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50 cents

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Fresno's African American Community Newspaper

Martin Luther King & Barack Obama

Special Edition 2009

The Meaning of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

By CORETTA SCOTT KING

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday celebrates the life and legacy of a man who brought hope and healing to America. We commemorate as well the timeless values he taught us through his example – the values of courage, truth, justice, compassion, dignity, humility and service that so radiantly defined Dr. King's character and empowered his leadership. On this holiday, we commemorate the universal, unconditional love, forgiveness and nonviolence that empowered his revolutionary spirit.

We commemorate Dr. King's inspiring words, because his voice and his vision filled a great void in our nation, and answered our collective longing to become a country that truly lived by its noblest principles. Yet, Dr. King knew that it wasn't enough just to talk the talk, he had to walk the walk for his words to be credible. And so we commemorate on this holiday the man of action, who put his life on the line for freedom and justice every day, the man

who braved threats and jail and beatings and who ultimately paid the highest price to make democracy a reality for all Americans.

The King Holiday honors the life and contributions of America's greatest champion of racial justice and equality, the leader who not only dreamed of a color-blind society, but who also led a movement that achieved historic reforms to help make it a reality.

On this day we commemorate Dr. King's great dream of a vibrant, multiracial nation united in justice, peace and reconciliation; a nation that has a place at the table for children of every race and room at the inn for every needy child. We are called on this holiday, not merely to honor, but to celebrate the values of equality, tolerance and interracial sister and brotherhood he so compellingly expressed in his great dream for America.

It is a day of interracial and intercultural
Continued on Page 13 ▶

Obama's Inauguration Message to His Daughters

'What I Want for You – and Every Child in America'

By PRESIDENT-ELECT BARACK OBAMA
 PARADE MAGAZINE –

Next Tuesday, Barack Obama will be sworn in as our 44th President. On this historic occasion, Parade asked the President-elect, who is also a devoted family man, to get personal and tell us what he wants for his children. Here, he shares his letter to them.

Dear Malia and Sasha,

I know that you've both had a lot of fun these last two years on the campaign trail, going to picnics and parades and state fairs, eating all sorts of junk food your mother and I probably shouldn't have let you have. But I also know that it hasn't always been easy for you and Mom, and that as excited as you both are about that new puppy, it doesn't make up for all the time we've been apart. I know how much I've missed these past two years, and today I want to tell you a little more about why I decided to take our family on this journey.

When I was a young man, I thought life was all about me—about how I'd make my way in the world, become successful, and get the things I want. But then the two of you came into my world with all your curiosity and mischief and those smiles that never fail to fill my heart and light up my day. And suddenly, all my big plans for myself didn't seem so impor-

tant anymore. I soon found that the greatest joy in my life was the joy I saw in yours. And I realized that my own life wouldn't count for much unless I was able to ensure that you had every opportunity for happiness and fulfillment in yours. In the end, girls, that's why I ran for President: because of what I want for you and for every child in this nation.

I want all our children to go to schools worthy of their potential—schools that challenge them, inspire them, and instill in them a sense of wonder about the world around them. I want them to have the chance to go to college—even if their parents aren't rich. And I want them to get good jobs: jobs that pay well and give them benefits like health care, jobs that let them spend time with their own kids and retire with dignity.

I want us to push the boundaries of discovery so that you'll live to see new technologies and inventions that improve our lives and make our planet cleaner and safer. And I want us to push our own human boundaries to reach beyond the divides of race and region, gender and religion that keep us from seeing the best in each other.

Sometimes we have to send our young men and women into war and other dangerous situations to protect our country—but when we do, I want to make sure that it is only for a very good reason, that we
Continued on Page 4 ▶



THE CALIFORNIA ADVOCATE NEWSPAPER

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Slavery Ended in 1865



200 Years Later

... "the America that it ought to be."



Saints Rest Missionary Baptist Church

Sunday Schedule

Brotherhood	8:00 am
Sunday School	9:15 am
New Members Class	9:15 am
Morning Worship Celebration	10:45 am
Children's Church	10:45 am

Shane B. Scott, Pastor/Teacher

Bible Study & Prayer Meeting

Tuesday	
Precious Jewels Literary Club	4:30pm
Wednesday	
Intercessory Prayer	6:30pm
Insights for Living	7:30pm
The F.A.M.I.L.Y	7:30pm

(Faithful-Available-Mighty-Inspirational-Liberated-Youth)

'We Are the Change' Celebration

'We Are the Change' Celebration mobilizes diversity and solidarity in Greater Fresno for the upcoming inauguration day

As the nation prepares for a historical presidency on Tues., January 20, 2009, 44th US President Barack Obama diverse, Fresno community will celebrate the overture with the previous campaign message matured, "We Are the Change," at the African-American Museum of the San Joaquin Valley that same day.

Valley Black Talk Radio, the African-American Museum and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, (founded by the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.) have pulled key Fresno community organizations together as co-hosts of this grand affair Tues., Jan 20th from 5-7 PM to celebrate the inauguration of President Barack Obama.

With the help of sponsors and co-hosts such as; Fresno West Coalition, California Advocate Newspaper, Good Citizens Inc., City of Fresno, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Committee, National Network in Action and Fresno City College Black Faculty & Staff, the event will be free admission for all.

Key sponsors helping to bring the event to life include: Fresno City Council President Cynthia Sterling, Ann Marie Production, Urban Strategic Enterprises, and Grandmother's Love.

Coupled with sponsored food and entertainment, the festive celebration will include a replay of the inauguration ceremony from earlier that day, an informal program with community discussion lead by prominent activist and Fresno City College professor, Kehinde Solwazi, and Obama displays and paraphernalia available for the public.

Also the African-American Museum has collectively created an "Obama Ambience" amongst the arts community so that citizens can travel between the different festivities to continue celebrating at Arte Americas, Downtown Community Arts Collective and the Fresno Metropolitan Museum.

With the help of sponsors and co-hosts such as; Fresno West Coalition, California Advocate Newspaper, Good Citizens Inc., City of Fresno, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Committee, National Network in Action and Fresno City College Black Faculty & Staff, the event will be free admission for all.

For more information, please go to: www.vbtradio.org or call the African-American Museum at 559-268-7102.

ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY IOTA NU LAMBDA

Barack Obama Inauguration Celebration

Hope you will join us to celebrate this historical evening, the inauguration of Barack Obama, elected 44th President of the United States of America.

Tuesday, January 20th, 2009

3705 N. Maroa, Fresno CA 93704
\$40.00 per person with commemorative gift
Social 5:30-6:30 Buffet Dinner

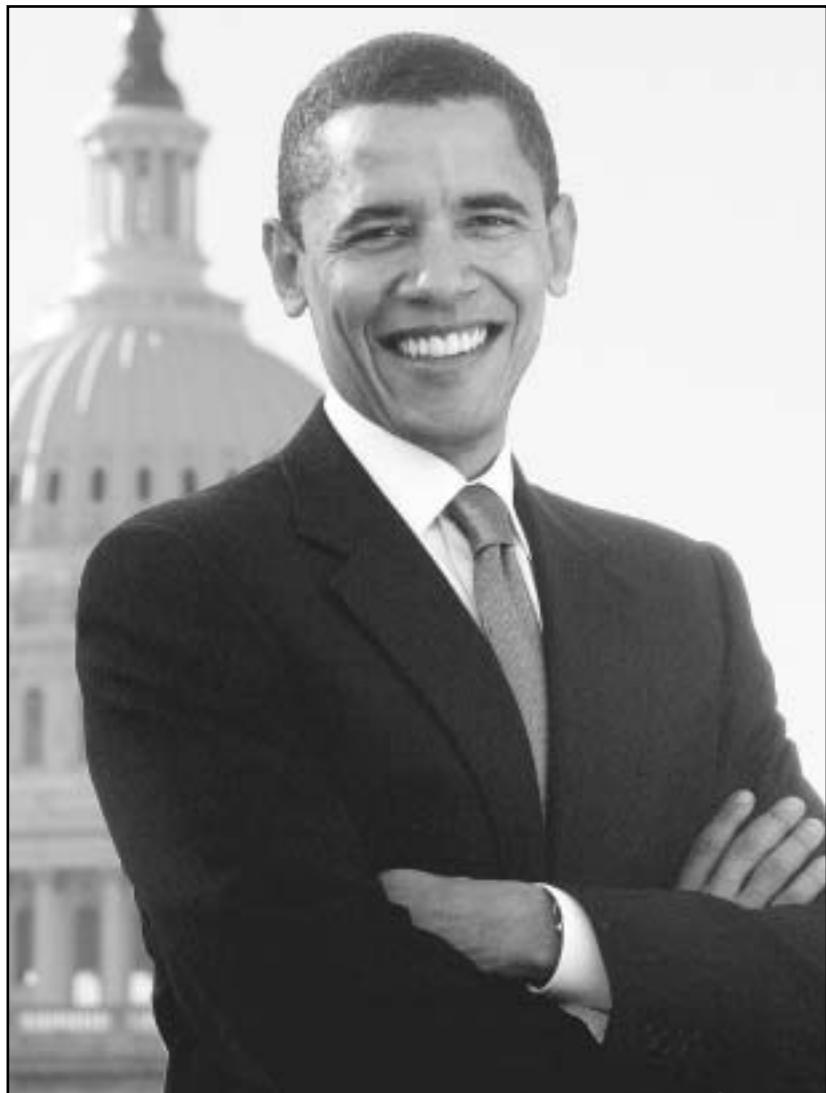
Send Check, Money Order, Cashier's Check, payable to Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.

RSVP by January 20th, 2009 to one of the following addresses:

Columbus Craig • 1424 W. Paul Ave. • Fresno CA 93711 • (559) 435-4395
Paul White • 2315 Ashlan Ave. • Clovis CA 93704 • (559) 292-5114

History Has Been Made! We've Taken Back the White House!

Inauguration of the 44th President of the United States Barack Hussein Obama



January 20, 2009
Breakfast Begins at 8:00 am
Inauguration Broadcast at 9:00 am

Come watch the culmination of months of hard work by Democrats and Progressives across America. Join democrats from across Fresno County at the Radisson Hotel in Downtown Fresno. Have breakfast and watch the Inauguration on three huge screens.

\$35.00
Group Sponsorships Available

For More Information, call (559) 495-0606
Make Checks Payable to the Fresno Democratic Central Committee

City of Fresno 2009 Annual Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. March & Celebration LIVING THE DREAM:

Let Freedom Ring for Service in Our Community, Nation, and World

Presented by the Fresno Martin Luther King Unity Committee

"MOUNTAIN OF FOOD" DRIVE

Please support the Valley Food Bank & reduce hunger in our community
****Canned food will be collected at all events****



Martin Luther King

Friday, January 16, 2009 – Opening Garlanding Ceremony (12:00-1:00pm). Location: Fresno County Courthouse Park (at MLK Bust), 1100 Van Ness Ave. Opening Ceremony. Please bring flowers. **Contact:** Dr. Sudarshan Kapoor (559) 435-2212 or Gall Gaston (559) 681-3140.

Friday, January 16, 2009 – Award Reception (6:00-7:30pm / Program begins at 6:30pm). Location: African American Museum, 1857 Fulton Ave. Reception to honor awardees for outstanding service to the community in five categories: 1) Business 2) Organization 3) Youth 4) Female, and 5) Male. **Contact:** Julia Dudley (559) 352-1444.

