

Attallah Shabazz to speak at UCSD

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ATTALLAH SHABAZZ, DAUGHTER OF MALCOLM X, TO APPEAR AT UCSD

Attallah Shabazz, the daughter of slain black activist Malcolm X, will speak at the University of California, San Diego at 8 p.m. Sunday, February 12, in the Mandeville Center Auditorium.

The eldest of Malcolm X's six daughters, Shabazz was seven years old when she witnessed her father's assassination on Feb. 21, 1965, during a rally at a Harlem, New York, ballroom.

Shabazz travels the lecture circuit talking about Malcolm X's political career, and about her own relationship with him. Shabazz has become a persistent supporter of Malcolm X, known for his dramatic tirades against the oppression of blacks. After Kennedy's assassination, Malcolm X described the event as a "case of chickens coming home to roost." This remark caused his suspension from the American Black Muslim organization by its leader, Elijah Muhammad.

Shortly before his death, Malcolm X took a trip to Mecca and adopted orthodox Islam. He then began to speak about the possibility of racial integration, but was killed before his ideas could be recognized, says Shabazz.

Susan L. Taylor, editor in chief of Essence magazine, has said, "There are many people in this country, especially older people, who see Malcolm X not as the black shining prince he was among his people, but as a hate monger."

Shabazz says, "It's easier to digest Dr. King than to digest my father. The world doesn't know who it killed."

Alex Haley, Shabazz's godfather who co-authored a book with the slain black leader, says Shabazz is very much like her father, even to an "uncanny resemblance."

Along with her lecturing career Shabazz and the eldest daughter of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., work with a young theatre company designed to inspire and motivate black youth.

Reared in Westchester County, New York, Shabazz graduated from The United Nations International School and attended Briarcliff College. While in college Shabazz worked as a program director for the Little and Big Sisters Outreach Program for the White Plains YWCA, and continued to run their summer day camp for three consecutive years.

Tickets for this event are \$5, and are available from the UCSD Box Office and from TicketMaster outlets. Attallah Shabazz is brought to San Diego by the UCSD University Events Office.

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