

For Immediate Release

Contact: Gilda N. Squire
Gilda Squire Media Relations
212-928-8090/gildasquire@verizon.net

**African American Public Radio Consortium & Baltimore's WEAA-FM
Proudly Announce the Premiere of**

THE MICHAEL ERIC DYSON SHOW

*News/Talk Radio Program Debuts on April 6th in 18 Markets with
Media Mogul Oprah Winfrey as Inaugural Guest*

New York – Award-winning author, scholar and social commentator **Dr. Michael Eric Dyson** is the host of a one-hour weekday news/talk radio show which is set to launch on April 6, 2009. *The Michael Eric Dyson Show* is confirmed to air Monday through Friday in eighteen markets (full station list attached; air times will vary), including Baltimore (WEAA-FM); Atlanta (WCLK-AM); Raleigh-Durham (WSHA-FM and WNCU-FM); Houston (KTSU-FM); and Las Vegas (KCEP-FM). “It is an honor to be at the helm of a show that is dedicated to providing valuable information, generating discussion about news of the day and the issues which affect our world, and giving a voice to those making a difference,” says host Dr. Michael Eric Dyson. “There are several topics about which I care deeply – politics, religion, economic policy, arts and culture – which will be regularly represented on the show. I hope that we will grow to become a go-to source for listeners who want to think, reflect and engage.”

The show will consist of three segment blocks: A) Newsmaker Guest Interviews; B) Roundtable Discussions on politics, religion and the economy, as well as a weekly Bloggers Roundtable; and C) Arts & Entertainment/Culture Guest Interviews. Media mogul **Oprah Winfrey** is confirmed as the show's first guest. Other confirmed guests to appear on the show within its first two weeks include: **Sean “P. Diddy” Combs, Spike Lee, Hill Harper, Donna Brazile, Samuel L. Jackson and Wendy Kopp, Founder of Teach for America.** “We are thrilled to be working with Michael Eric Dyson on this show, which will be a daily journey capitalizing on his strength and interest in critical social analysis. As such, Dr. Dyson will bring a tremendous amount of wisdom, insight and thought provoking discussion to listeners, sparking conversations that we hope will commence on the airwaves and continue beyond the show into communities around the country,” comments Loretta Rucker, Executive Director of the African American Public Radio Consortium.

The Michael Eric Dyson Show is created and produced by the African American Public Radio Consortium in partnership with consortium member station WEAA-FM, located in Baltimore MD on the campus of historically black university Morgan State University. *The Michael Eric Dyson Show* marks the Consortium's first program that will be self-produced in partnership with a member station. "This is an exciting opportunity for us at WEAA-FM. To play a part in the development of a show that is sure to become a key source of information, with a host who brings so much to the table, is something that we as a member station fully endorse and support. We hope that *The Michael Eric Dyson Show* is the first of many such joint ventures with the African American Public Radio Consortium," remarks LaFontaine Oliver, General Manager of WEAA-FM.

The Consortium and National Public Radio have worked as partners for the past eight years to create programs that serve more culturally diverse audiences. Their first project, The Tavis Smiley Show which debuted in 2002 was the first African American focused show to air on the network. The partnership followed up with the creation of *News and Notes* with hosts Ed Gordon and Farai Chideya in 2005, and *Tell Me More* with host Michel Martin in 2007. "This is a wonderful development. We are eager to see the show evolve and wish the Consortium team and Michael Eric Dyson great success. NPR will support the AAPRC in every way that we can as they begin this new chapter," said Margaret Low Smith, NPR's VP for Programming.

For more information or to schedule an interview with Dr. Michael Eric Dyson, please contact Gilda Squire Media Relations at 212-928-8090 or gildasquire@verizon.net.

###

Complete Radio Station List
THE MICHAEL ERIC DYSON SHOW
(As of March 2009)

Baltimore MD	WEAA	1:00PM
Montgomery AL	WVAS	12:00PM
Huntsville AL	WJAB	3:30PM
Atlanta GA	WCLK	6:00PM
Waterloo IA	KBBG	12:00PM
Jackson MS	WJSU	4:00PM
Alcorn MS	WPRL	9:00AM
Holly Springs MS	WURC	4:00PM
Las Vegas NV	KCEP	10:00AM
Durham NC	WNCU	5:00PM
Raleigh NC	WSHA	1:00PM
Elizabeth City NC	WRVS	6:00PM
Fayetteville NC	WFSS	3:00PM
Winston Salem NC	WSNC	4:30PM
Wilberforce OH	WCSU	Afternoon (time to come)
Houston TX	KTSU	12:00PM
Prairie View TX	KPVU	5:00PM
Norfolk VA	WNSB	Morning (time to come)

DR. MICHAEL ERIC DYSON

BIO

Hailed as one of the nation's most inspiring African Americans, Michael Eric Dyson -- named by *Ebony* magazine as one of the 100 most influential black Americans, and a two-time NAACP Image Award winner -- has been credited with revitalizing the role of the public intellectual with the fervor of an ordained Baptist minister.

Infusing intellectual endeavors with popular culture, Dyson focuses on topics of interest to the public. He eloquently melds scholarly insight with the phenomena of contemporary culture, emphasizing their interconnectedness and force in shaping our society.

His seventeen books provide some of the most significant commentary on modern social and intellectual thought, interwoven with a combination of cultural criticism, race theory, religion, philosophical reflection, and gender studies. Works such as *Making Malcolm*; *I May Not Get There with You*; *Holler if You Hear Me*; *Mercy, Mercy Me: The Art, Loves and Demons of Marvin Gaye*; *Is Bill Cosby Right? Or Has the Black Middle Class Lost its Mind?*; and more recently, *Come Hell or High Water: Hurricane Katrina and the Color of Disaster*, deeply probe social themes and cultural politics. His latest book is the New York Times bestseller *April 4, 1968: Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Death and How It Changed America*. And in May, Dyson will publish *Can You Hear Me Now?: The Inspiration, Wisdom and Insight of Michael Eric Dyson*.

A popular University Professor of Sociology at Georgetown University, Dyson bridges gaps between generations, connecting civil rights identity to hip-hop culture while forging links between older and younger Americans, especially black Americans. As a cutting edge cultural critic, he educates the general public on the significance of race theory, social analysis, cultural criticism, hip hop, sexual politics, among other subjects -- not only in understanding black culture, but American cultural as well. With his powerful voice, Dyson reaches beyond race, addressing the universal commonality of American concern.