Saturday, January 17, 2009 – Community Breakfast (Breakfast served at 8:30am / Program starts at 9:30am). Location: Clovis Veterans Memorial Building, 453 Hughes Ave, Clovis (Hughes & Fifth Street). Come enjoy food, entertainment, and Keynote Speaker Pastor Steve Davidson from Clovis Hills Church. **Tickets:** \$5.00 each in advance (tables of 8 available) & canned food donations to benefit the Clovis Salvation Army. **Contact:** Caroline Carlson (559) 324-2416 at Clovis Police Department or Gail Gaston (559)681-3140.

Saturday, January 17, 2009 – All Faith Service (4:00-6:00pm). Location: 2nd Baptist Church, 1041 E. Jensen Ave. (Jensen & MLK Blvd) Various beloved community speakers, spiritual leaders, and musical talent. **Contact:** Dr. Sudarshan Kapoor (559) 435-2212 or Rev. Bruce McAlister (559) 227-9819.

Sunday, January 18, 2009 – Candlelight Vigil (5:00-6:00pm). Location: Saints Rest Missionary Baptist Church, 1550 E. Rev Chester Riggins Ave. Enjoy a variety of community speakers & musical performances. **Contact:** Dr. David Howard (559) 277-9552, Pastor Rufus Fruge (559) 347-8217, or Janet Capella (559) 974-1824.

Monday, January 19, 2009 – March and "Mountain of Food" Collection (9:15-10:45am). Location: St. John's Cathedral, 2814 Mariposa Ave. Marchers assemble at 9:15AM. March begins at 10:00AM, ending at the Veterans Memorial Auditorium for Commemoration Program. "Mountain of Food" will be collected at St. John's Cathedral. **Contact:** Enrique Reade (559) 940-2159, Bishop John Sims (559) 351-9524, or James Leftill (559) 284-6420.

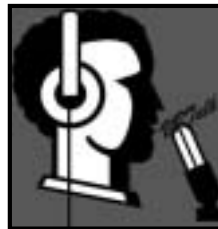
Monday, January 19, 2009 – Commemoration Program (10:45am-12:00pm) Location: Veterans Memorial Auditorium, 2425 Fresno St. Commemoration program featuring inspirational speakers and musical talent. **Contact:** Julia Dudley (559) 352-1444 or Bishop John Sims (559) 351-9524.

Monday, January 19, 2009 – Fresno Falcons Hockey in collaboration with Fresno MLK Unity Committee and HandsOn Central California. Location: Selland Arena. Doors open at 12:00PM / Game starts at 1:05pm. Fresno Falcons vs. Utah Grizzlies Game honoring Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and volunteers throughout the Valley. All Tickets 1/2 price. **Contact:** Fresno Falcons Ticket Office (559) 485-PUCK (7825).

Thursday, February 12, 2009 – Student Art Exhibition/Reception (Reception 4:00PM / Program 5:00PM). Location: Fresno Metropolitan Museum, 1515 Van Ness Ave. Honoring student speech, essay, and art winners from Fresno and Clovis Unified, and other Fresno County School Districts. Art on display January 27-February 22, 2009. **Contact:** Shirley Hargis (559)265-3060.

FRESNO MLK UNITY COMMITTEE
www.mlkfresno.com
CHAIRMAN: Dr. David Howard (559) 277-9552
CO-CHAIR: Julia Dudley-Najieb (559) 352-1444

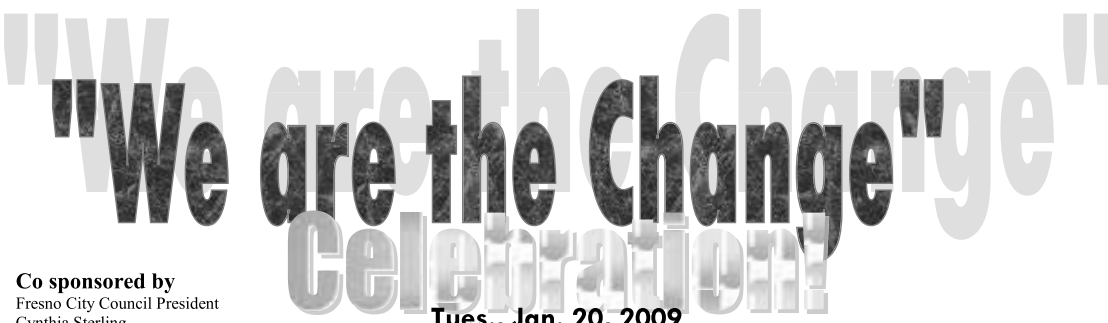
In conjunction with the African-American Museum & SCLC, Valley Black Talk Radio presents



www.vbtradio.org

"We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek"
- 44th US President, Barack Obama (February 5, 2008)

Come celebrate with us a historical moment as our new president breaks open the doors of opportunity!



Co sponsored by
Fresno City Council President Cynthia Sterling

Ann Marie Production
Urban Strategic Enterprises
Grandmother's Love

Tues., Jan. 20, 2009
5-7 PM

At the African-American Museum
1857 Fulton St., Fresno, CA
ADMISSION FREE!

Co-hosted by
Fresno West Coalition
California Advocate Newspaper
Good Citizens Inc.
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Committee
National Network In Action
Fresno City College Black Faculty & Staff

Other Event Locations
Arte Americas
Downtown Community Arts Collective
Fresno Metropolitan Museum



Historic T-shirts \$10!

So let's come together!
Enjoy Food!
Entertainment!
From the grass roots came change...
From the grass roots came change...
From the grass roots came change...

Barack Obama Inauguration Events

January 17th, 2009 Whistle Stop Train Tour

In the final leg of the President-elect's incredible journey to Washington, D.C., he'll be doing a Whistle Stop Train Tour, starting in Philadelphia, the city where our democracy was born.

10:05 a.m. - Philadelphia, PA Event

The President-elect holds an event in Philadelphia, PA before boarding a train headed toward Washington, D.C. Tickets are required for the event and have been distributed to the public.

1:00 p.m. - Wilmington, DE Open Event

The President-elect will stop for a public event with the Vice President-elect in the back of the Wilmington Train Station, 100 South French Street. Doors open at 9:30 a.m.

4:15 p.m. - Baltimore, MD Open Event

The President-elect and Vice President-elect will make their last stop in Baltimore for another public event at the War Memorial Plaza, 101 N. Gay St., Baltimore, MD. Doors open at 1:00 p.m.

January 18th, 2009

We Are One: Opening Inaugural Celebration at the Lincoln Memorial

2:30 p.m. - The Lincoln Memorial

President-elect Barack Obama with the help of an all-star line-up of talent will kick off the inaugural celebration in Washington, D.C., with a free and open event at the Lincoln Memorial, between Constitution Avenue NW and Independence Avenue SW on 23rd Street.

Musical performers scheduled for the event include Beyonce, Mary J. Blige, Bono, Garth Brooks, Sheryl Crow, Renee Fleming, Josh Groban, Herbie Hancock, Heather Headley, John Legend, Jennifer Nettles, John Mellencamp, Usher Raymond IV, Shakira, Bruce Springsteen, James Taylor, will.i.am, and Stevie Wonder.

Among those reading historical passages will be Jamie Foxx, Martin Luther King III, Queen Latifah and Denzel Washington. The Rt. Reverend V. Gene Robinson will give the invocation. Rob Mathes will be the music director and arranger for the backing band, which will support all of the artists. Additional performers will be announced as they are confirmed.

The Reflecting Pool area, JFK Hockey Fields and Constitution Gardens are open to the public and space will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Doors open at 8:00 a.m.

January 19th, 2009

Renew America Together: A Call to Service

To honor Dr. King's legacy, the President-elect and the Vice President-elect will be participating in service projects in Washington D.C., as thousands of Americans follow their example in communities across the country. Find or host a service event in your community.

Community Service Day Lunch

This event is by invitation only. Please check back for more information about this event.

Youth Concert

That night Mrs. Michelle Obama, Dr. Jill Biden and their families will be attending the "Kids' Inaugural: We Are The Future" concert at the Verizon Center in downtown Washington, D.C.

The concert will be broadcast from 8:00 - 9:30 p.m. ET/PT on The Disney Channel, be simulcast on Radio Disney and streamed on Disney.com immediately following the telecast.

Bipartisan Dinners

President-elect Obama will host a series of bipartisan dinners honoring Senator John McCain, General Colin Powell, and Vice President-elect Joe Biden. The dinners will take place at the National Building Museum, Union Station and the Hilton Washington. The dinners are by invitation only.

5:00 p.m. - Dinner Honoring General Colin L. Powell, USA (Ret.)
National Building Museum

5:00 p.m. - Dinner Honoring Senator John McCain
Hilton Washington

6:30 p.m. - Dinner Honoring Vice President-elect Joe Biden
Union Station

January 20, 2009 Swearing-in Ceremony

The President-elect and Vice President-elect and their families will participate in the traditional inaugural ceremonies and events. For the first time ever, the length of the National Mall will be open to those wishing to attend



the swearing-in ceremony. If you're planning on attending, you can find more information here to help plan your trip.

Festivities will commence at 10 a.m. on the west front of the U.S. Capitol and will include:

- Musical Selections: The United States Marine Band, followed by The San Francisco Boys Chorus and the San Francisco Girls Chorus
- Call to Order and Welcoming Remarks: Senator Diane Feinstein
- Invocation: Dr. Rick Warren
- Musical Selection: Aretha Franklin
- Vice President-elect Joseph R. Biden, Jr. will be sworn into office by Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, the Honorable John Paul Stevens
- Musical Selection: John Williams, composer/arranger with Itzhak Perlman, (violin), Yo-Yo Ma (cello), Gabriela Montero (piano) and Anthony McGill (clarinet)
- President-elect Barack H. Obama will take the Oath of Office, using President Lincoln's Inaugural Bible, administered by the Chief Justice of the United States, the Honorable John G. Roberts, Jr.
- Inaugural Address
- Poem: Elizabeth Alexander
- Benediction: The Reverend Dr. Joseph E. Lowery
- The National Anthem: The United States Navy Band "Sea Chanters"

After President Obama gives his Inaugural Address, he will escort outgoing President George W. Bush to a departure ceremony.

Inaugural Luncheon

Following the swearing-in ceremony, President Barack Obama, Vice President Joseph Biden, and members of their families will attend an inaugural luncheon hosted by the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies.

Inaugural Parade

The 56th Inaugural Parade will make its way down Pennsylvania Avenue from the Capitol to the White House with groups traveling from all over the country to participate. Find out more information about the parade. While there is no official start time for the parade, it traditionally begins around 2:30 p.m.

Neighborhood Ball

7:00 p.m. - Walter E. Washington Convention Center

President-elect Barack Obama will host the first-ever Neighborhood Inaugural Ball, the premier event of the night, with musical performances by: Beyonce, Mary J. Blige, Mariah Carey, Faith Hill, Jay-Z, Alicia Keys, Shakira, Stevie Wonder and Nick Cannon (as DJ). To help bring this unique event to neighborhoods across the nation, ABC will air the event live from 8:00-10:00 p.m. ET.

We'll also be using interactive technology including text messaging and webcasting to link the main event with neighborhood ball parties happening across the country. Find or host your own party and celebrate the beginning of a new era.

