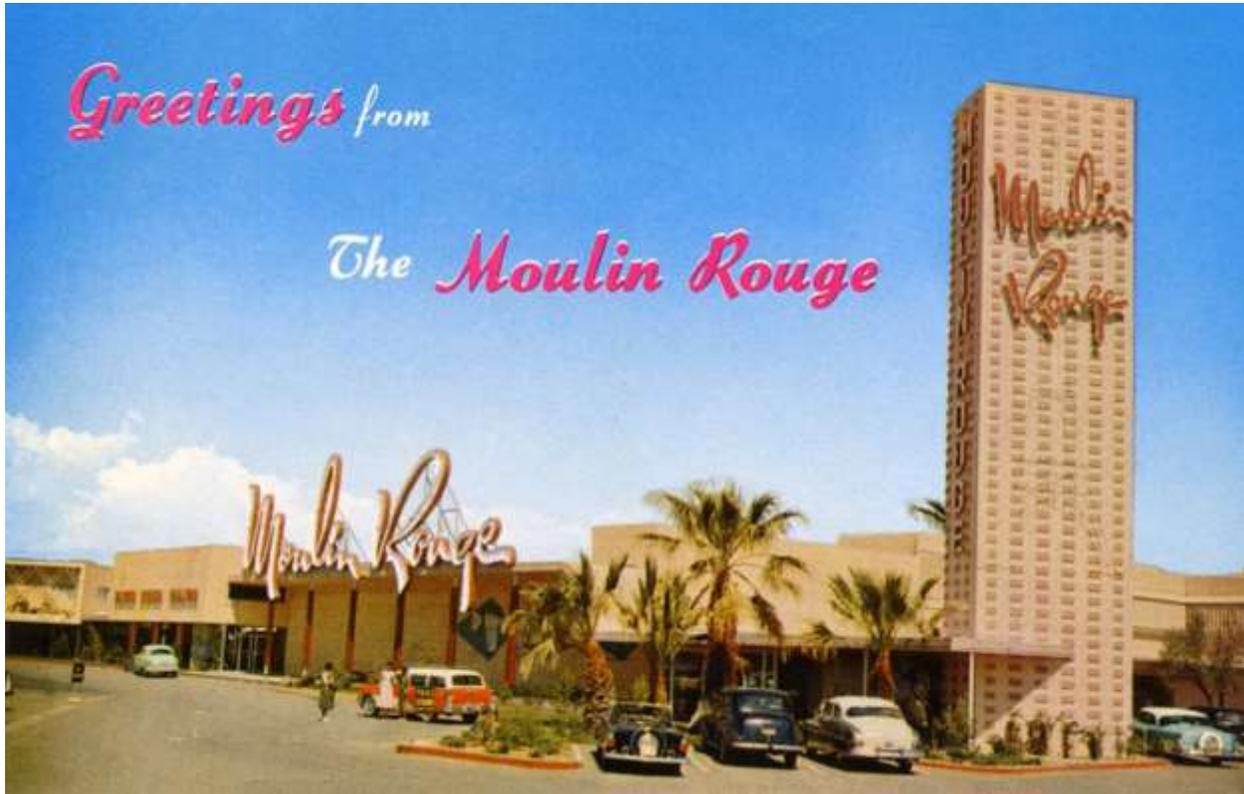


UPF Las Vegas, NV Honors the 62nd Anniversary of the Moulin Rouge Agreement

Ken Doo
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On March 25th, 2022, an event was held at IPEC in Las Vegas, Nevada, with the cooperation of Harrison House and Universal Peace Federation. The 62nd Anniversary of the Moulin Rouge Agreement was being recognized.

In 1960, an agreement was made with Casino Owners, the police department, politicians, the NAACP, and facilitated by the owner of the Sun Times, a major Las Vegas newspaper. The agreement stated "The practice of denying accommodations to Negroes must cease". This marked the beginning of desegregation in Las Vegas. The name 'Moulin Rouge' refers to the first Black Casino, which was very popular to Black as well as White guests.

Rev. Zagery Oliver our Executive Vice President of UPF, attended the event. After brief welcoming remarks by Katherine Duncan from Harrison House and Leslie Rigney, from UPF, Rev. Oliver spoke about the changes in attitudes and especially the need to go forward finding solutions. We need to respect one another, as well as our ancestors, who have brought us pride as well as embarrassment. Rev. Oliver also made the revelation that American Black leaders have been paid not to repeat what Martin Luther King, Jr. accomplished. Recognizing the great accomplishments of Black people to the American experiences can be key to developing respect. White leaders were quoted who recognize these achievements.

Roxanne McCoy, President of the NAACP Las Vegas for the last 6 years, and involvement even before that time, spoke about the Black population in general are usually at the bottom of every aspect of society.

She is very concerned about the way COVID affected the Black community, as an example of the lack of good health care. The education level is at the bottom, as well, next to the Native American community. She has strong concerns for the violence and mental health and justice issues.

Deputy Chief Yatomi, from the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, spoke of many public programs (#360) the police department have to reach out to the community. She spoke of the police presence in the schools. She said up to the 6th grade, the kids are excited and interested, then, that spark goes away. What can we do? She said we need to start with listening. She feels hope as more women are taking positions where decisions matter. She would like to help the education system find ways to manage conflict. She sees so many cases where individuals are at a loss at managing conflict. She supported Roxanne and says she's always available to help in any way she can.

Mother Toland, who is the first African-American Woman Principal in Las Vegas, sees racism as not just malice, but also ignorance. She showed a mural with many African cities with skyscrapers and development. She said it is important for people to be educated, to help them overcome the concepts that bring division.

Goldie Bradley represented the entertainment industry. She is concerned with the blocking of Hip Hop artists from performing in Las Vegas. She received several suggestions. A Judge suggested she attend a monthly meeting for Casino owners. Another suggested finding more supporters.

Dr. Eric Richardson, from the Wongu School of Oriental Medicine, spoke about the need in medicine to account for the differences in how people respond to treatment. He also spoke of the idea of perceived disrespect may be different than actual disrespect. He noted that funding is different for different diseases. Those diseases related to malnutrition and crowding may be less interesting to the funders than infectious disease, for example. He attributes the concept that racism is a public health crisis to the racial disparity in wealth and the importance in finding ways to support the family in the Black community as a way to help overcome these disparities. Taking care of our health begins in the family. He stated that any solution needs to bring God into the picture, that God-centered human love and care is essential.

Several of the presenters praised Rev. and Mrs. Moon for their emphasis on creating 'One World Under God' and the role of intermarriage in breaking down barriers.

Following the panelists, the guests continued the conversation at their tables over lunch, sharing how they could make a difference, personally, and could they see people of other races as part of their own human family?

Four Ambassadors for Peace were appointed.

Several guests stayed after the program, sharing and developing friendships.

Special thanks to Katherine Duncan, Rev. Zagery Oliver, Rev. Staffan Berg, whose loan paid the bills, all the panelists and the UPF team who worked so hard.