

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Topic: Youth/Gang Violence (inner city)

September 2011

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**Ford Hall Forum
at Suffolk University**
presents

The New Boston Miracle

with
Carmen Ortiz,
David M. Kennedy
and
Rev. Dr. Emmett Price
moderator **Donald Tye**

October 13, 6:30-8 pm

Modern Theatre

(Boston, MA 02114) **Ford Hall Forum at Suffolk University** presents ***The New Boston Miracle*** with **Carmen Ortiz, David M. Kennedy,** and **Rev. Dr. Emmett Price**; discussion moderated by **Donald Tye**. Thursday, October 13, 6:30-8 pm. Admission is free and open to all. Modern Theatre, 525 Washington St., Boston, MA. Wheelchair accessible and conveniently located near the Downtown Crossing stop on the MBTA Orange and Silver Lines. For more information, call Ford Hall Forum at 617-557-2007 or visit www.fordhallforum.org <<http://www.fordhallforum.org>> .

Gang and drug warfare fuels violence and leads to prison or death for countless youth, mostly minority males; this well-worn pattern plagues cities across the world. Criminologist and author of *Don't Shoot*, **David M. Kennedy**, tells how he addressed this scourge in the 1990s with the successful "Boston Miracle." **Rev. Dr. Emmett Price**, who counsels at-risk Boston youth through hip hop music, discusses funeral fatigue, copycat criminals, and the new rules of engagement. U.S. Attorney for Massachusetts **Carmen Ortiz** shares with us her plans to mitigate violent crime through the Organized Crime Strike Force/Gang Unit. The three come together with Ford Hall Forum Vice President **Donald Tye** for a conversation about the past, present, and future of inner-city youth violence in Boston and beyond.

Further background information on participants:

David M. Kennedy is the current Director of the Center for Crime Prevention and Control as well as a professor of criminal justice at John Jay College. Kennedy has spent much of the last 25 years in some of the country's most dangerous neighborhoods working with those communities to find solutions to crime. He has received two Webber Seavey awards from the International Association of Chiefs of Police, two Innovations in American Government awards from the Kennedy School of Government, and a Herman Goldstein Problem-Oriented Policing Award. His work has been used as a model or source for safety and drug intervention initiatives by the Clinton and Bush administrations, and by the Bureau of Justice. Kennedy is also credited in engineering the "Boston Miracle," a dramatic initiative that helped to prevent gang and drug violence in the 1990s in Boston as well as cutting youth homicide there by about two-thirds.

President Barack Obama nominated **Carmen Ortiz** to the U.S. Attorney for Massachusetts in 1997. Once confirmed, she became the first Hispanic and female to ever serve this position. Before joining the U.S. Attorney's office, Ortiz worked with Harvard colleague Philip Heymann to investigate sexual assault claims against the New England Patriots as well as being appointed as a member of a team appointed by the U.S. Senate to investigate the "October Surprise," which involved claims that the 1980 Reagan/Bush Campaign had conducted improper dealings with Iranian representatives to delay the release of American hostages and undermine President Carter's re-election. Ortiz worked at the Center for Criminal Justice at Harvard Law School from 1998 through 1991. She also participated in the State Department's USAID program to install judicial reforms in the Guatemalan legal system. For several years, Ortiz worked in the Middlesex District Attorney's Office. Ortiz graduated from Adelphi University and received her J.D. from the National Law Center at George Washington University.

Emmett G. Price III has quickly risen as one of the nation's leading experts on African American Music and Culture as well as cutting edge research on bridging the generational divide. Price is an Associate Professor of Music and African American Studies at Northeastern University, as well as the Chair of the Department of African American Studies. A former research fellow of the W.E.B. DuBois Institute for African and African American Research at Harvard University, Price is currently a research fellow of Northeastern's Center for the Study of Sport in Society. Price is also an Associate Minister and Minister of Music and Worship at the Greater Framingham Community Church. Price is the Executive Editor of *The Encyclopedia of African American Music*, author of *Hip Hop Culture*, and Editor of *The Black Church, Hop Hop Culture and the Dilemma of the Generational Divide*. He has served as a guest lecturer at over 20 universities nationwide and provided trainings for hundreds of educators and organizations like Facing History and Ourselves. Price has a B.A. in Music from the University of California at Berkeley, and an M.A. and a Ph.D. in Ethnomusicology from the University of Pittsburgh.