January 21, 2009

National Prayer Service

8:30 a.m. - National Cathedral

The newly-inaugurated President and Vice President of the United States will join with dignitaries and Americans of diverse faiths to celebrate the previous day's events through prayer, readings, and musical performances. Reverend Dr. Sharon Watkins will be the first woman to deliver the sermon at this traditional Inaugural event. This event is by invitation only.

Obama's Inauguration Message to His Daughters...



Democratic presidential nominee U.S. Sen. Barack Obama (D-IL) is greeted by his daughter, Malia (C) and Sasha as he got off his plane at Pueblo Memorial Airport in Pueblo, Colorado. (Photo by Joe Raedle/Getty Images)

► Continued from Page 1

try our best to settle our differences with others peacefully, and that we do everything possible to keep our servicemen and women safe. And I want every child to understand that the blessings these brave Americans fight for are not free—that with the great privilege of being a citizen of this nation comes great responsibility.

Bumper cars at the Iowa State Fair in August 2007.

That was the lesson your grandmother tried to teach me when I was your age, reading me the opening lines of the Declaration of Independence and telling me about the men and women who marched for equality because they believed those words put to paper two centuries ago should mean something.

She helped me understand that America is great not because it is perfect but because it can always be made better—and that the unfinished work of perfecting our union falls to each of us. It's a charge we pass on to our children, coming closer with each new generation to what we know America should be.

I hope both of you will Love, Dad

take up that work, righting the wrongs that you see and working to give others the chances you've had. Not just because you have an obligation to give something back to this country that has given our family so much—although you do have that obligation. But because you have an obligation to yourself. Because it is only when you hitch your wagon to something larger than yourself that you will realize your true potential.

These are the things I want for you—to grow up in a world with no limits on your dreams and no achievements beyond your reach, and to grow into compassionate, committed women who will help build that world. And I want every child to have the same chances to learn and dream and grow and thrive that you girls have. That's why I've taken our family on this great adventure. I am so proud of both of you. I love you more than you can ever know. And I am grateful every day for your patience, poise, grace, and humor as we prepare to start our new life together in the White House.

Aretha Franklin Lends Her Voice to History at Inauguration

BY ELYSA GARDNER
USA TODAY -

If Barack Obama feels like a change of pace after his gig as leader of the free world, he might consider a singing career. That's according to no less an authority than Aretha Franklin.

The president-elect "has a good, melodic voice," says Franklin, who heard him croon at a rally in Detroit last year. "He knew I was there, and he sang a fabulous version of Chain of Fools. Well, he sang the hook. The crowd just loved it."

The Queen of Soul will return the favor Tuesday when she performs on the steps of the Capitol to commemorate Obama's inauguration. She's excited "to be part of this special moment in American history and in African-American history."

Franklin met Obama in 2005, at the funeral of civil

rights icon Rosa Parks. Before that, she heard him address the 2004 Democratic Convention. "I was impressed from the very beginning. He strikes me as someone who cares about people, about all people."

The invitation to sing at the inaugural ceremony is the latest in a string of honors for Franklin. Last year, she collected her 18th Grammy Award and was named MusiCares Person of the Year. She also received the NAACP's Vanguard Award and topped Rolling Stone's list of the 100 Greatest Singers of All Time.

"I'm struck by how original her singing still sounds," says Rolling Stone contributing editor Anthony DeCurtis. "(She's not like those) technically great singers who seem to be just showing off. Everything she does is right for the emotional moment."

'The Day They Marched'

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.'S "I HAVE DREAM" SPEECH

[Delivered on the steps at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C. on August 28, 1963 during the historic March On Washington.]

I am happy to join with you today in what will go down in history as the greatest demonstration for freedom in the history of our nation.

Five score years ago, a great American, in whose symbolic shadow we stand signed the Emancipation Proclamation. This momentous decree came as a great beacon light of hope to millions of Negro slaves who had been seared in the flames of withering injustice. It came as a joyous daybreak to end the long night of captivity. But one hundred years later, we must face the tragic fact that the Negro is still not free.

One hundred years later, the life of the Negro is still sadly crippled by the manacles of segregation and the chains of discrimination. One hundred years later, the Negro lives on a lonely island of poverty in the midst of a vast ocean of material prosperity. One hundred years later, the Negro is still languishing in the corners of American society and finds himself an exile in his own land.

So we have come here today to dramatize an appalling condition. In a sense we have come to our nation's capital to cash a check. When the architects of our republic wrote the magnificent words of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, they were signing a promissory note to which every American was to fall heir.

This note was a promise that all men would be guaranteed the inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. It is obvious today that America has defaulted on this promissory note insofar as her citizens of color are concerned. Instead of honoring this sacred obligation, America has given the Negro people a bad check which has come back marked "insufficient funds." But we refuse to believe that the bank of justice is bankrupt. We refuse to believe that there are insufficient funds in the great vaults of opportunity of this nation.

So we have come to cash this check — a check that will give us upon demand the riches of freedom and the security of justice. We have also come to this hallowed spot to remind America of the fierce urgency of now. This is no time to engage in the luxury of cooling off or to take the tranquilizing drug of gradualism. Now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of segregation to the sunlit path of racial justice. Now is the time to open the doors of opportunity to all of God's children. Now is the time to lift our nation from the quicksands of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood.

It would be fatal for the nation to overlook the urgency of the moment and to underestimate the determination of the Negro. This sweltering summer of the Negro's legitimate discontent will not pass until there is an invigorating autumn of freedom and equality. Nineteen sixty-three is not an end, but a beginning. Those who hope that the Negro needed to blow off steam and will now be content will have a rude awakening if the nation returns to business as usual. There will be neither rest nor tranquility in America until the Negro is granted his citizenship rights.

The whirlwinds of revolt will

continue to shake the foundations of our nation until the bright day of justice emerges. But there is something that I must say to my people who stand on the warm threshold which leads into the palace of justice. In the process of gaining our rightful place we must not be guilty of wrongful deeds. Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of bitterness and hatred.

We must forever conduct our struggle on the high plane of dignity and discipline. We must not allow our creative protest to degenerate into physical violence. Again and again we must rise to the ma-

bility is from a smaller ghetto to a larger one. We can never be satisfied as long as a Negro in Mississippi cannot vote and a Negro in New York believes he has nothing for which to vote. No, no, we are not satisfied, and we will not be satisfied until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream.

I am not unmindful that some of you have come here out of great trials and tribulations. Some of you have come fresh from narrow cells. Some of you have come from areas where your quest for freedom left you battered by the storms of persecution and staggered by the winds

of former slaves and the sons of former slaveowners will be able to sit down together at a table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a desert state, sweltering with the heat of injustice and oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

I have a dream that my four children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day the state of Alabama, whose governor's lips are presently dripping with the words of interposition and nullification, will be transformed into a situation where little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls and walk together as sisters and brothers. I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

This is our hope. This is the faith with which I return to the South. With this faith we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope. With this faith we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. With this faith we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day.

This will be the day when all of God's children will be able to sing with a new meaning, "My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing. Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrim's pride, from every mountainside, let freedom ring." And if America is to be a great nation, this must become true.

So let freedom ring from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire.

Let freedom ring from the mighty mountains of New York.

Let freedom ring from the heightening Alleghenies of Pennsylvania!

Let freedom ring from the snow-capped Rockies of Colorado!

Let freedom ring from the curvaceous peaks of California!

But not only that; let freedom ring from Stone Mountain of Georgia!

Let freedom ring from Lookout Mountain of Tennessee!

Let freedom ring from every hill and every molehill of Mississippi. From every mountainside, let freedom ring.

When we let freedom ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual,

"Free at last! free at last! thank God Almighty, we are free at last!"



restless heights of meeting physical force with soul force.

The marvelous new militancy which has engulfed the Negro community must not lead us to distrust of all white people, for many of our white brothers, as evidenced by their presence here today, have come to realize that their destiny is tied up with our destiny and their freedom is inextricably bound to our freedom.

We cannot walk alone. And as we walk, we must make the pledge that we shall march ahead. We cannot turn back. There are those who are asking the devotees of civil rights, "When will you be satisfied?" We can never be satisfied as long as our bodies, heavy with the fatigue of travel, cannot gain lodging in the motels of the highways and the hotels of the cities. We cannot be satisfied as long as the Negro's basic

of police brutality. You have been the veterans of creative suffering. Continue to work with the faith that unearned suffering is redemptive.

Go back to Mississippi, go back to Alabama, go back to Georgia, go back to Louisiana, go back to the slums and ghettos of our northern cities, knowing that somehow this situation can and will be changed. Let us not wallow in the valley of despair. I say to you today, my friends, that in spite of the difficulties and frustrations of the moment, **I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream.**

I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal."

"I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of

Mrs. Coretta Scott King

Human Rights Activist & Leader

1927- 2006

Coretta Scott King was one of the most influential women leaders in our world. Prepared by her family, education, and personality for a life committed to social justice and peace, she entered the world stage in 1955 as wife of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and as a leading participant in the American Civil Rights Movement. Her remarkable partnership with Dr. King resulted not only in four talented children, but in a life devoted to the highest values of human dignity in service to social change. Mrs. King traveled throughout the world speaking out on behalf of racial and economic justice, women's and children's rights, gay and lesbian dignity, religious freedom, the needs of the poor and homeless, full-employment, health care, educational opportunities, nuclear disarmament and ecological sanity. In her distinguished and productive career, she lent her support to democracy movements world-wide and consulted with many world leaders, including Corazon Aquino, Kenneth Kaunda, and Nelson Mandela.

Born and raised in Marion, Alabama, Coretta Scott graduated valedictorian from Lincoln High School. She received a B.A. in music and education from Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio, and then went on to study concert singing at Boston's New England Conservatory of Music, where she earned a degree in voice and violin. While in Boston she met Martin Luther King, Jr. who was then studying for his doctorate in systematic theology at Boston University. They were married on June 18, 1953, and in September 1954 took up residence in Montgomery, Alabama, with Coretta Scott King assuming the many functions of pastor's wife at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church.

During Dr. King's career, Mrs. King devoted most of her time to raising their four children: Yolanda Denise (1955), Martin Luther, III (1957), Dexter Scott (1961), and Bernice Albertine (1963). From the earliest days, however, she balanced mothering and movement work, speaking before church, civic, college, fraternal and peace groups. She conceived and performed a series of favorably-reviewed Freedom Concerts which combined prose and poetry narration with musical selections and functioned as fundraisers for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the direct action organization of which Dr. King served as first president. In 1957, she and Dr. King journeyed to Ghana to mark that country's independence. In 1958, they spent a belated honeymoon in Mexico, where they observed first-hand the immense gulf between extreme wealth and extreme poverty. In 1959, Dr. and Mrs. King spent nearly a month in India on a pilgrimage to disciples and sites associated with Mahatma Gandhi. In 1964, she accompanied him to Oslo, Norway, where he received the No-



bel Peace Prize. Even prior to her husband's public stand against the Vietnam War in 1967, Mrs. King functioned as liaison to peace and justice organizations, and as mediator to public officials on behalf of the unheard.

