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ONE BILLION RISING ATLANTA

***ATLANTA JOINS GLOBAL CAMPAIGN - ONE BILLION RISING - TO STOP
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS***

February 14, 2013 to be V-Day's Largest Day of Action Ever

(February 11, 2013, Atlanta) - On February 14, 2013, Atlanta will join with activists around the world for ONE BILLION RISING, the largest day of action in the history of V-Day, the global activist movement to end violence against women and girls. Valentine's Day 2013 will be an official ONE BILLION RISING DAY OF ACTION for the City of Atlanta, declaring Atlanta a Rape and Violence Free Zone.

ONE BILLION RISING events are taking place simultaneously on February 14 all over the globe – organizers have signed up to host events in every country in the world. ONE BILLION RISING is call to action based on the staggering statistic that 1 in 3 women on the planet will be beaten or raped during her lifetime. With the world population at 7 billion, this adds up to more than ONE BILLION WOMEN AND GIRLS. On February 14, 2013, V-Day's 15th anniversary, Atlanta will join activists, writers, thinkers, celebrities, and women and men across the world as we express their outrage, demand change, strike, dance, and RISE in defiance of the injustices women suffer, demanding an end at last to violence against women.

“When we started V-Day 14 years ago, we had the outrageous idea that we could end violence against women,” said Ensler. “Now, we are both stunned and thrilled to see that this global action is truly escalating and gaining force, with union workers, parliament members, celebrities, and women of all backgrounds coming forward to join the campaign. When we come together on February 14, 2013 to demand an end to violence against women and girls it will be a truly global voice that will rise up.”

February 14, 2013 will be a global rising and a day of action for the metro Atlanta area. V-Day Atlanta has brought together a coalition of **over 100** local organizations, businesses, schools, entertainers, and elected representatives to work to end violence and empower women in our city.

One Billion Rising Atlanta events for February 14, 2013 include –

10 AM – Speakers and performers at the Georgia State Capitol, west side steps across from Central Presbyterian Church.

Key speakers include:

Bishop Barbara King

Rev. Dr. Bernice King

Evelyn Lowery

State Senator Nan Orock

City Councilwoman Keshia Lance Bottoms

State Representative Simone Bell

Sara Blakely

Rev. Dr. Gerald Durley

Laura Turner Seydel

12 Noon – Flash mob led by legendary choreographer *Debbie Allen* - the largest flash mob in Atlanta history.

12 Noon – 2 PM – One Billion Rising live concert featuring two original songs written and performed by ***Sam Collier, Fly Musiq*** and ***Korin Deanna***. Additional performers include ***Doria Roberts, Elise Witt, and Mike Greer of Kingsized***.

Speakers at the Georgia Capitol will sound a call for increased awareness, education, and prevention efforts through increased funding for initiatives to end violence against women and girls in metro Atlanta and the state of Georgia. At Woodruff Park, thousands of Atlantans will dance in the largest flash mob in Atlanta history choreographed and led by the legendary Debbie Allen to the One Billion Rising anthem “Break the Chain” written by acclaimed songwriter Tena Clark. Dance studios around the city have donated space and instructors for anyone in the city to learn the steps and join the flash mob. City Hall will also be lighting their building red to raise awareness about One Billion Rising and stand in solidarity with this day of action for our city and around the world.

For those that are unable to physically join an event, all Atlanta events will be live streamed online at www.onebillionrisingatlanta.org. At noon on February 14, 2013, all are invited to stand up, walk outside, post to their social media, and share with our city that we refuse to stand by as more than ONE BILLION women and girls on the planet are raped or beaten in their lifetime.

www.onebillionatlanta.org

Facebook – www.facebook.com/OneBillionRisingAtlanta

Twitter @OBRAtlanta #1BillionRising

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About One Billion Rising

One in three women on the planet is raped or beaten in her lifetime. That is ONE BILLION WOMEN violated. One billion daughters, mothers, grandmothers, sisters, lovers and friends. On 14th February 2013, V-Day's 15th Anniversary, we are inviting ONE BILLION women and those who love them to WALK OUT, DANCE, RISE UP, and DEMAND an end to this violence. ONE BILLION RISING will move the earth, activating women and men to dance across every country. V-Day wants the world to see our collective strength, our numbers and our solidarity across borders. Join V-Day and ONE BILLION RISING today and SAY NO to violence against women and girls. To sign up and learn more, visit www.onebillionrising.org

About V-Day

V-Day is a global activist movement to end violence against women and girls that raises funds and awareness through benefit productions of Playwright/Founder Eve Ensler's award winning play *The Vagina Monologues* and other artistic works. In 2012, over 5,800 V-Day benefit events took place produced by volunteer activists in the U.S. and around the world, educating millions of people about the reality of violence against women and girls. To date, the V-Day movement has raised over \$90 million and educated millions about the issue of violence against women and the efforts to end it, crafted international educational, media and PSA campaigns, reopened shelters, and funded over 14,000 community-based anti-violence programs and safe houses in Democratic Republic of Congo, Haiti, Kenya, South Dakota, Egypt and Iraq. Over 300 million people have seen a V-Day benefit event in their community. V-Day has received numerous acknowledgements including Worth Magazine's 100 Best Charities, Marie Claire Magazine's Top Ten Charities, one of the Top-Rated organizations on Philanthropedia/GuideStar and Great Nonprofits. V-Day's newest campaign is ONE BILLION RISING which will culminate on 2.14.2013 with a global action worldwide. www.vday.org

To learn more about **V-Day Atlanta** call 770-315-2838 or e-mail the organization at nikki@vday.org. To learn more about V-Day and its campaigns visit www.vday.org

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