

**NOBEL RECEIVES SECOND GANDHI, KING, IKEDA PRIZE  
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Concluding Spiritual Awareness Week at Morehouse College in Atlanta, the second annual Gandhi, King, Ikeda Community Builders Prize was awarded to Dr. Michael Nobel, April 7. Also attending the ceremony were His Excellency Lalit Mansingh, ambassador of India to the United States, and SGI Vice President Hiromasa Ikeda.

As head of the Nobel Family Foundation, Dr. Nobel is a leading advocate for peace initiatives throughout the world, including Manifesto 2000, a six-point peace pledge which has garnered some 75 million signatures worldwide. He is the great grandnephew of Alfred Nobel, founder of the Nobel Prize.

In his acceptance speech, Dr. Nobel spoke of healing the wounds of Sept. 11, 2001. "If we choose to mark that date in memory with a solemn vow to the children of the world to build a better community, driven by a culture of peace and nonviolence, then we will have helped to change the course of history," he said. "We can pool our collective resources, talents and passions and build upon our shared concerns, our shared values, and restore the spiritual bond each of us shares with all of humanity and with all the life of this planet." (Please see excerpts from the speech on page 3.)

Herbie Hancock, Grammy Award-winning jazz musician and SGI-USA member, performed two of his original compositions, "Maiden Voyage" and "I Have a Dream," in tribute to Dr. Nobel and the occasion. "This was an amazing experience," said Mr. Hancock. "I was impressed with the spirit behind the entire event."

Commenting on the current world situation, and reflecting the spirit of the week's events, Mr. Hancock said: "From what I've been told, a lot of books on Islam have been sold recently, because people want to understand it. It's a shame it takes a great tragedy to make people want to understand others, but the good news is that hidden behind a great tragedy is a means for the forward development of humanity."

Performances were also given by the Morehouse College Glee Club and Dr. David Francis Oliver, the college's renowned organist.

Spiritual Awareness Week, which this year carried the theme "A Decade of Peace and Nonviolence For the Children of the World: Reconciliation Through Radical Forgiveness," included several interfaith events focused on developing understanding across all lines of difference. On April 4, Dr. Daniel Habuki, president of Soka University of America, was presented the Howard Thurman Award (see page 12).

A workshop on the topic of international peace was also held, which included SGI-USA General Director Danny Nagashima and other representatives. Dean Lawrence Carter of the Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel, who organized the week's activities, pointed to SGI President Ikeda and the SGI as examples of "not just preaching peace, but actively practicing it as a part of daily life. This is the path to international peace."