Since her husband's assassination in 1968, Mrs. King devoted much of her energy and attention to developing programs and building the Atlanta-based Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change as a living memorial to her husband's life and dream. Situated in the Freedom Hall complex encircling Dr. King's tomb, The King Center is today part of a 23-acre national historic park which includes his birth home, and which hosts over one million visitors a year. Mrs. King devoted much of her life to developing The King Center, the first institution built in memory of an African American leader. As founding President, Chair, and Chief Executive Officer, she dedicated

herself to providing local, national and international programs that have trained tens of thousands of people in Dr. King's philosophy and methods; she guided the creation and housing of the largest archives of documents from the Civil Rights Movement; and, perhaps her greatest legacy after establishing The King Center itself, Mrs. King spearheaded the massive educational and lobbying campaign to establish Dr. King's birthday as a national holiday. In 1983, an act of Congress instituted the Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal Holiday Commission, which she chaired for its duration. And in January 1986, Mrs. King oversaw the first legal holiday in honor of her husband—a holiday which has come to be celebrated by millions of people worldwide and, in some form, in over 100 countries.

Coretta Scott King tirelessly carried the message of nonviolence and the dream of the beloved community to almost every

corner of our nation and globe. She led goodwill missions to many countries in Africa, Latin America, Europe and Asia. She spoke at many of history's most massive peace and justice rallies. She served as a Women's Strike for Peace delegate to the seventeen-nation Disarmament Conference in Geneva, Switzerland in 1962. She was the first woman to deliver the class day address at Harvard, and the first woman to preach at a statutory service at St. Paul's Cathedral in London.

A life-long advocate of interracial coalitions, in 1974 Mrs. King formed a broad coalition of over 100 religious, labor, business, civil and women's rights organizations dedicated to a national policy of full employment and equal economic opportunity, as Co-Chair of both the National Committee for Full Employment and the Full Employment Action Council. In 1983, she brought together more than 800 human rights organizations to form the Coalition of Conscience, sponsors of the 20th Anniversary March on Washington, until then the largest demonstration ever held in our nation's capital. In 1987, she helped lead a national Mobilization Against Fear and Intimidation in Forsyth County, Georgia. In 1988, she reconvened the Coalition of Conscience for the 25th anniversary of the March on Washington. In preparation for the Reagan-Gorbachev talks, in 1988 she served as head of the U.S. delegation of Women for a Meaningful Summit in Athens, Greece; and in 1990, as the USSR was redefining itself, Mrs. King was co-convenor of the Soviet-American Women's Summit in Washington, DC.

Always close to her family, in 1985 Mrs. King and three of her children were arrested at the South African embassy in Washington, DC, for protesting against apartheid. And, in 1995 she turned over leadership of the Center to her son, Dexter Scott King, who currently serves as Chairman of The Board of Directors. Her nephew, Isaac Newton Farris, Jr. now serves as President & CEO.

One of the most influential African-American leaders of our time, Mrs. King received honorary doctorates from over 60 colleges and universities; authored three books and a nationally-syndicated column; and served on, and helped found, dozens of organizations, including the Black Leadership Forum, the National Black Coalition for Voter Participation, and the Black Leadership Roundtable.

Mrs. King dialogued with heads of state, including prime ministers and presidents and she put in time on picket lines with welfare rights mothers. She met with many great spiritual leaders, including Pope John Paul, the Dalai Lama, Dorothy Day, and Bishop Desmond Tutu. She witnessed the historic handshake between Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Chairman Yassir Arafat at the signing of the Middle East Peace Accords. She stood with Nelson Mandela in Johannesburg when he became South Africa's first democratically-elected president. A woman of wisdom, compassion and vision, Coretta Scott King tried to make ours a better world and, in the process, made history.

INTRODUCTION TO THE KING CENTER AND ITS MISSION

Mr. Dexter Scott King

Chairman – The Martin Luther King, Jr. for Nonviolence and Social Change

The King Center seeks to create the Beloved Community that my father, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., so eloquently described in his speeches, sermons, and writings and practiced in his leadership of the Civil Rights, peace, and anti-poverty Movements.

The King Center embraces my father's vision of a world where nonviolence is a way of life. My father pointed out that nonviolence means more than the absence of physical violence. Nonviolence is not passive, but a courageous, active resistance to injustice. It is a way of life reflected in thought and deed, a method of conducting yourself in all of your affairs.

Nonviolence requires understanding of your opposition's perspective. As my father said, "We must learn from the wisdom of the brothers who are called the opposition."

Through nonviolence, we seek to achieve a mutually-beneficial, "win-win" resolution of the conflict in which adversaries are reconciled and community is restored or created. It means placing your individual perspectives on the table in a spirit of openness and negotiating a just outcome for all parties. Nonviolence does not seek to defeat or humiliate your opponent, but to win his friendship. "The aftermath of nonviolence," my father explained, "is the creation of the Beloved Community."

In keeping with this challenge, The King Center has embraced a new mission: to "educate the world about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s philosophy and methods of nonviolence in order to create the Beloved Community." Though the mission change does not alter the overall organization direction, which we have had for the past

thirty-three years, it does signal a shift of emphasis in our programs and activities.

Our commitment is to launch innovative projects and programs that promote my father's teachings through the use of state-of-the-art communications technology. We have already initiated print media, audiovisual, and Internet projects. We are now exploring the use of advanced interactive communications technology to reach additional millions in other nations using many languages.

Through these and other initiatives, we will educate coming generations about applying my father's philosophy and techniques of nonviolence as a way of life in the 21st century. We have established new partnerships with organizations and individuals who have demonstrated a commitment to help educate people all over the

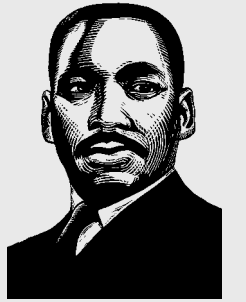
world in Kingian Nonviolence. We will continue to authorize and advise fellow nonprofits, community-based organizations and government agencies in their efforts to commemorate and promote the teachings of Martin Luther King, Jr. We have begun forming a global network of organizations that have missions similar to that of the King Center, and together we will build the Beloved Community of my father's dream.

This is an exciting time in the evolution of the King legacy. The road ahead of us is long and challenging. And though my father was not able to get there with us, we will "get to the Promised Land" and create the Beloved Community using his philosophy and methods of nonviolence. With your help and God's blessing, we will make this beautiful dream a radiant reality.





Biographical Outline of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr



Dr. Martin Lon, gave black and poor people hope and a sense of dignity. His philosophy of nonviolent direct action, and his strategies for rational and non-destructive social change, galvanized the conscience of this nation and re-ordered its priorities. His wisdom, his words, his actions, his commitment, and his dream for a new way of life are intertwined with the American experience.

BIRTH AND FAMILY

Martin Luther King, Jr. was born at noon on Tuesday, January 15, 1929 at the family home, 501 Auburn Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Charles Johnson was the attending physician. Martin Luther King, Jr. was the first son and second child born to the Reverend Martin Luther King, Sr. and Alberta Williams King. Also born to the Kings were Christine, now Mrs. Isaac Farris, Sr., and the Reverend Alfred Daniel Williams King. The Reverend A.D. King is now deceased.

Martin Luther King, Jr.'s maternal grandparents were the Reverend Adam Daniel Williams, second pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church, and Jenny Parks Williams. His paternal grandparents were James Albert and Delia King, sharecroppers on a farm in Stockbridge, Georgia.

He married Coretta Scott, the younger daughter of Obadiah and Bernice McMurry Scott of Marion, Alabama, on June 18, 1953. The marriage ceremony took place on the lawn of the Scott's home in Marion, Alabama. The Rev. King, Sr. performed the service, with Mrs. Edythe Bagley, the sister of Coretta Scott King as maid of honor, and the Rev. A.D. King, the brother of Martin Luther King, Jr., as best man.

Four children were born to Dr. and Mrs. King:

- Yolanda Denise (November 17, 1955, Montgomery, Alabama)
- Martin Luther III (October 23, 1957, Montgomery, Alabama)
- Dexter Scott (January 30, 1961, Atlanta, Georgia)
- Bernice Albertine (March 28, 1963, Atlanta, Georgia)

EDUCATION

At the age of five, Martin Luther King, Jr. began school, before reaching the legal age of six, at the Yonge Street Elementary School in Atlanta. When his age was discovered, he was not permitted to continue in school and did not resume his education until he was six. Following Yonge School, he was enrolled in David T. Howard Elementary School. He also attended the Atlanta University Laboratory School and Booker T. Washington High School. Because of his high scores on the college entrance examinations in his junior year of high school, he advanced to Morehouse College without formal graduation from Booker T. Washington. Having skipped both the ninth and twelfth grades, Dr. King entered Morehouse at the age of fifteen.

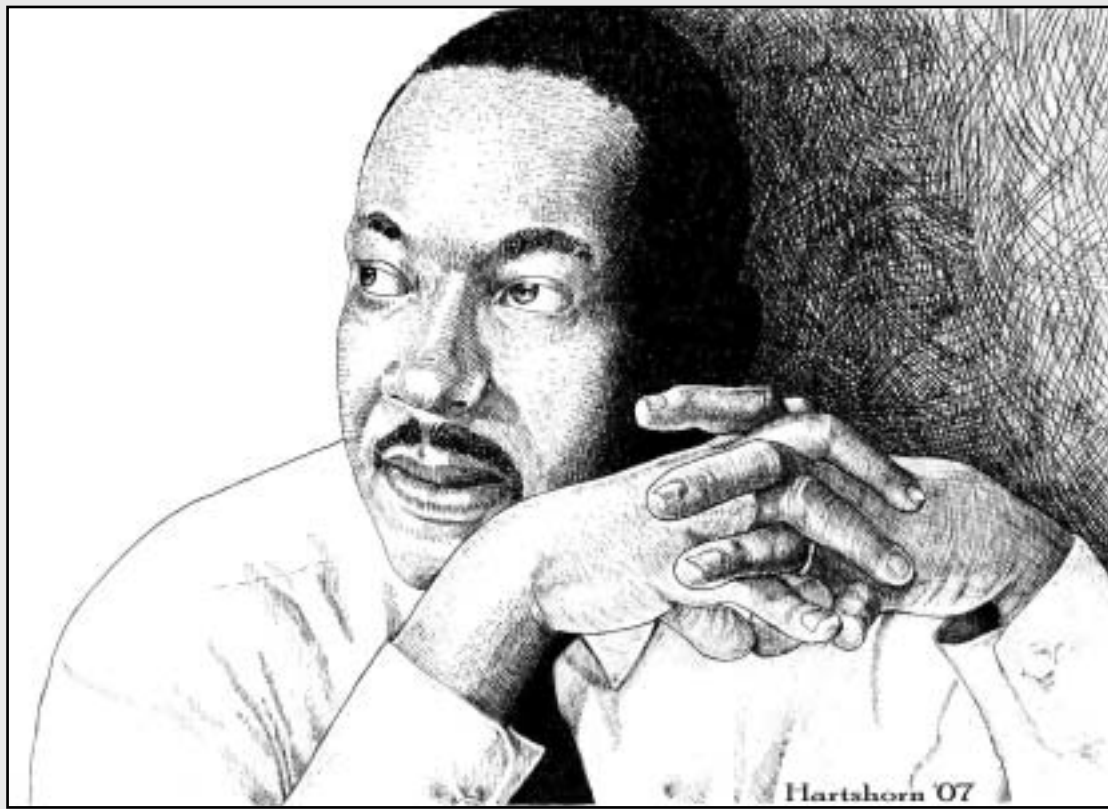
In 1948, he graduated from Morehouse College with a B.A. degree in Sociology. That fall he enrolled in Crozer Theological Seminary in Chester, Pennsylvania. While attending Crozer, he also studied at the University of Pennsylvania. He was elected President of the Senior Class and delivered the valedictory address. He won the Peral Plafkner Award as the most outstanding student, and he received the J. Lewis Crozer Fellowship for graduate study at a university of his choice. He was awarded a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Crozer in 1951.

