

**\*\* For Immediate Release \*\***

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***Las Amigas, Incorporated to Hold 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conclave in Bethesda, Maryland***  
***“Sisters with Helping Hands and Loving Hearts”***

Las Amigas, Incorporated, a national, African American, women’s public service organization, will hold its’ 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conclave, June 22-26, 2011, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Bethesda, Maryland. Members will convene the annual meeting to not only conduct Las Amigas, Incorporated business, but also engage in various activities including a public Town Hall meeting, awarding scholarships and recognition for public service to residents of the local/area community, and visiting points of historical interest. Said Joann W. Williams, Las Amigas, Incorporated, 17<sup>th</sup> National President, “As we embark in the area of the nation’s capital for our 53<sup>rd</sup> Conclave, I am very excited about the opportunities to share Las Amigas, Incorporated’s story.”

The 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conclave, hosted by the Forestville Maryland Chapter and the Northeast Region, will bring members together embracing the convention theme – “*Sisters with Helping Hands and Loving Hearts*”. In addition to organizational business meetings and community events throughout the conference, Marian Wright Edelman, Founder and President of the Children’s Defense Fund (CDF), will be the Conclave keynote speaker at the Dora R. Mason Awards Luncheon on Saturday June 25<sup>th</sup>. Las Amigas, Incorporated will also award various community recognitions including scholarships to two graduating high school seniors embarking on their collegiate career – Briana K. L. Sharp (Westlake High School, Waldorf, MD) and Chamille McKay (Central High, Philadelphia, PA). Throughout the 2011 Conclave, members will engage in informative workshops presented by Patricia A. Daniels, Supreme Basileus of Gamma Phi Delta Sorority, Inc.

Events open to the public include the Town Hall Meeting on June 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10am – 11:30am (free); Power Breakfast featuring speaker Rev. Dr. Jo Ann Browning, co-pastor of Ebenezer African Methodist Episcopal Church, on Friday June 24<sup>th</sup> from 7:30am – 9am (cost \$45/person); Dora R. Mason Awards Luncheon on Saturday June 25<sup>th</sup> from 12noon – 3pm (cost \$55/person); and Mary Q. Moore Orchid Gala on Saturday June 25<sup>th</sup> from 9pm – 1:00am (formal attire; cost \$60). All events will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel (One Bethesda Metro Center, Bethesda, Maryland 20814).

Empowered, dedicated, and steadfast in their commitment to public service, Las Amigas, Incorporated - “the friends” – convenes annually to further the organization’s programmatic thrusts: education, family, health, political awareness, and economic development.

For more information regarding Las Amigas, Incorporated, visit [www.lasamigasincorporated.org](http://www.lasamigasincorporated.org) .

**ABOUT LAS AMIGAS, INCORPORATED**

*Las Amigas, Incorporated is an African American women’s public service organization founded in 1957 in Charlotte, N.C., by the late Dora R. Mason and Mary Q. Moore. The mission of Las Amigas, Incorporated is to enhance the quality of life and promote the general improvement of the communities in which Las Amigas serves and to encourage personal and professional growth and foster a closer relationship among members.*

*Las Amigas, Incorporated is an affiliate of the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) and has national partnerships with the Lupus Foundation of America, Inc., the National Bone Marrow Donor Program, the National Kidney Foundation, and Habitat for Humanity.*

*Las Amigas, Incorporated has chapters in communities within the states of Maryland, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Virginia, and our nation’s capitol.*