

Martin Luther King, Jr.

309 South Jackson Street
Montgomery, Alabama

Minister
Dexter Avenue Baptist Church
454 Dexter Avenue

August 7, 1957

President
Montgomery Improvement
Association Inc.
530 South Union Street

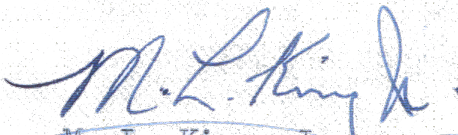
Mrs. Amy Spingarn
29 East 64th Street
New York, New York

Dear Mrs. Spingarn:

I would like to express my appreciation to you and the members of the Board of Directors of the NAACP for choosing me as the recipient of the Spingarn Medal for the year of 1957. This is an honor that I will cherish so long as the cords of memory shall lengthen. I have already placed the medal among my most sacred possessions. I can assure you that I will forever seek to live up to the noble and sublime principles inherent in such an award.

Let me express my appreciation to you for the great part that you and your late husband have played in the struggle for freedom and human dignity for all people. The names of the Spingarns will go down in history as symbols of the struggle for freedom and justice. Those of us who stand amid the bleak and desolate midnight of man's inhumanity to man are given new hope for the emerging daybreak of freedom and justice when we know that such persons exist in this nation. Again may I thank you for your generosity and understanding goodwill. The experience of receiving the Spingarn Medal --- made possible by the devotion and goodwill of your late husband --- will certainly stand as one of the high moments in my life.

Very sincerely yours,


M. L. King, Jr.
Minister

MLK:mlb