

**Subject:** Urban Releaf eNewsletter January 2012

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# Urban Releaf

eNewsletter | January 2012

## In This Issue



- Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service Event
- Oakland Museum of California
- West Oakland Tree Planting
- PACE
- Promoting Urban Forestry Education
- Career Day at Emery High School
- UC Berkeley Volunteer Symposium
- Call for Interns
- Our major funders

## *"Building Healthy Communities One Tree at a Time"*

### Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service Event

Join us as we celebrate of the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr! On Monday, January 16, 2012, we will be planting trees in West Oakland from 10:00am to 1:00pm. Meet us at the corner of Market and 31st Street, the target area of our current research project. The 31st Street Demonstration Project is a National Showcase for Urban Greening and a research project that focuses on the benefits of trees as it relates to water. There will be plenty of food and entertainment. We hope you can make it out on this important day!



## Quick Links

### Support Urban Releaf

- Donate through TreeBank
- Sponsor a Tree

[back to top](#)

Learn more about us  
at [urbanreleaf.org](http://urbanreleaf.org).

Email or call us to:

- Volunteer
- Become a Member
- Request a Tree
- Dedicate a Tree

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## Oakland Museum of California

Don't miss the John Muir Exhibition: A Walk in the Wild at the Oakland Museum of California spotlighting Urban Releaf's Director Kemba Shakur as a Modern Day John Muir. Alongside other environmental activists, Kemba is featured for her efforts to transform Oakland's concrete jungle into a healthy urban forest.



On Sunday, January 15, 2012 at 2pm, celebrate with Urban Releaf as we plant and dedicate a native tree of California to the OMCA Garden. Meet Oakland's Modern Day Muir, Kemba Shakur of Urban Releaf, and check out the exhibit, which runs until January 22, 2012.

Check out the video they produced in her honor (at the bottom of the page).

[back to top](#)

## West Oakland Tree Planting



On November 12, 25 young men and women from the Weekend Training Academy volunteered with Urban Releaf to plant trees throughout West Oakland. They worked hard throughout the day to put 22 trees into the ground. We appreciate the tremendous support that we've received from their Director Derrick Bedford over the years. At the same time, Dogtown Neighborhood Association volunteers were busy helping to beautify 34th Street through a community clean-up event.

David Roach  
Web Designer  
Kwame Davis  
Office Assistant  
Lara Roman  
U.C. Berkeley Intern

[back to top](#)

### Spotlighting Our Honorary Board Member



Isabel Wade is the founder of over 6 nonprofits including the State of California's Urban Forestry Program, the Neighborhood Parks Council, and the California Releaf Program to name a few. We were happy to attend the San Francisco's Friends of the Urban Forest 30th Anniversary Luncheon honoring her as their first President.

*"A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots."*

Marcus Garvey

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### PACE

On November 3, Kemba Shakur participated in the Presidio and Community Engagement (PACE) program. The program, comprised of graduate students in Sustainable Management, provided Urban Releaf with a report that will assist our agency with future fundraising efforts. We would like to thank PACE for their time and support in helping to build our organization.

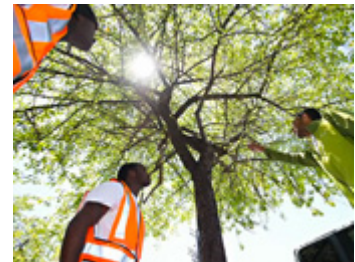


[back to top](#)

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### Promoting Urban Forestry Education

In July, Urban Releaf's Director of Education Gregory Tarver, Jr. was interviewed by the UC Davis Alumni Magazine for his contribution as an urban forester working to engage youth in greening the City of Oakland. Greg will be heading the new Urban Forestry Education and Stewardship Training Program this coming year! The program is designed to employ and develop the skills of local youth in becoming educated community leaders.



Check out the UC Davis article and video.

[back to top](#)

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### Career Day at Emery High School

Emery High School hosted a Career



Day Event that focused on sustainability and greening professions. Invited panelists included Kemba Shakur and David Roach, Founder and President of Mo' Better Foods. Kemba Shakur shared her experiences advocating for the urban forest, while David Roach presented on the need for the accessibility of healthy and fresh food.



[back to top](#)

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## UC Berkeley Volunteer Symposium

UC Berkeley's Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning hosted a symposium on October 22nd to promote volunteer opportunities. Kemba Shakur spoke about the numerous student groups that have assisted Urban Releaf over the last decade. Two students in particular that have contributed and worked closely with Urban Releaf are Ashley Duval, who presented her thesis on the power of green jobs, and Lara Roman, who has been engaged in a 5-year tree mortality study of West Oakland's trees.



[back to top](#)

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## Call for Interns

In the coming year, Urban Releaf will be expanding our internship opportunities. We are looking for motivated individuals, who will work closely with our team to support our various programs including tree planting and maintenance, education, research, outreach,



and administration. If you are interested, please forward you resume to [info@urbanreleaf.org](mailto:info@urbanreleaf.org).



[back to top](#)

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### Thank you to our major funders



[back to top](#)



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## Help us help more youth plant trees!

[Make a donation](#) to Urban Releaf through TreeBank.

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