Dear FIU family:

“When it looked like the sun was not shining anymore, God put a rainbow in the sky.”

Those were the words Maya Angelou sang, in that rich voice we all know so well, when she graced our university with her presence in 2005. During that visit, a crowd of 2,000 gathered at our FIU Arena to hear her speak. We were blessed to host her on two other occasions. In 1995, she similarly weaved her spell and inspired an audience as part of our black history month celebrations. In 1987, she was on campus as part of a groundbreaking international conference on issues relating to people of African descent around the world.

Sadly, this week we join Angelou’s family, friends, and admirers in mourning her loss. But we take comfort in the fact, that for all of us Maya Angelou was a bright, powerful star who touched all of our lives and whose light will never be extinguished.
Sincerely,

Mark B. Rosenberg