

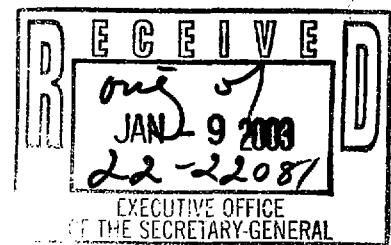
HELEN M. MARSHALL
PRESIDENT



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CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE
PRESIDENT OF THE BOROUGH OF QUEENS
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December 16, 2002

to GHS

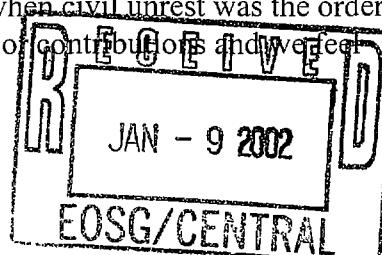
Secretary General Kofi Annan
Office of the Secretary General of the United Nations
Room 3800
New York, NY 10017

Dear Secretary General Annan:

Each February, the Office of the Queens Borough President hosts a series of events in celebration of the Black Experience in America. In previous years, panel discussions subjects included "Civil and Human Rights in the 21st Century", "What is Black Art?", and "Education Issues in the Black Community". Other events included concerts and a reception where three \$1,000 scholarships were awarded to graduating high school seniors. Arts, business, civic, education and lifetime achievement service awards were presented to citizens that have worked to improve the quality of life in Queens County. We are also very proud that the Honorable Ralph J. Bunche lived in Queens County until his death in 1971.

This letter serves as an invitation for you to be the guest speaker at our African American Heritage Month Celebration scheduled for February 28 2003 at 6:30 p.m. at the Queensborough Community College Auditorium, 56th Avenue and Springfield Blvd. We would like your presentation to focus on the impact of the life of the Honorable Ralph J. Bunche, (1904-1971), who served as U.S. Representative to the United Nations from 1948-1955 and Under Secretary General from 1955-1971. As I am sure you are aware, he was the first African American to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1950, for his role in the 1940's Israeli-Palestinian crisis and the "Four Armistice Agreements". Mr. Bunche served to make a difference at a time when the world and America were involved in turbulent times for human and civil rights.

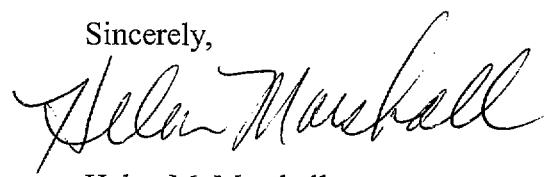
We will screen a new biographical film entitled, "Ralph Bunche, An American Odyssey The Man Behind the Myth!" prior to your presentation. We feel this is the perfect time to pay tribute to a man who gave so much to the cause of world peace at a time when civil unrest was the order of the day in America. Many citizens are unfamiliar with his name or contributions and we feel



your presence and words of reflection on his legacy would be timely and inspiring. Previous honorees include poet/author Langston Hughes, historian John Henrik Clarke, jazz ambassador Louis Armstrong and journalist and activist Ida B. Wells.

We hope your schedule will allow you to join us for this special tribute to the legacy and accomplishments of Mr. Bunche.

Sincerely,



Helen M. Marshall
President
Borough of Queens