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For Immediate Release

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**D.C. ASSISTANT POLICE CHIEF DIANE GROOMES ATTENDS
COMMEMORATIVE STUDENT CONCERT IN HONOR OF DR. MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR. AT JOHN PHILLIP SOUSA MIDDLE SCHOOL**

January 20, 2010: Washington, D.C. — Dozens of John Phillip Sousa's finest students participated in a commemorative performance in tribute to Martin Luther King, Jr. Audience members applauded **D.C. Police Chief Diane Groomes** for taking time out of her busy schedule to attend the concert. "A Song For You," "We Shall Overcome," and "Kum Ba Ya" rang throughout the Sousa Auditorium as students danced, played drums and the marimba, and recited words from the beloved civil rights leader's, "I Have A Dream" speech.

In partnership with the **DC Jazz** Festival and DCPS, Sousa Middle School presented an hour-long performance billed as "MLK Day of Service in Commemoration of Martin Luther King, Jr." "Our students did a wonderful job honoring Dr. King's legacy through their performances," said Sousa Vice Principal John Alberty. In partnership with the DC Jazz Fest and DCPS, Sousa Middle School band and dance ensemble performed, and professional jazz musicians accompanied Sousa MS students reciting excerpts from Martin Luther King's historical "I Have A Dream" speech. Special guest artists included saxophonist **Marshall Keys** and flautist **Charles Woods** both celebrated jazz musicians in the Washington, DC area.

This is the second annual MLK Day of Service at Sousa School. Co-presented by the DC Jazz Festival, this event is an opportunity for the community to see DCPS students honoring the spirit of Martin Luther King, Jr. "Each year we hope to bring the DC community East of the River on see the talent that this outstanding school in SE has to offer," said Sunny Sumter, executive director of the DC Jazz Festival.

MLK Day of Service Event is part of the DC Jazz Festival's year-round programming to get student "jazzed" about learning. The DC Jazz Festival, formerly the Duke Ellington Jazz Festival, is one the country's fastest growing music events and is already the largest music festival in Washington, D.C.— with more than 100 performances at nearly 50 venues throughout the city. **The 6th annual DC Jazz Festival will take place June 1-13, 2010** in every quadrant across the city.

www.dcjazzfest.org