Donald G. Tye is co-chair of Prince Lobel Glovsky & Tye's Domestic Relations Practice Group. Tye is a fellow at The American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (AAML) and is co-chair of its legislation committee. Since 2004, Tye has been recognized as a Massachusetts "Super Lawyer" in Boston Magazine. Tye has been a lecturer and/or panelist at Harvard Law School, Boston College Law School, Suffolk University School of Law, MCLE, Brown University Medical Center, Boston University Graduate School of Social Work, American Psychological Association, and many others. Active in the community, Tye has served as the director of Jewish Family and Children's Services, the Ford Hall Forum, the Lyric Stage Theatre Repertory Company and the Big Sister Association of Greater Boston and as a member of the Anti-Defamation League's National Law Committee.

Coming up next at Ford Hall Forum:

The Life of a Leader

with **Gilad Sharon** (son of Ariel Sharon); moderator **Wendy Ballinger** (Ford Hall Forum Board Treasurer)

October 27, 6:30-8 pm

C. Walsh Theatre, Suffolk University

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's youngest son, **Gilad Sharon**, combed through his father's vast archives to offer an intimate look at this controversial figure in Middle Eastern politics. From 2001 until his stroke in 2006, Ariel Sharon walked a fine line between waging war on Israel's enemies and accommodating its allies, all while grappling with suicide bombings, the Iraq War, and Iran's nuclear program. Gilad Sharon gives moderator **Wendy Ballinger**, Treasurer of the Ford Hall Forum board, a rare glimpse into his father's private discussions with major heads of state, as well as an illuminating analysis of this global leader's unique views.

Stay Tuned for Flash Forums

Flash Forums are programs that Ford Hall Forum will produce right when the news hits. Arranged roughly a week in advance, Flash Forums will bring in an expert speaker, either in person or via Skype, to deliberate on a hot-off-the-press issue. Ford Hall Forum plans to inaugurate its Flash Forums as a breakfast program held at Suffolk University Law School.

About Ford Hall Forum at Suffolk University:

Ford Hall Forum is the nation's oldest free public lecture series. The Forum promotes freedom of speech and fosters an informed and effective citizenry through public presentation of lectures, debates, and discussions. Its events illuminate the key issues facing our society, by bringing to its podium knowledgeable and thought-provoking speakers from a broad range of perspectives. These individuals speak in person, for free, and in settings that encourage frank and open debate.

The Forum began in 1908 as a series of Sunday evening public meetings held at the Ford Hall, which once stood on Beacon Hill in Boston. While the original building no longer exists, the public conversations have continued throughout the Boston area with the generous support of foundations, corporations, academic institutions, and individuals. In its 103rd year of programming, the Forum continues to build upon its partnership with Suffolk University. Suffolk is now housing the Forum's administrative offices just a block away from where the original Ford Hall once stood.

Ford Hall Forum programs are made possible through the generous contributions from individual members as well as corporations and foundations, including ACLU Massachusetts, AIG, The Barr Foundation, The Boston Beer Company, Choate Hall & Stewart LLP, Edwards Angell Palmer and Dodge, The Fred and Marty Corneel Fund, Fidelity Investment, Helen Rees Literary Agency, Houghton Chemical Corporation, Iron Mountain, Jackson & Company, Levine Katz Nannis + Solomon PC, The Lowell Institute, Massachusetts Cultural Council, the Nelli Mae Education Foundation, Penny Pimentel, The Pfizer Foundation, Plymouth Rock Assurance Corporation, Prince Lobel Tye LLP, Ropes & Gray, Suffolk University, WBUR 90.9 FM, and Wilmerhale.

For more information on Ford Hall Forum at Suffolk University, visit www.fordhallforum.org. Information about Suffolk University's partnership with the Ford Hall Forum can be obtained by contacting Mariellen Norris, (617) 573-8450, mnorris@suffolk.edu <mnorris@suffolk.edu> .

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