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***For Immediate Release***

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## **NEWS ADVISORY**

Story for Saturday, October 25 at 12:00 noon

### **Ridley-Thomas Honors “Lynwood Green Teens” for ‘Making A Difference’ in Fight Against Global Warming**

**Lynwood, CA – Thursday, October 23, 2008** – Teenagers attending classes in the Lynwood Unified School District, who have taken the lead on special activities to heighten family, school and community awareness of global warming and the need for conservation, will be honored for “Making A Difference” in their community and for their commitment to the environment at the Lynwood Community Service Awards & Music Festival on Saturday, October 25 at 12 noon at Falcon Field on the campus of Lynwood’s Firebaugh High School.

Senator Mark Ridley-Thomas will join by more than 1,000 Lynwood residents, Lynwood Mayor Maria Teresa Santillian, Mayor Pro Tem Aide Castro, members of the Lynwood City Council and members of the Lynwood Board of Education at the festivities honoring these accomplished teenage student environmentalists.

The Lynwood Community Service Awards & Music Festival will showcase spectacular performances by Salsa, Folkloric and Steppe

dancers, as well as, Hip Hop and international a cappella singers.

The chart-topping musical group “WAR” – 2008 Rock & Roll Hall of Fame nominees -- will headline the festival event. WAR’s 1970s Platinum record selling, award-winning composers and original performers are know worldwide for their hits singles “Cisco Kid,” “Low-rider,” “Slipping Into Darkness,” “Why Can’t We Be Friends” and “The World is a Ghetto.”

The National Make A Difference Day was started by USA Today over 18-years ago as a national day of positive contributions giving back to our communities across America.

“The Lynwood Community Service Awards & Music Festival is a local observance of that national initiative. It is being produced by Latin Sounds Initiative, Inc. (LSI) and Firebaugh High School’s Falcon’s Pride Parent’s Booster Club,” Grace Castro-Nagata, President & CEO of the LSI said.

Sen. Ridley-Thomas was top-vote-getter in the City of Lynwood in the June 3 Primary Election. His involvement in this event shows he will continue to reach out to the over 43,000 adults and their families who live in the city and will benefit from the various resources he promises to bring to the residents in the County’s 2nd District.

Sen. Ridley-Thomas said, "A new day is coming to the Board of Supervisors. I will promote a Green Jobs Agenda that focuses on building sustainable communities within the Second District. I will hold polluters accountable and hold County operations to high standards of environmental protection and resource stewardship."

"My endorsers and supporters in the Latino community throughout our county understand what is at stake. They want someone who will work for change and deliver results."

**WHO:** Senator Mark Ridley-Thomas  
Mayor Maria Teresa Santillan  
Mayor Pro-tem Aide Castro  
Lynwood Councilmember Alfredo Flores

Lynwood Councilmember Jim Morton  
Lynwood Councilmember Ramon Rodriguez  
Lynwood Unified School Board Members  
Visuals: over 1,000 Lynwood residents

**WHAT:** Make A Difference Day Community Service Awards  
Music and Dance Festival & Groundbreaking  
Ceremonies

**WHERE:** FALCON FIELD  
FIREBAUGH HIGH SCHOOL  
5246 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Lynwood, CA

**WHEN:** Saturday, October 25, 2008  
12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

L.A. County's Second District includes the cities of Culver City, Inglewood, Hawthorne, Lawndale, Carson, Lynwood, Compton and portions of Los Angeles and unincorporated sections of south and southwest Los Angeles County.

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Senator Ridley-Thomas is chair of the eight-member California Legislative Black Caucus. He chairs the Senate Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development, Senate Subcommittee on Economy, Workforce Preparation and Development and Senate Subcommittee on Professional Sports and Entertainment.

Senator Ridley-Thomas is a member of the Senate Committee on Appropriations and Senate Committee on Health. He serves on the 14-member Joint Legislative Audit Committee of the state Senate and Assembly.

He is a member of the Mental Health Services Act Oversight and Accountability Commission and serves on the state's Prop 63 Mental Health Commission. As a member of the state Assembly, he chaired the Select Committee on the Los Angeles County Health Care Crisis.

Senator Ridley-Thomas represents more than 800,000 residents in Los Angeles and Culver City including Baldwin Hills, Baldwin Vista, Beverlywood, Carthay Circle, Century City, the Crenshaw District, Culver City, Hancock Park, Hollywood, Hyde Park, Jefferson Park, Ladera Heights, Lafayette Square, Larchmont, Leimert Park, Los Feliz, Miracle Mile, South Central Los Angeles, View Park, West Los Angeles and Windsor Hills, among others.

He has represented South and Southwest Los Angeles for 16-years as a three-term elected member of the Los Angeles City Council (8th District), California State Assembly (48th District) and California State Senate (26th District).

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