

Malcolm X: 50 Years Later

Civil rights leader honored on anniversary of his death



Ilyasah Shabazz, daughter of Malcolm X, speaks about her father and family at a ceremony on Saturday to remember the civil rights leader. (AP photo)

(AP)-- Activists, actors and politicians gathered Saturday in New York City to honor civil rights leader Malcolm X with a ceremony at the Harlem site where he was assassinated 50 years ago.

About 300 people converged to hear remarks from one of Malcolm X's six daughters, Ilyasah Shabazz, as well as elected officials. The ceremony was held at the Malcolm X & Dr. Betty Shabazz Memorial and Educational Center, formerly known as the Audubon Ballroom.

A blue light shone onto the floor in the exact spot where he was gunned down. A mural with images of Malcolm X adorned a wall.

"He was just a young man who gave all that he possibly could," Shabazz said after a moment of silence marking the time of his death.

Malcolm X, whose full name was El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz, was 39 when he was shot in the theater on Feb. 21, 1965, as he was preparing to address several hundred of his followers.

By the time he died, the Muslim leader had moderated his militant message of black separatism and pride but was still very much a passionate advocate of black unity, self-respect and self-reliance. Three members of the Nation of Islam were convicted of murder in his death. He had repudiated the Nation of Islam less than a year earlier.

Social and political activist Ron Daniels delivered the keynote address, calling Malcolm X a man of honesty and integrity. He ended his speech with chants of "Long Live Malcolm X!" as people stood and clapped.



Oregon Secretary of State Kate Brown is sworn in as Oregon Governor by Oregon Chief Justice Thomas A. Balmer in Salem on Wednesday, Feb. 18. (AP photo)

Brown Takes Oath of Governor

Makes pledge to restore public trust

(AP)—Kate Brown was sworn in last Wednesday as Oregon's governor following an influence-peddling scandal that prompted the resignation of fellow Democrat John Kitzhaber.

In a speech to the Legislature after her swearing-in, Brown praised Kitzhaber for his contributions but also said "we must restore the public's trust."

"There is a great deal of work ahead of us, and I'm ready to roll up my sleeves and get to it," she said in a brief address.

Kitzhaber has denied wrongdoing and has consistently maintained that he and his fiancée Cylvia Hayes worked hard to avoid conflicts between her public and private roles.

Brown, a 54-year-old Minnesota native, came to Oregon to attend

law school in Portland, the state's largest city, and established a family law practice before her first run for the Legislature.

She called on lawmakers to pass "meaningful legislation" to strengthen the state ethics commission and require timely release of public records. She pledged not to accept outside compensation while she's governor and said the members of her household and her staff would not be allowed to seek compensation "for any work related to the business of the state of Oregon."

"That simply will not happen," she said.

Brown's term will last two years. The state constitution calls for a special election that will come in November 2016. She hasn't said whether she plans to run.

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