

Marian Anderson Get Rose Namesake

Chicago Daily Defender (Daily Edition) (1960-1973); May 6, 1964;

ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Chicago Defender

pg. 5



'ROSE' FOR A ROSE OF A SINGER

Famed contralto Marian Anderson receives bouquet of cherry-red Grandiflora roses renamed "The Marian Anderson Rose" in the gardens of the Baha'i Temple from Dr. David S. Ruhe, executive secretary of the National Baha'i Assembly, in a special ceremony in Wilmette, Ill.

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Miss Marian Anderson, world-famous contralto, was honored at a special ceremony in the Baha'i Temple gardens in Wilmette. The occasion was the first Illinois planting of the new Marian Anderson rose, the first rose ever named in honor of a living American Negro.

Dr. David S. Ruhe, executive secretary of the National Baha'i Assembly, told those attending the function:

"The Baha'is are very happy to have Miss Anderson present on this occasion. It seems especially appropriate to have the Marian Anderson rose in the Baha'i gardens. These gardens, with their variation of color and design symbolize the basic teaching of the Baha'i Faith — the oneness of mankind and the unity of all races and religions.

Following the ceremony, Miss Anderson attended the Sunday public worship service in the Baha'i Temple. One of the selections sung by the Baha'i a cappella choir was the prayer, "Blessed is the Spot," revealed by Baha'u'llah, the Founder the the Baha'i Faith.

The musical setting for this prayer has been dedicated to Miss Anderson by Charles

Wolcott, noted composer and

former musical director of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. After the service, Miss Anderson was guest of honor at a reception given by the National Baha'i Assembly in Wilmette.

The Marian Anderson rose, a cherry red Grandiflora rose "with a golden heart," was developed by Dr. Walter Lammeris, one of the world's leading hybrid rose experts.