

Ford celebrates Black History Month with the son of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Ford's African Ancestry Network (FAAN) will celebrate Black History Month with the son of famed civil rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Martin Luther King III, son of Dr. King and Coretta Scott-King, will be the keynote speaker as FAAN members, Ford employees and the public gathers to celebrate Black History Month. The theme for this year's FAAN event is "Sharecropper to Shareholder: Voices of the Past to the Present".

"Ford and FAAN are honored that we are able to join together with one of the country's leading human rights and community advocates," said Roman Krygier, Jr., group vice president, Global Manufacturing and executive champion for FAAN. "We look forward to the wisdom and guidance that Martin Luther King III's speech will bring to our employees and surrounding communities."

King is president and CEO of the King Center based in Atlanta, Ga. The King Center is an educational memorial dedicated to the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. More than 650,000 visitors from all over the world are drawn annually to the King Center to pay homage to Dr. King. Visitors can view unique exhibits illustrating Dr. King's life and teachings, visit the King Center's Library, Archives, his final resting place and birth home, gift shop and other facilities.

Prior to his current position, Mr. King was the president and CEO of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), an organization his father co-founded in 1957.

"I'm honored for the opportunity to speak at this year's Black History Month celebration," said King. "Ford Motor Company has a rich history of diversity and inclusion, dating back more than a century. The loyalty this company shows to diversity underscores my father's legacy for equal opportunity for all."

Dr. King's widow, Coretta Scott-King, will also be recognized by FAAN with a special award as one of the most notable women leaders in our world today. Although not in attendance, her son will accept the award on her behalf.

Mrs. Scott-King is internationally recognized as one of today's most influential African-American leaders. She has received honorary doctorates from more than 40 colleges and universities, authored three books and has a nationally syndicated column. For 27 years, Scott-King has devoted her life to the King Center, where she helped train tens of thousands of people in Dr. King's philosophy and methods.

During the celebration, FAAN will also present a community service award to Reginald McKenzie, founder of the Reggie McKenzie Foundation of Highland Park, Mich. Heritage awards will be presented to retired Ford



Above photo: Martin Luther King III toured Ford Motor Company's Michigan truck plant in Wayne, Mich. during the company's Black History Month celebration. Mr. King was at the plant to receive the keys of a Lincoln Navigator for the King Center in Atlanta, Ga. donated by the Ford Fund. Photo by Ford Photographic Sam VarnHagen.



Right photo: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his wife, Coretta Scott King, sit with three of their four children in their Atlanta, Ga., home on March 17, 1963.

Motor Company vice presidents and FAAN founders, Ronald Goldsberry, Ph.D, former head of Ford's Global Service Business Strategy and Elliott Hall, former head of Ford's Dealer Development and Minority Operations. All of the honorees are inspirational leaders in the African-American community.

About FAAN

The concept of the FAAN first took hold in the minds of its founders in the early 1990s. The group is committed to building an inclusive cross-functional group that builds a sense of community among all employees in the Company, from new hires to those reaching retirement.