

Seattle Area Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebrations

Congressman John Lewis To Keynote King County Annual MLK Celebration

Congressman John Lewis (D-GA) will be the keynote speaker for the 23rd Annual King County Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration to be held on Thurs., Jan. 14 from 12 Noon to 1:00 p.m. at the Paramount Theatre - 911 Pine Street in Seattle.

Often called "one of the most courageous persons the civil rights movement ever produced," John Lewis has dedicated his life to protecting human rights, securing civil liberties, and building what he calls the "Beloved Community" in America.

The event will also feature music by Quinton I. Morris. Morris, the founder of the Young Eight String Quartet, has performed solo and chamber music in the United States, Europe, and the Middle East.

This event is free and open to the public, no RSVP's are required.

For more information, please contact Kamilah Brown, Legislative Aide to King County Councilmember Larry Gossett, at (206) 296-1002 or kamilah.brown@kingcounty.gov

The Millionair Club Charity Honors Diversity on Martin Luther King Jr. Day

On Mon., Jan. 18 The Millionair Club Charity, a non-profit committed to serving Seattle's working homeless community, will host its first annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration from 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at The Millionair Club Charity dining room, 2515 Western Ave. in Seattle.

The event will be a celebration of Dr. King's dedication toward a society where those that were often disenfranchised and isolated from the mainstream had the opportunity to achieve their dreams and live a dignified existence.

The event will feature members of the Seattle community, including guest speaker Congressman Jim McDermott and other local dignitaries, West African storytelling dance performance by Ocheami, followed by a buffet-style breakfast sponsored by Schwan's Home Service of Auburn, and keynote address by James D. Bible, President of the Seattle King County NAACP.

Black Business Rally In Olympia

The Community Coalition For Contracts and Jobs (CCCJ), The Truckers Consortium, The Contractors Development and Competitiveness Center (CDCC) and African American business owners are encouraging everyone to participate in a MLK Day Rally on Mon., Jan. 18th at 3:00 p.m. on the north side of the Capitol Building in Olympia.

The purpose of the rally is to bring attention to the under-utilization of Black-owned businesses in the state. Participants will be encouraged to visit their legislators and request that the State of Washington cease the discrimination against Black-owned businesses, the State's Minority Business Utilization Report will be available at Garfield High School during the Seattle MLK Celebration on Monday, Jan. 18.

Carpools will leave Garfield beginning at 2:00 p.m.

For more information, call (206) 353-5770.

FAMED COMPOSER AND MUSICIAN BERNICE JOHNSON REAGON KEYNOTES 36TH ANNUAL SCC DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. EVENT

Songtalk illustrates 'Singing as the Communal Voice of the Civil Rights Movement' Celebrated composer and musician Bernice Johnson Reagon will keynote the Seattle Community Colleges' 36th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Celebration 12-1:30 pm on Friday, Jan. 15 at Mount Zion Baptist Church - 1634 19th Avenue in Seattle.

Dr. Reagon has been a major voice for freedom and justice since the Civil Rights Movement evolved in the 1960s. A student leader in the Albany Movement in Georgia, she was a member of the original Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) Freedom singers formed in 1962, and a founding member of the Atlanta-based Harambee Singers in 1966. Music has remained a constant in her life. In 1973, as a graduate

student of history at Howard University and vocal director of the DC Black Repertory Theater, she formed the internationally renowned African-American women's a cappella ensemble, *Sweet Honey in the Rock*. She led the group until retirement in early 2004.

Dr. Reagon will present a songtalk, "The Reason I Sing This Song: Singing as the Communal Voice of the Civil Rights Movement," and will respond to questions from schoolchildren at the conclusion of her presentation. Award-winning gospel group 'Royalty,' directed by DaNell Daymon, will also perform. Emcee is KIRO-TV news anchor Angela Russell.

The Seattle Community Colleges annual Community Celebration is free and open to the public.

Annual Seattle MLK Celebration To Take Place At Garfield On Jan. 18

For the 27th straight year, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Committee will be sponsoring a special salute to the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Mon., Jan. 18 at Garfield High School in Seattle.

The festivities will begin with a series of workshops starting at 9:30 a.m. The workshops will cover issues of great concern to the poor, minorities, workers and other disadvantaged folks living in Seattle and Martin Luther King, Jr. County. At 11:00 a.m., a huge community rally, featuring great speakers and entertainers, will kick off in the Garfield Gymnasium. The celebration will culminate with a massive "People's March" at 12:00 noon with thousands of participants marching in unison from Garfield to the Federal Building in downtown Seattle.

"This year's grand tribute to Dr. King is proving to be one of the best organized affairs ever and thousands of folks from throughout the community have indicated that they plan to participate and I urge all of you to bring family, neighbors and friends and join us for our workshops, rally and march!" said King County Councilman Larry Gossett, Chair of the MLK Jr. Celebration Committee.

"The theme for this year's MLK Birthday Celebration is 'Justice Now! Health Care, Housing, Jobs and Education,'" added Eddie Rye, Jr., long-time community activist and member of the MLK Organizing committee.

For further information about the 2010 edition of Seattle's birthday salute to Dr. King, please call (206) 296-1002 or (206) 786-2363.

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