
Southern California Choirs Stir Gospel Spirit October 13

(Oct 04, 2007 at 09:56 AM) - Contributed by Niele Anderson, Religion Editor - Last Updated (Oct 04, 2007 at 09:58 AM)

From the soulful sounds of James Cleveland to the dancing, high-energy vocals of Kirk Franklin, gospel music does more than just sound sweet, it literally moves and uplifts its listeners. Whether it's swaying with the choirs, radical praise or simply raising hands or shedding a tear, gospel is one genre of music that needs to be both seen and heard. Once narrowly defined as religious, and confined to the church gospel has transcended those limits to become a profound force in American music and popular culture. It gives life; it restores and brings hope to the hopeless with its soul-stirring lyrics.

This year, a Taste of Soul is bringing gospels inspiration and praise to the "shaw" and partnering with local choirs for an out the box worship experience.

The gospel stage will add a new flavor this year, and bring out the faith community to Crenshaw Blvd. The line up includes some of the livest choirs in Southern California. The choirs include Soldiers for Christ of Los Angeles, Faithful Central Bible Church of Inglewood, Brookins Community AME of Los Angeles, Michael Fisher and Little Zion Choir of Compton, Mary Magdalene choir of Los Angeles, City of Refuge Sanctuary Choir of Gardena, One One One Church Choir of Long Beach, and LA Inner City Mass Choir.

Jeffrey Coprich, director and founder of LA Inner City Mass Choir, has served this community through music and outreach for over 15 years and is excited to bring the choir's ministry to the streets. "Taste of Soul has something for everyone in the family and it should not be missed. We are glad to be apart of this very anticipated and enjoyable event", states Coprich. Pastor Melvin King of Mary Magdalene church family, Los Angeles shared "I think Taste of Soul is a great opportunity to go outside the walls of the church to reach people that would not come to church and hopefully they will come. Our choir is excited about participating and reaching the community through song at this years Taste of Soul."

Also scheduled to appear in ministry on the gospel stage is instrumentalist Ben Tankard, Hidden Beach recording artist the church girl Onitsha and Sunny Hawkins and newcomer Holy Boy.

The stage will also include Christian comedy and will be hosted by V100 Sunday Morning host and Los Angeles Sentinel religion editor Niele Anderson.