In September of 1951, Martin Luther King, Jr. began doctoral studies in Systematic Theology at Boston University. He also studied at Harvard University. His dissertation, "A Comparison of the Conceptions of God in the Thinking of Paul Tillich and Henry Nelson Wieman," was completed in 1955, and the Ph.D. degree was awarded on June 5, 1955.

HONORARY DEGREES

Dr. King was awarded honorary degrees from various colleges and universities in the United States and several foreign countries. They include:

- Doctor of Humane Letters, Morehouse College
- Doctor of Laws, Howard University
- Doctor of Divinity, Chicago Theological Seminary
- Doctor of Laws, Morgan State University
- Doctor of Humanities, Central State University
- Doctor of Divinity, Boston University
- Doctor of Laws, Lincoln University
- Doctor of Laws, University of Bridgeport



- Doctor of Civil Laws, Bard College
- Doctor of Letters, Keuka College
- Doctor of Divinity, Wesleyan College
- Doctor of Laws, Jewish Theological Seminary
- Doctor of Laws, Yale University
- Doctor of Divinity, Springfield College
- Doctor of Laws, Hofstra University
- Doctor of Humane Letters, Oberlin College
- Doctor of Social Science, Amsterdam Free University
- Doctor of Divinity, St. Peter's College
- Doctor of Civil Law, University of New Castle, Upon Tyne
- Doctor of Laws, Grinnell College

CAREER

Martin Luther King, Jr. entered the Christian ministry and was ordained in February 1948 at the age of nineteen at Ebenezer Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia. Following his ordination, he became Assistant Pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church. Upon completion of his studies at Boston University, he accepted the call of Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama. He was the pastor of Dexter Avenue from September 1954 to November 1959, when he resigned to move to Atlanta to direct the activities of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. From 1960 until his death in 1968, he was co-pastor with his father at Ebenezer Baptist Church.

Dr. King was a pivotal figure in the Civil Rights Movement. He was elected President of the Montgomery Improvement Association, the organization that was responsible for the successful Montgomery Bus Boycott from 1955 to 1956 (381 days). He was arrested thirty times for his participation in civil rights activities. He was a founder and president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference from 1957 to 1968. He was also Vice President of the National Sunday School and Baptist Teaching Union Congress of the National Baptist Convention. He was a member of several national and local boards of directors and served on the boards of trustees of numerous institutions and agencies. Dr. King was elected to membership in several learned societies including the prestigious American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

AWARDS

Dr. King received numerous awards for his leadership in the Civil Rights Movement. Among them were the following:

- Selected as one of the ten most outstanding personalities of the year by Time Magazine, 1957.
- Listed in Who's Who in America, 1957.
- The Spingarn Medal from the NAACP, 1957.
- The Russwurm Award from the National Newspaper Publishers, 1957.
- The Second Annual Achievement Award from The Guardian Association of the Police Department of New York, 1958.
- Selected as one of the sixteen world leaders who had contributed most to the advancement of freedom during 1959 by Ling Magazine of New Delhi, India.
- Named "Man of the Year," by Time Magazine, 1963.
- Named "American of the Decade," by the Laundry, Dry Cleaning, and Die Workers, International Union, 1963.
- The John Dewey Award, from the United Federation of Teachers, 1964.
- The John F. Kennedy Award, from the Catholic Interracial Council of Chicago, 1964.
- The Nobel Peace Prize, at age 35, the youngest man, second American, and the third black man to be so honored, 1964.
- The Marcus Garvey Prize for Human Rights, presented by the Jamaican Gov-

ernment, posthumously, 1968.

- The Rosa L. Parks award, presented by The Southern Christian Leadership Conference, posthumously, 1968.
- The Aims Field-Wolf Award for his book, Stride Toward Freedom.

The above awards and others, along with numerous citations, are in the Archives of The Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change, Inc. in Atlanta, Georgia.

PUBLICATIONS

Although extremely involved with his family, his church, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, activities for peace and justice, his world travels, and his many speaking engagements, Dr. King wrote six books and numerous articles. His volumes include:

- Stride Toward Freedom, (New York: Harper & Row, 1958). The story of the Montgomery Bus Boycott.
- The Measure of a Man, (Philadelphia: Pilgrim Press, 1959). A selection of sermons.
- Why We Can't Wait, (New York: Harper & Row, 1963). The story of the Birmingham Campaign.
- Strength to Love, (New York: Harper & Row, 1963). A selection of sermons.
- Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community? (New York: Harper & Row, 1967). Reflections on the problems of today's world, the nuclear arms race, etc.
- The Trumpet of Conscience, (New York: Harper & Row, 1968). The Massey Lectures. Sponsored by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. (Posthumously).

DEATH

Dr. King was shot while standing on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee on April 4, 1968. Dr. King was in Memphis to help lead sanitation workers in a protest against low wages and intolerable working conditions. James Earl Ray was arrested in London, England on June 8, 1968, and returned to Memphis, Tennessee on July 19, 1969 to stand trial for the assassination of Dr. King. On March 9, 1969, before coming to trial, he entered a guilty plea and was sentenced to ninety-nine years in the Tennessee State Penitentiary.

On December 8, 1999, a jury of twelve citizens of Memphis, Shelby County, TN concluded in Coretta Scott King, Martin Luther King, III, Bernice King, Dexter Scott King and Yolanda King Vs. Loyd Jowers and Other Unknown Conspirators that Loyd Jowers and governmental agencies including the City of Memphis, the State of Tennessee, and the federal government were party to the conspiracy to assassinate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dr. King's funeral services were held on April 9, 1968 at Ebenezer Baptist Church and on the campus of Morehouse College, with the President of the United States proclaiming a day of mourning and flags being flown at half-staff. The area where Dr. King is entombed is located on Freedom Plaza and is surrounded by the Freedom Hall Complex of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Historic Site. The site is a 23-acre area was listed as a National Historic Landmark on May 5, 1977 and was made a National Historic Site on October 10, 1980 by the U.S. Department of the Interior.

In recent years, events in the lives of the King family have continued to reflect the tragedy and the triumph so uniquely combined in Dr. King's own life and is intrinsic, perhaps, in the lives of all dedicated persons the world over.

Just a little more than a year after Martin Luther King, Jr. was killed, his younger brother, Alfred Daniel, died in a tragic ac-

cident at his home in Atlanta. Funeral services were held at Ebenezer Baptist Church on July 24, 1969, where Alfred Daniel had served as co-pastor.

On Sunday, June 30, 1974, Mrs. Alberta Williams King, the mother of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was shot and killed as she sat at the organ in the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta. Again, through an act of violence, there ended a life that was totally nonviolent, a life that was thoroughly Christian, a life that reflected love for all persons and unselfish service to humankind. Again, the indomitable faith of the King family was put to the test, and again love prevailed amid the greatest sadness. The Rev. Martin Luther King, Sr., bereft by the violent deaths of his two sons and now by the equally tragic death of his devoted wife, could still say – and did say – at her funeral service on July 3, "I cannot hate any man."

In 1975, the year following his wife's death, the Rev. Martin Luther King, Sr. resigned his forty-four year pastorate at Ebenezer, passing on the active leadership of the church to the young and inspired Dr. Joseph L. Roberts, Jr. At his retirement banquet on August 1, 1975, however, "Daddy King" made it clear – as if anyone could have thought otherwise – that his resignation did not mean his retirement from the full and active life that has described his long career. This "Giant of a Man," as he was acclaimed on that memorable evening, continued to work and to speak and to use the gifts with which the Lord had endowed him in the loving service of others. Among the Rev. King, Sr.'s many accomplishments is the completion of his one luxury, the publication of his autobiography, Daddy King. Rev. Martin Luther King, Sr. died on November 11, 1984 of a heart attack at Crawford W. Long Memorial Hospital in Atlanta. He was 84 years of age. Funeral services were held on November 14, 1984.

SPEECHES

Dr. King's speech at the March on Washington in 1963, along with his acceptance speech of the Nobel Peace Prize, and his final sermon in Memphis are among his most famous utterances. The following excerpts reveal the cogency, conviction and persuasion of his powerful speaking style.

From the speech "March on Washington"

"I say to you today, my friends, so even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream. I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed; 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.' I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave-owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood. I have a dream that one day, even the state of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice."

"I have a dream that my four children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character. I have a dream today – I have a dream that one day down in Alabama with its vicious racists, with its governor having his lips dripping with the words of interposition and nullification, one day right there in Alabama, little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with the little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers. I have a dream today."

"This hope is our hope. This is the faith that I go back to the south with. And with this faith, we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope. With this faith we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day."

"...And so let freedom ring, from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire. Let freedom ring from the mighty mountains of New York. Let freedom ring from the heightening Alleghenies of Pennsylvania. Let freedom ring from the snow-capped Rockies of Colorado. Let freedom ring from the curvaceous slopes of California. But not only that. Let freedom ring from Stone Mountain of Georgia. Let freedom ring from Lookout Mountain of Tennessee. Let freedom ring from every hill and molehill of Mississippi. From every mountainside, let freedom ring – And when we allow freedom to ring – when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual: Free at last, free at

Continued on Page 10 ▶



IMPORTANT TIME PERIODS IN THE LIFE OF Martin Luther King Jr.



1929

January 15: Martin Luther King, Jr. is born to Rev. and Mrs. Martin Luther King, Sr. (former Alberta Christine Williams) in Atlanta, Georgia.

1935: 1944

Dr. King attends David T. Howard Elementary School, Atlanta University Laboratory School, and Booker T. Washington High School. He passes the entrance examination to Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia without graduating from high school.

1947

Dr. King is licensed to preach.

1948

February 25: Dr. King is ordained to the Baptist ministry and appointed associate pastor at Ebenezer.

June 8: Dr. King graduates from Morehouse College with a BA degree in Sociology.

September: Dr. King enters Crozer Theological Seminary in Chester, Pennsylvania. After hearing Dr. A. J. Muste and Dr. Mordecai W. Johnson preach on the life and teachings of Mahatma Gandhi, he begins to study Gandhi seriously.

1951

May 6-8: Dr. King graduates from Crozer with a Bachelor of Divinity degree.

1953

June 18: Dr. King marries Coretta Scott in Marion, Alabama.



1954

May 17: The Supreme Court of the United States rules unanimously in *Brown vs. Board of Education* that racial segregation in public schools is unconstitutional.

October 31: Rev. Martin Luther King, Sr. appoints Dr. King as the twentieth pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama.

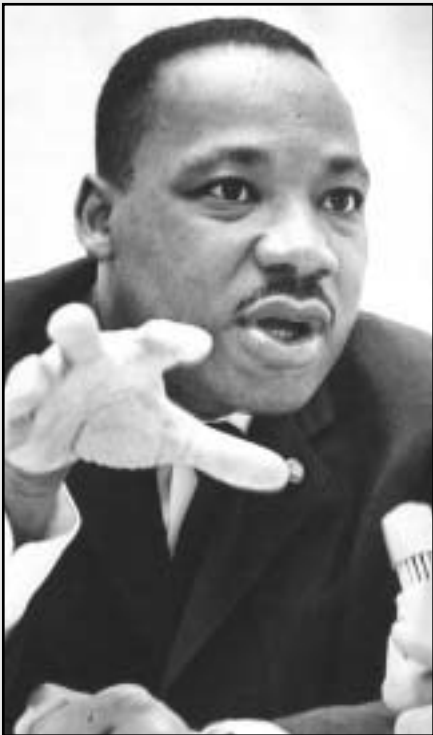


1955

June 5: Dr. King receives a Ph.D. degree in Systematic Theology from Boston University.

