Black Republic in the world after conducting a successful slave revolution rooted in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights principles, securing major military victories against Spanish, British and French troops and proclaiming its **independence on January 1, 1804.**

Haitian community representatives in the Diaspora are organizing commemorative events to highlight these historical moments and reflect on the status of Haiti today. In Boston, the Haitian Americans United Inc, with a host of community organizations, local officials and artists are organizing a black tie gala dinner to highlight the importance of this date.

This event will feature guests speakers such as **Reverend Dr. Fritz Fontus** from Florida, a renown Haitian scholar, who will elaborate on the theme: "Haiti's 200th: time for reflection and action";

State Representative Marie Saint Fleur, Massachusetts House of Representative, Fifth Suffolk District, first Haitian American State Representative elected in Massachusetts;

And alented artists who will offer a unique set of performances specially conceived for the occasion. Performing groups and artists include:

International **singer Emeline Michel, Fantezi Kreyol Dance Company**, singer **Barbara Cajuste**, story teller **Charlot Lucien**, the **Boston Haitian Marching Band**, le **Corps d'Honneur de Boston**, and the **Sa kap fèt? Haitian/American Students Club of West Roxbury High.**

Members of the **Haitian Artists Assembly of Massachusetts** will display paintings and posters evoking great moments and great heroes and heroines of Haitian history and an auction will be held to help raise funds for the activities of the Haitian-Americans United Inc. in 2004.

Tickets are on sale at \$65 per person and \$120 per couple and can be reserved by contacting the **H.A.U. at (617)-298-2976, (617)899-2629 or Unity@hauinc.org.**