



October 11, 2023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Advisory

Mothers for Justice and Equality's 9th Annual Mothers Against Violence National Conference

What/Why: Mothers for Justice and Equality (MJE) will host their 9th Annual Mothers Against Violence National Conference. As a community, we experience the dire effects of gun violence locally and nationally, with far too many victims being children. From historical disasters such as Emmett Till dating back to the 1950s, to present-day tragedies such as Savion Ellis of Mattapan, MA of this year. Not only do the societal expectations of women prevent them from healing, but their defending of their children's lives with the media. Our conference, with its tagline "Heal. Restore. Rebuild," honors and supports mothers and families from across the country who have suffered the loss of a family member to gun violence. Most of the estimated 150 attendees have lost children to gun violence, many of whom started their own non-profits to combat it. The conference allows the attendees to heal together and offers panel discussions and workshops to help manage their pain, learn how to effectively spread awareness, and move toward ending gun violence. To support them in their recovery, we will recognize several parents with MJE Courage and Conviction Awards during the event. These awards are given to individuals who have demonstrated extraordinary leadership in advocating for the safety and well-being of children and at-risk populations falling victim to gun violence.

When/Where: Boston University - 43 Hawes Street Brookline, MA 02446.

Wednesday, October 11, 2023 - 5pm-7pm, Dinner for our national attendees

Thursday, October 12, 2023 - 9am-4:30pm, Day One of Conference, open to public

Friday, October 13, 2023 - 9am -2pm, Day Two of Conference, open to public

Workshops: Mental Health and Multicultural Understanding, Healing through the Arts, Public Policy, Media Training, Resource Mapping, Suicide and Gun Violence Prevention, Engaging Men & Fathers in Child Welfare, Youth in Society.

Who: The mission of Mothers for Justice and Equality is to end neighborhood violence by empowering mothers and youth to challenge the normalization of violence and become effective catalysts for change in their homes, schools, and communities. We engage mothers, youth, & families by providing targeted support, educational opportunities, and the opportunity to advocate for peace as a community.

Special Guests:

- Boston Mayor Michelle Wu
- National Attendees from Arizona, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, New York, Tennessee, Texas, and Wisconsin.
- Rev. Dr. Janie Dowdy-Dandridge, D Min., of Paris, TX
- Rev. Dr. John Dandridge, D Min., of Paris, TX