November 17: The Kings' first child, Yolanda Denise, is born in Montgomery, Alabama.

December 1: Mrs. Rosa Parks, a forty-two year old Montgomery seamstress, refuses to relinquish her bus seat to a white man and is arrested.



December 5: The first day of the Montgomery bus boycott and the trial date of Mrs. Parks. A meeting of movement leaders is held. Dr. King is unanimously elected president of the Montgomery Improvement Association.

December 10: The Montgomery Bus Company suspends service in black neighborhoods.

1956

January 26: Dr. King is arrested on a charge of traveling thirty miles per hour in a twenty-five miles per hour zone in Montgomery. He is released on his own recognizance.

January 30: A bomb is thrown onto the porch of Dr. King's Montgomery home. Mrs. King and Mrs. Roscoe Williams, wife of a church member, are in the house with baby Yolanda Denise. No one is injured.

February 2: A suit is filed in Federal District Court asking that Montgomery's travel segregation laws be declared unconstitutional.

February 21: Dr. King is indicted with other figures in the Montgomery bus boycott on the charge of being party to a conspiracy to hinder and prevent the operation of business without "just or legal cause."

June 4: A United States District Court rules that racial segregation on city bus lines is unconstitutional.

August 10: Dr. King is a speaker before the platform committee of the Democratic Party in Chicago, Illinois.

October 30: Mayor Gayle of Montgomery, Alabama instructs the city's legal department "to file such proceedings as it may deem proper to stop the operation of car pools and transportation systems growing out of the boycott."

November 13: The United States Supreme Court affirms the decision of the three-judge district court in declaring Alabama's state and local laws requiring segregation on buses unconstitutional.

December 20: Federal injunctions prohibiting segregation on buses are served on city and bus company officials in Montgomery, Alabama. Injunctions are also served on state officials.

Montgomery buses are integrated.

1957

January 27: An unexploded bomb is discovered on the front porch of the King's house.

February 14: The Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) is founded.

February 18: Dr. King is featured on the cover of Time magazine.

May 17: Dr. King delivers a speech for the Prayer Pilgrimage for Freedom celebrating the third anniversary of the Supreme Court's desegregation decision. The speech,

titled, "Give Us The Ballot," is given at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.

June 13: Dr. King meets with the Vice President of the United States, Richard M. Nixon.

September: President Dwight D. Eisenhower federalizes the Arkansas National Guard to escort nine Negro students to an all-white high school in Little Rock, Arkansas.

September 9: The first Civil Rights Act since Reconstruction is passed by Congress, creating the Civil Rights Commission and the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice.

October 23: A second child, Martin Luther III, is born to Dr. and Mrs. King.

1958

June 23: Dr. King, along with Roy Wilkins of the NAACP, A. Philip Randolph, and Lester Granger meet with President Dwight Eisenhower.

September 3: Dr. King is arrested on a charge of loitering (later changed to "failure to obey an officer") in the vicinity of the Montgomery Recorder's Court. He is released on \$100.00 bond.



September 4: Dr. King is convicted after pleading "Not Guilty" on the charge of failure to obey an officer. The fine is paid almost immediately, over Dr. King's objection, by Montgomery Police Commissioner Clyde C. Sellers.

September 17: Dr. King's book, *Stride Toward Freedom: The Montgomery Story*, is published by Harper & Row.



September 20: Dr. King is stabbed in the chest by Mrs. Izola Curry, who is subsequently alleged to be mentally deranged. The stabbing occurs in Harlem, New York while Dr. King is autographing his recently published book. His condition was said to be serious but not critical.

1959

January 30: Dr. King meets with Walter Reuther, President of the United Auto Workers Union, in Detroit, Michigan.

February 2-10: Dr. and Mrs. King spend a month in India studying Gandhi's March techniques of nonviolence as guests of Prime Minister Jawaharal Nehru.

1960

January 24: The King family moves to Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. King becomes co-pastor, with his father, of the Ebenezer Baptist Church.

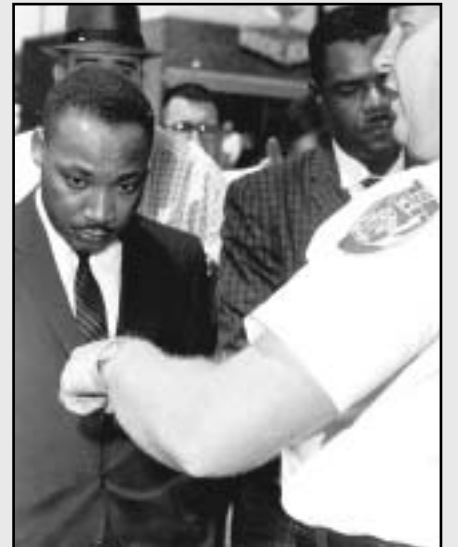
February 1: The first lunch counter sit-in to desegregate eating facilities is held by students in Greensboro, North Carolina.

February 17: A warrant is issued for Dr. King's arrest on charges that he had falsified his 1956 and 1958 Alabama state income tax returns.

April 15: The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) is founded to coordinate student protests at Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina on a temporary basis. (It is to become a permanent organization in October 1960.) Dr. King and James Lawson are the keynote speakers at the Shaw University founding.

May 28: Dr. King is acquitted of the tax evasion charge by an all white jury in Alabama.

June 10: Dr. King and A. Philip Randolph announce plans for picketing both the Republican and Democratic National Conventions.



1961

January 30: A third child, Dexter Scott, is born to Dr. and Mrs. King in Atlanta, Georgia.

May 4: The first group of Freedom Riders, with the intent of integrating interstate buses, leaves Washington, D.C. by Greyhound bus. The group, organized by the Congress for Racial Equality (CORE), leaves shortly after the Supreme Court has outlawed segregation in interstate transportation terminals. The bus is burned outside of Anniston, Alabama on May 14. A mob beats the Freedom Riders upon their arrival in Birmingham, Alabama. The Freedom Riders are arrested in Jackson, Mississippi, and spend forty to sixty days in Parchman Penitentiary.

December 15: Dr. King arrives in Albany, Georgia in response to a call from Dr. W. G. Anderson, the leader of the Albany Movement to desegregate public facilities, which began in January 1961.

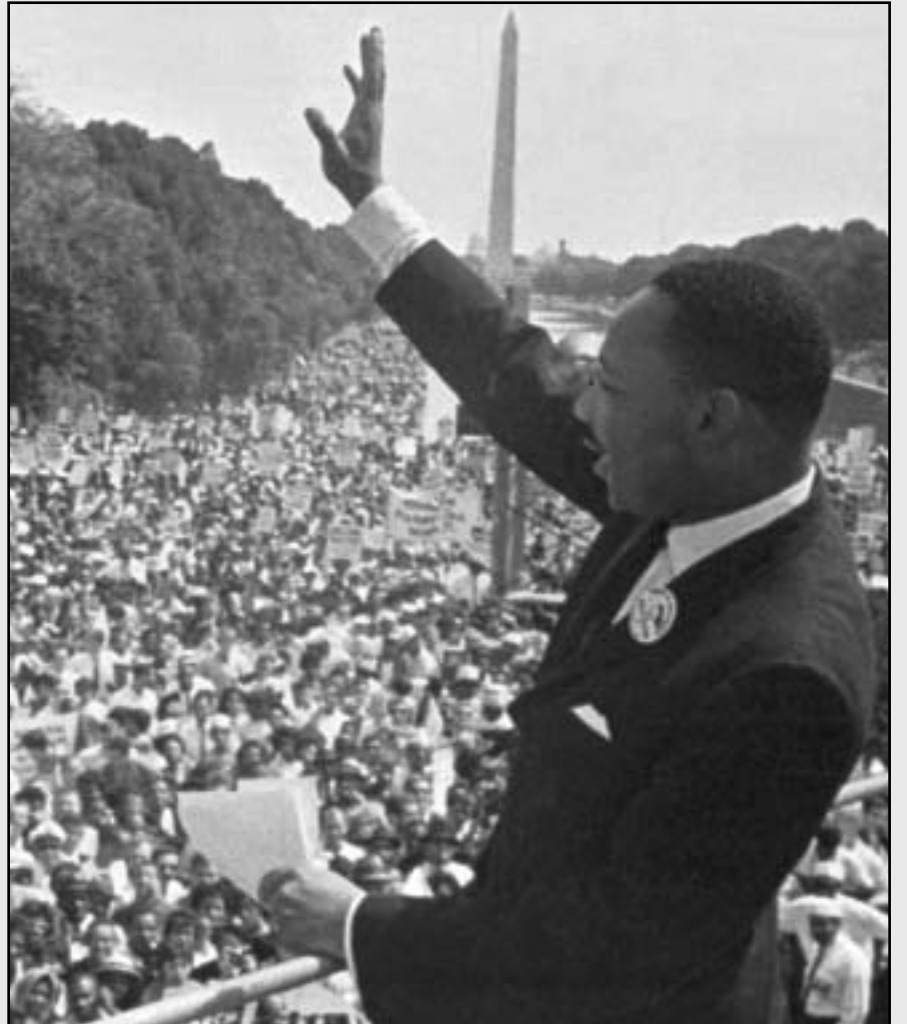
December 16: Dr. King is arrested at an Albany, Georgia demonstration. He is charged with obstructing the sidewalk and parading without a permit.

1962

February 27: Dr. King is tried and convicted for leading the December march in Albany, Georgia.

May 2: Dr. King is invited to join the protests in Birmingham, Alabama.

July 27: Dr. King is arrested at a Georgia city hall prayer vigil and jailed on charges of failure to obey a police officer, obstructing the sidewalk and disorderly conduct.



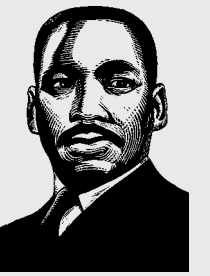
October 22-27: The trespassing charges are dropped. All jailed demonstrators are released except Dr. King, who is held on a charge of violating a probated sentence in a traffic arrest case. He is transferred to the DeKalb County Jail in Decatur, Georgia, and is then transferred to the Reidsville State Prison. He is released from the Reidsville State Prison on a \$2,000.00 bond.

September 20: James Meredith makes his first attempt to enroll at the University of Mississippi. He is actually enrolled by Supreme Court order and is escorted onto the Oxford, Mississippi campus by U.S. Marshals on October 1, 1962.

October 16: Dr. King meets with President John F. Kennedy at the White House for a one-hour conference.



IMPORTANT TIME PERIODS IN THE LIFE OF Martin Luther King Jr.



1963

March 28: The King's fourth child, Bernice Albertine, is born.

March-April: Sit-in demonstrations are held in Birmingham, Alabama to protest segregation of eating facilities. Dr. King is arrested during a demonstration.



April 16: Dr. King writes the "Letter From A Birmingham Jail" while imprisoned for demonstrating.

May 3-5: Eugene "Bull" Connor, Director of Public Safety of Birmingham, Alabama, orders the use of police dogs and fire hoses against the marching protesters, including young adults and children.

