

KRS-One's Non-Violence Tested

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After a fan throws bottle toward stage injuring KRS-One's face and hand, the Teacha shows he's anything but hypocritical...

Hip Hop artist and activist, KRS One, demonstrates incredible restraint after overzealous fan throws bottle at a New Haven, CT nightclub, striking the icon in the face and fracturing his right hand. By doctor's orders, all performance and lecture dates have been postponed until after May 1, 2008.

In the midst of an intense, multi-city mission in support of the Stop the Violence Movement, KRS One has been visiting some of the nation's roughest neighborhoods, spreading his message of nonviolence to those who need to hear it most. During his latest stop in Chicago, the Teacha visited tragedy-plagued Crane High School, released the star-studded "Self Construction" single on Hot 92.3 radio and held a press conference to promote peace with Illinois State Representative John Fritchey. His New Haven, CT stop brought him to the Toad's Place nightclub where his true Stop the Violence message was tested.

Standing firm on his platform of peace, KRS One calmed the crowd and security staff, which came to his defense after a fan lost control of himself, lashing out in anger at having been escorted off stage by throwing a bottle in the direction of the stage. After being struck in the face and hand and still holding the microphone, the legendary performer pleaded, "Let it go. Let it go. When negativity comes your way, let it go. Let this be an example as to how we stop the violence." Amazingly, the veteran emcee finished the last 15 minutes of his set as his right hand swelled to painful proportions, and he was rushed to Yale-New Haven hospital in an ambulance and treated for a fractured hand as well as dehydration.

Though KRS One expressed his preference that the fan not be charged, his management team and the staff of the nightclub insisted upon an arrest for legal purposes related to the unfortunate impending postponement of future engagements. Doctor Jeff Midgley of Yale-New Haven Hospital instructed the performer to postpone all previously scheduled commitments until he rehydrates and his fractured hand heals. A longtime fan, and hospital staffer, Deirdre Gill, told KRS,

"Over the years, you've instructed us to take care of ourselves, now it's time to take care of yourself. Get some rest."

A disappointed KRS One sincerely apologizes that the following dates must be postponed due to this unfortunate incident:

- April 19 - Panel Discussion and Performance at Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY
- April 21 - Performance at Harper's Ferry, Allston, MA
- April 22 - Performance at Lupo's Heartbreak Hotel, Providence, RI
- April 28-30 - Community Meetings and Planning, Chicago, IL