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Dec. 20, 2004  
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## NEWS RELEASE

### ANNIE T. THORNTON WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE CALLS FOR PROPOSALS FOR PRESENTATIONS

DAYTON, Ohio — Organizers of the fourth annual Annie T. Thornton Women's Leadership Conference at the University of Dayton are accepting proposals for hourlong presentations at the March 5 event. The conference's keynote speaker is Coretta Scott King, civil rights leader and one of the most influential women in the world.

"These sessions have traditionally been presented by a diversity of community members on various topics on women's issues and leadership," said Debra Monk, associate director of residential programs and conference organizer. "The overall mission of the conference is to promote the development and recognition of women in leadership, to initiate conversations about critical issues concerning women in our community and to build a sisterhood that transcends race, religion and socioeconomic status."

The conference's theme is "Songs of Leadership." Proposals will be reviewed from conference registrants. For details, see [www.udayton.edu/~udwlc](http://www.udayton.edu/~udwlc) or call (937) 229-3353.

Conference registrants will receive dinner with King and reserved seating at her public speech, "Still Marching with Martin: Songs of Leadership," at 7 p.m. in the Thomas J. Frericks Athletic and Convocation Center on campus.

The speech is free and open to the public, but tickets are required for those not attending the conference. Organizers urge early registration for the conference, which will be capped at 300 participants. The cost is \$5 for college students, regardless of when they register. It's \$40 for faculty, staff and community members who register before Jan. 1. After Jan. 1, the cost is \$50.

Tickets for the free public lecture will be available after Jan. 17. Visit [www.udayton.edu/~ku/tickets/](http://www.udayton.edu/~ku/tickets/) or call (937) 229-2545. The speech is part of UD's Diversity Lecture Series cosponsored by the offices of the president and provost with support from corporate partners, including the *Dayton Daily News*, WHIO-TV and WDAO 1210-AM.

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