May 20: The Supreme Court of the United States rules Birmingham, Alabama's segregation ordinances unconstitutional.

June: Dr. King's book, "Strength To Love," is published by Harper & Row.

June 11: Governor George C. Wallace tries to stop the court ordered integration of the University of Alabama by "standing in the schoolhouse door" and personally refusing entrance to black students and Justice Department officials. President John F. Kennedy then federalizes the Alabama National Guard, and Governor Wallace removes himself from blocking the entrance of the Negro students.

June 12: Medgar Evers, NAACP leader in Jackson, Mississippi, is assassinated at his home in the early morning darkness. His memorial service is held in Jackson on June 15. He is buried in Arlington National Cemetery, Washington D.C. on June 19.

August 28: The March on Washington, the first large-scale integrated protest march, is held in Washington, D.C. Dr. King delivers his "I Have A Dream" speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. Afterwards he and other Civil Rights leaders meet with President John F. Kennedy in the White House.

September 2-10: Governor Wallace orders the Alabama state

troopers to stop the court ordered integration of Alabama's elementary and high schools until he is enjoined by court injunction from doing so. By September 10 specific schools are actually integrated by court order.

September 15: Four young girls are killed in a Birmingham, Alabama church bombing.

November 22: President Kennedy is assassinated in Dallas, Texas.

1964

Summer: COFO (Council of Federated Organizations) initiates the Mississippi Summer Project, a voter registration drive organized and run by black and white students.

May-June: Dr. King joins other SCLC workers in a demonstration for the integration of public accommodations in St. Augustine, Florida. He is jailed.

June: Dr. King's book, "Why We Can't Wait," is published by Harper & Row.

June 21: Three civil rights workers, James Chaney (black), Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner (both white), are reported missing after a short trip to Philadelphia, Mississippi.

July 2: Dr. King attends the signing of the Public Accommodations Bill, (Part of the Civil Rights Act of 1964) by President Lyndon B. Johnson in the White House.

July 18-23: Riots occur in Harlem, New York. One black man is killed.

August: Riots occur in New Jersey, Illinois and Pennsylvania.

August 4: The bodies of civil rights workers James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner are discovered by FBI Agents buried near the town of Philadelphia, Mississippi. Neshoba County Sheriff Rainey and his deputy, Cecil Price, are allegedly implicated in the murders.

September: Dr. King and Rev. Ralph Abernathy visit West Berlin at the invitation of Mayor Willy Brandt.

September 18: Dr. King has an audience with Pope Paul VI at the Vatican.

December 10: Dr. King receives the Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo, Norway.

1965

February 21: Malcolm X, leader of the Organization of Afro-American Unity and former Black Muslim leader, is murdered in New York City.

March 7: A group of marching demonstrators (from SNCC and SCLC) led by SCLC's Hosea

Williams are beaten when crossing the Edmund Pettus Bridge on their planned march to Montgomery, Alabama, from Selma, Alabama. Their attackers were state highway patrolmen under the direction of Al Lingo and sheriff's deputies under the leadership of Jim Clark. An order by Governor Wallace had prohibited the march.

March 9: Unitarian minister, James Reeb, is beaten by four white segregationists in Selma. He dies two days later.

March 15: President Johnson addresses the nation and Congress. He describes the voting rights bill he will submit to Congress in two days and uses the slogan of the Civil Rights Movement, "We Shall Overcome."



March 16: Sheriff's deputies and police on horseback in Montgomery, Alabama beat black and white demonstrators.

March 21-25: Over three thousand protest marchers leave Selma for a march to Montgomery, Alabama protected by federal troops. They are joined along the way by a total of twenty-five thousand marchers. Upon reaching the capitol, they hear an address by Dr. King.

March 25: Mrs. Viola Liuzzo, wife of a Detroit Teamsters Union business agent, is shot and killed while driving a carload of marchers back to Selma.

July: Dr. King visits Chicago, Illinois. SCLC joins with the Coordinating Council of Community Organizations (CCCO), led by Al Raby, in the Chicago Project.



August-December: In Alabama, SCLC spearheads voter registration campaigns in Green and Wilcox counties, and in the cities of Montgomery, Birmingham, and Eutaw, Alabama.

August 6: The 1965 Voting Rights Act is signed by President Johnson.

August 11-16: In Watts, the black ghetto of Los Angeles, riots leave a total of thirty-five dead. Twenty-eight are black.

1966

February: Dr. King rents an apartment in the black ghetto of Chicago, Illinois.

February 23: Dr. King meets with Elijah Muhammad, leader of the Black Muslims, in Chicago.

March: Dr. King takes over a Chicago slum building and is sued

by its owner.

March 25: The Supreme Court of the United States rules all poll tax unconstitutional.



Spring: Dr. King tours Alabama to help elect black candidates. The Alabama Primary is held, and for the first time since Reconstruction, blacks vote in significant numbers.

May 16: An antiwar statement by Dr. King is read at a large Washington rally to protest the war in Vietnam. Dr. King agrees to serve as a co-chairman of Clergy and Laymen Concerned About Vietnam.

June: Stokely Carmichael and Willie Ricks (SNCC) use the slogan "Black Power" in public for the first time before reporters in Greenwood, Mississippi.

June 6: James Meredith is shot soon after beginning his 220-mile "March Against Fear" from Memphis, Tennessee to Jackson, Mississippi.

July 10: Dr. King launches a drive to make Chicago an "open city" regarding housing.

August 5: Dr. King is stoned in Chicago as he leads a march through crowds of angry whites in the Gage Park section of Chicago's southwest side.

September: SCLC launches a project with the aim of integrating schools in Grenada, Mississippi.

Fall: SCLC initiates the Alabama Citizen Education Project in Wilcox County.

1967

January: Dr. King writes his book "Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?" while in Jamaica.

March 12: Alabama is ordered to desegregate all public schools.

March 25: Dr. King attacks the government's Vietnam policy in a speech at the Chicago Coliseum.

April 4: Dr. King makes a statement about the war in Vietnam, "Beyond Vietnam," at the Riverside Church in New York City.

April 9: Dr. King is buried in Atlanta, Georgia.

June 5: Presidential candidate Senator Robert Kennedy is shot in Los Angeles and dies the next day.

June 10-11: One black student is killed in a riot on the campus of all Negro Jackson State College in Jackson, Mississippi.

July 6: The Justice Department reports that more than 50 percent of all eligible black voters are registered in Mississippi, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana and South Carolina.

July 12-17: Twenty-three people die and 725 are injured in riots in Newark, New Jersey.

July 23-30: Forty-three die and 324 are injured in the Detroit riots - the worst of the century.

July 26: Black leaders, Martin Luther King, Jr., A. Philip Randolph, Roy Wilkins and Whitney Young appeal for an end to the riots, "which have proved ineffective and damaging to the civil rights cause and the entire nation."

October 30: The Supreme Court upholds the contempt-of-court convictions of Dr. King and seven other black leaders who led the 1963 marches in Birmingham, Alabama. Dr. King and his aides enter jail to serve four-day sentences.

November 27: Dr. King announces the formation by SCLC of a Poor People's Campaign, with the aim of representing the problems of poor blacks and whites.

1968

February 12: Sanitation workers strike in Memphis, Tennessee.

March 28: Dr. King leads six thousand protesters on a march through downtown Memphis in support of striking sanitation workers. Disorder breaks out during which black youths loot stores. One sixteen-year-old is killed and fifty people are injured.

April 3: Dr. King's last speech titled "I've Been to the Mountain Top" is delivered at Mason Temple in Memphis, Tennessee.

April 4: Dr. King is assassinated as he stands talking on the balcony of his second-floor room at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis. He dies in St. Joseph's Hospital from a gunshot wound in the neck.

April 9: Dr. King is buried in Atlanta, Georgia.

June 5: Presidential candidate Senator Robert Kennedy is shot in Los Angeles and dies the next day.

1986

January 18: Following passage of Public Law 98-144, President Ronald Reagan signs a proclamation declaring the third Monday in January of each year a public holiday in honor of the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.

1999

December 8: A jury of twelve citizens of Memphis, Shelby County, TN concluded in Coretta Scott King, Martin Luther King, III, Bernice King, Dexter Scott King and Yolanda King Vs. Loyd Jowers and Other Unknown Conspirators that Loyd Jowers and governmental agencies including the City of Memphis, the State of Tennessee, and the federal government were party to the conspiracy to assassinate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Biographical Outline of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr...

► Continued from Page 1

last. Thank God almighty, we are free at last."

From the Acceptance Speech, The Nobel Peace Prize, 1964

"I accept this award today with an abiding faith in America and an audacious faith in the future of mankind. I refuse to accept the idea that the 'isness' of man's present nature makes him morally incapable of reaching up for the eternal 'oughtness' that forever confronts him. I refuse to accept the idea that man is mere flotsam and jetsam in the river of life unable to influence the unfolding of events which surround him. I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the

starless midnight of racism and war that the bright day-break of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality."

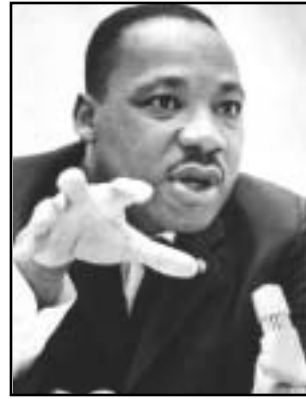
"I refuse to accept the cynical notion that nation after nation must spiral down a militaristic stairway into the hell of a thermonuclear destruction. I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final world in reality. This is why right temporarily defeated is stronger than evil triumphant."

From the sermon "I've Been To the Mountaintop," April 3, 1968

"...That's the question before you tonight. Not, 'If I stop to help the sanitation

workers, what will happen to my job?' 'Not, if I stop to help the sanitation workers, what will happen to all of the hours that I usually spend in my office everyday and every week as a pastor?' The question is not, 'If I stop to help this man in need, what will happen to me?' The question is, 'If I do not stop to help the sanitation workers, what will happen to them?' That's the question."

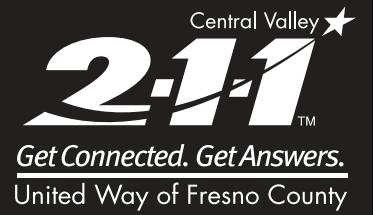
"Let us rise up tonight with a greater readiness. Let us stand with a greater determination. And let us move on in these powerful days, these days of challenge to make America what it ought to be. We have an opportunity to make America a better nation. And I want to thank God once more for allowing me to be here with you."



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LOCAL NEWS

Eugene Robinson to Speak at Fresno State February 5

Washington Post columnist, MSNBC Network and Keith Oberman TV show contributor



Eugene Robinson will be speaking in the Satellite Student Union on the campus of Fresno State, February 5 at 7:00 p.m. The event will be open and free to the public. His topic: "We're Someplace We've Never Been: Race, Diversity and the New America." There will also be a 15-minute Q and A following the presentation.

Biography

Eugene Robinson used his twice-weekly column in The Washington Post to pick American society apart and then put it back together again in unexpected, and revelatory, new ways. To do this job of demolition and reassembly, Robinson relies on a large and varied tool kit: energy, curiosity, elegant writing, and the wide-ranging experience of a life that took him from childhood in the segregated South – on what they called the "colored" side of the tracks – to the heights of American Journalism.

