



SOCIETY FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
Bringing the World's Best to Houston

MEDIA CONTACT:

Jaelyn Lyles

713.632.8105

jlyles@spahouston.org

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Damien Sneed's We Shall Overcome Celebrates the Life and Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Joined by Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church Choir, the performance unites African American musical styles with traditional spirituals and the music of Aretha Franklin, Wynton Marsalis, Duke Ellington, Stevie Wonder, Nina Simone and Donny Hathaway.

[Download Approved Photos Here](#)

HOUSTON (January 29, 2020) – Damien Sneed's North American tour, "**We shall Overcome: A Celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.,**" comes to the **Cullen Theater – Wortham Center** on **Sunday, February 9, 2020** at **4 pm**, presented by **Society for the Performing Arts (SPA)**. As a multi-genre artist, Sneed is bringing his brand of classical, jazz and sanctified soul to Houston during Black History Month.

Inspired by the words and actions of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Damien Sneed's **We Shall Overcome** showcases repertoire from across the African American music

traditions that electrified generations of civil rights activists and defenders with interwoven spoken word from Dr. King's recorded speeches.

Tickets for We Shall Overcome start at \$29 and are on sale now. Tickets can be purchased online at www.spahouston.org, by calling 713-227-4772 or in person at the courtyard level ticket office at Jones Hall located at 615 Louisiana St. Hours of operation: 9 am – 5 pm Monday – Friday. Prices are subject to change.

More information: [We Shall Overcome](#)

About Damien Sneed

Damien Sneed is a pianist, organist, conductor, composer, producer, arranger, and arts educator whose work spans multiple genres. Sneed has worked with jazz, classical, pop, and R&B legends including the late Aretha Franklin, Wynton Marsalis, Jessye Norman, Stevie Wonder, Diana Ross, Ashford & Simpson, Lawrence Brownlee, and many others. The multi-genre recording artist is a recipient of the prestigious Sphinx Medal of Excellence, which is presented annually to emerging Black and Latino leaders in classical music. This year marks the 37th Anniversary of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, which was signed into law and made a federal holiday in 1983.

About Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church Choir

The Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church Choir is an enthusiastic group of singers committed to delivering musical excellence in every performance. The Wheeler Choir was established shortly after the church was founded in the early 60's by Rev. William A. Lawson (Founding Pastor Emeritus). The Wheeler Choir currently serves four (4) Sunday worship services under the dynamic leadership of Senior Pastor, Rev. Dr. Marcus D. Cosby. The Wheeler Choir is also a recording choir with an album titled, 'Oh to Be Kept by Jesus'. In addition to serving the church, the Wheeler Choir is also active in the greater Houston community performing for various functions in the city and surrounding areas. The choir's mission is to 'serve the Lord with gladness' and spread the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ through song.

About Society for the Performing Arts

Founded in 1966, Society for the Performing Arts (SPA) is the largest independent non-profit presenting organization in the Southwest. Since its inception, SPA has sponsored more than 1,000 performances of the world's finest music, dance and theater events, in adherence to the belief that the arts are fundamental to the overall enrichment and quality of life within a community. In addition to presenting artists, SPA seeks to provide a variety of learning experiences for adults and children through master classes, lectures and special student performances, as well as build relationships between the performing arts and other interests within the greater Houston area and throughout the state of Texas. Learn more at spahouston.org

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Calendar Editors, please note:

We Shall Overcome: A Celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Presented by Society for the Performing Arts (SPA)

Sunday, February 9, 2020, 4 pm

Cullen Theater – Wortham Center

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