In a 25-year career at The Washington Post, Robinson has been city hall reporter, city editor, foreign correspondent in Buenos Aires and London, foreign editor, and assistant managing editor in charge of the paper's award winning Style section. He has written books about race in Brazil and music in Cuba, covered a heavyweight championship fight, witnessed riots in Philadelphia and a murder trial in the deepest Amazon, sat with Presidents and Dictators and the Queen of England, thrusted and parried with hair-proud politicians from sea to shining sea, handicapped three editions of American Idol, acquired

fluent Spanish and passable Portuguese, and even reached an uneasy truce with the noxious hip-hop lyrics that fester in his teenage son's innocent looking iPod.

He saw, long before the recent election divided the states into red and blue, that politics and culture are always intertwined. He sees how the great trends that are reshaping our society are also reshaping our neighborhoods, our families, ourselves. Immigration, for example, is far more than a tally of how many people moved from somewhere else to America. It's also the story of a changing inner-city block that rises or sinks as newcomers arrive. It's the story of how the grammar and syntax of a new hybrid language are forged in basketball or soccer games at the local playground. It's the story of a woman, all but cloistered in her home country, who walks down a public street for the first time in her life without a veil. Or the story of a man, raised in society where machismo still rules, learning for the first time to regard his wife as a breadwinner, perhaps eventually as an equal. Using the old-fashioned instincts and habits of a reporter, Robinson goes out and finds these stories. He sees them as the foundation that supports his provocative opinions – and as building blocks that can be used to assemble the larger narrative of today's America.

Robinson was born and raised in Orangeburg, SC. He remembers the culminating years of the Civil Rights Movement – the "Orangeburg Massacre," a 1968 incident in which police fired

on students protesting a segregated bowling alley and killed three unarmed young men, took place within sight of his house just a few hundred yards away. He was educated at Orangeburg High School, where he was one of a handful of black students on the previously all white campus; and the University of Michigan, where during his senior year he was the first black student to be named co-editor-in-chief of the award-winning student newspaper, The Michigan Daily.

He began his journalism career at the San Francisco Chronicle, where he was one of two reporters assigned to cover the trial of kidnapped newspaper heiress Patricia Hearst which arguably set the pattern for all the saturation-coverage celebrity trials that have followed. F. Lee Bailey, at the time the most celebrated lawyer in America, was lead counsel for the defense. He lost the case, which taught Robinson a valuable lesson he has never forgotten: Reputation and performance are two different things.

Robinson joined The Washington Post in 1980 as city hall reporter, covering the first term of Washington's larger-than-life mayor, Marion Barry. For the first time since Orangeburg, race became a dominant issue in Robinson's life – as city hall reporter, he was the de facto emissary of a powerful white institution, The Washington Post, to an ambitious, race-conscious, black-run government of a majority-black city. There he learned another important lesson: man-in-the-middle is never a comfortable role, but some-

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

What's Going On in Our Community

Drinking Water for Homeless

Drinking water donations needed for the Fresno homeless population. Call 559-251-0540 or 559-270-1023 for water pick-up arrangements. Project contact persons: Dr. Jean Kennedy and Ms Rene Zeno. Need volunteers.

Creating Dynamic Films

Emmy Award-winning documentary maker Ric Burns will speak on "Creating Dynamic Films" on Wednesday, Jan. 21, at 10:30 a.m. at the Saroyan Theatre, 700 M Street, Fresno, presented by the San Joaquin Valley Town Hall lecture series. Burns collaborated with his brother Ken on PBS' "The Civil War" and created the eight-part "New York" series. For tickets, contact (559) 444-2189 or www.valleytownhall.com or the box office on the day of the event.

'RUN FOR THE DREAM' INDOOR TRACK MEET

The "Run for the Dream" Indoor Track Meet is scheduled for January 19, 2009, in the beautiful Save Mart Center on campus at Fresno State College.

The "Run for the Dream" Track Meet is about building up the sport of Track and Field in California, and developing the potential the San Joaquin Valley has for youth involvement in the sport.

Activities will include Collegiate Competition, California vs. Texas High schools, Evening with the Stars, Banquet of Champions, Mini Reunions, World Class Competitions, and The Fastest Kids contest.

Opportunities for parents, athletes and teachers to experience the potential Track & Field offers to fight the epidemic of obesity, diabetes and more.

The "Run for the Dream" Committee has members that represent city schools, county schools, medical organizations, valley cities, agribusiness, college professors, ministers, the media, and former National Champions and Olympians.

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More than \$650 Million Available to Help Low-Income, Elderly, Disabled Find Housing

WASHINGTON –

Thousands of very low-income senior citizens and persons with disabilities will be able to find affordable housing thanks to more than \$650 million in grants announced today by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The funding will provide non-profit developers interest-free capital advances to produce accessible housing, offer rental assistance, and provide supportive services for the elderly and persons with disabilities through HUD's Section 202 and Section 811 grant programs.

"These grants will help thousands of our nation's very low-income elderly and persons with disabilities find decent housing that they can afford," said HUD Secretary Steve Preston. "Neither group should ever have to worry about being able to find a safe place to live."

HUD's Section 202 Capital Advance Program expands the supply of affordable housing with supportive services for the elderly. It provides very low-income

persons 62-years and older with the opportunity to live independently in an environment that provides the services they need. In addition to funding the construction, acquisition, and rehabilitation of multifamily developments, HUD's Section 202 program subsidizes the rents of senior citizens so they can limit their housing costs to only pay 30 percent of their incomes.

SECTION 811 CAPITAL ADVANCE (\$124.5 MILLION NATIONWIDE TO ASSIST VERY LOW-INCOME PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES)

Housing constructed using interest-free capital advances under HUD's Section 811 Program are primarily used in smaller newly constructed buildings, typically group homes for three to four people, or condominium units. Eligible residents pay 30 percent of their income for rent and the federal government will pay the rest. Households must have one or more very low-income adult with physical or developmental disability

or living with chronic mental illness.

The term "person with disabilities" may also include two or more people with disabilities living together, or one or more persons with disabilities living with one or more live-in attendants. The program provides persons with disabilities the opportunity to live independently in their communities by increasing the supply of rental housing with the availability of supportive services.

HUD provides the Section 202 and Section 811 funds to non-profit organizations in two forms:

***Capital Advances. This is funding that covers the cost of developing, acquiring, or rehabilitating the development.**

***Project Rental Assistance Contract (PRAC). This is funding that goes to each development to cover the difference between the residents' contributions toward rent and the HUD-approved cost of operating the project.**

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Creating Dynamic Films

Emmy Award-winning documentary maker Ric Burns will speak on "Creating Dynamic Films" on Wednesday, Jan. 21, at 10:30 a.m. at the Saroyan Theatre, 700 M Street, Fresno, presented by the San Joaquin Valley Town Hall lecture series. Burns collaborated with his brother Ken on PBS' "The Civil War" and created the eight-part "New York" series. For tickets, contact (559) 444-2189 or www.valleystownhall.com or the box office on the day of the event.

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The Meaning of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday...

► Continued from Page 1

al cooperation and sharing. No other day of the year brings so many peoples from different cultural backgrounds together in such a vibrant spirit of brother and sisterhood. Whether you are African-American, Hispanic or Native American, whether you are Caucasian or Asian-American, you are part of the great dream Martin Luther King, Jr. had for America. This is not a black holiday; it is a peoples' holiday. And it is the young people of all races and religions who hold the keys to the fulfillment of his dream.

We commemorate on this holiday the ecumenical leader and visionary who embraced the unity of all faiths in love and truth. And though we take patriotic pride that Dr. King was an American, on this holiday we must also commemorate the global leader who inspired nonviolent liberation movements around the world. Indeed, on this day, programs commemorating my husband's birthday are being observed in more than 100 nations.

The King Holiday celebrates Dr. King's global vision of the world house, a world whose people and nations had triumphed over poverty, racism, war and violence. The holiday celebrates his vision of ecumenical solidarity, his insistence that all faiths had something meaningful to contribute to building the beloved community.

The Holiday commemorates America's pre-eminent advocate of nonviolence – the man who taught by his example that nonviolent action is the most powerful, revolutionary force for social change available to oppressed people in their struggles for liberation.

This holiday honors the courage of a man who endured harassment, threats and beatings, and even bombings. We commemorate the man who went to jail 29 times to achieve freedom for others, and who knew he would pay the ultimate price for his leadership, but kept on marching and protesting and organizing anyway.

Every King holiday has been a national "teach-in" on the values of nonviolence, including unconditional love, tolerance, forgiveness and reconciliation, which are so desperately needed to unify America. It is a day of intensive education and training in Martin's philosophy and methods of nonviolent social change and conflict-reconciliation. The Holiday provides a unique opportunity to teach young people to fight evil, not

people, to get in the habit of asking themselves, "what is the most loving way I can resolve this conflict?"

On the King holiday, young people learn about the power of unconditional love even for one's adversaries as a way to fight injustice and defuse violent disputes. It is a time to show them the power of forgiveness in the healing process at the interpersonal as well as international levels.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is not only for celebration and remembrance, education and tribute, but above all a day of service. All across America on the Holiday, his followers perform service in hospitals and shelters and prisons and wherever people need some help. It is a day of volunteering to feed the hungry, rehabilitate housing, tutoring those who can't read, mentoring at-risk youngsters, consoling the broken-hearted and a thousand other projects for building the beloved community of his dream.

Dr. King once said that we all have to decide whether we "will walk in the light of creative altruism or the darkness of destructive selfishness. Life's most persistent and nagging question, he said, is 'what are you doing for others?'" he would quote Mark 9:35, the scripture in which Jesus of Nazareth tells James and John "...whosoever will be great among you shall be your servant; and whosoever among you will be the first shall be the servant of all." And when Martin talked about the end of his mortal life in one of his last sermons, on February 4, 1968 in the pulpit of Ebenezer Baptist Church, even then he lifted up the value of service as the hallmark of a full life. "I'd like somebody to mention on that day Martin Luther King, Jr. tried to give his life serving others," he said. "I want you to say on that day, that I did try in my life...to love and serve humanity."

We call you to commemorate this Holiday by making your personal commitment to serve humanity with the vibrant spirit of unconditional love that was his greatest strength, and which empowered all of the great victories of his leadership. And with our hearts open to this spirit of unconditional love, we can indeed achieve the Beloved Community of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s dream.

May we who follow Martin now pledge to serve humanity, promote his teachings and carry forward his legacy into the 21st century.

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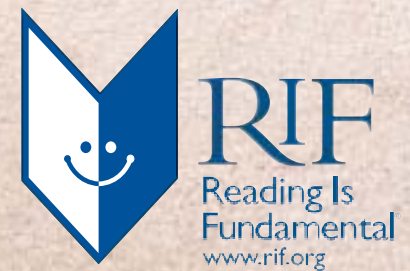
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Phone: 559-225-3744 or 559-304-7673 • Email: FGLASPIE@AOL.COM




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He has a dream.



In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s dream that all Americans be able to reach their highest potential, Macy's and RIF are helping to make literacy a priority across the nation.

Every child has dreams. But without the fundamentals of literacy, those dreams are difficult to achieve. That's why Macy's is a proud supporter of Reading Is Fundamental's (RIF) Multicultural Literacy Campaign. Over the past four years, Macy's customers have helped raise over \$7 million through programs that help provide free books and literacy resources for children nationwide. For more information on RIF, visit RIF.org.

