

“There is no easy way to create a world where men and women can live together, where each has his own job and house, where all children receive as much education as their minds can absorb. But if such a world is created in our lifetime, it will be done in the United States by Negroes and white people of good will. It will be accomplished by persons who have the courage to put an end to suffering by willingly suffering themselves rather than inflict suffering upon others. It will be done by rejecting the racism, materialism and violence that has characterized Western civilization and especially by working toward a world of brotherhood, cooperation and peace.”

*Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
May 4, 1966*

Some quotations and pictures listed in this brochure are excerpts from Dr. King’s speeches; others are from “Visions of Excellence – African-American Words of Inspiration.” Photographs are from the following books: “He Had a Dream;” “King, the Photo Biography of Martin Luther King Jr.,” “The Story of Martin Luther King;” “The Life and Death of Martin Luther King Jr.,” and “Martin Luther King Jr.”

The activities and events that are listed in this calendar represent those submitted to the Commission prior to the printing deadline.

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**THE 2016 COMMISSION
MEMBERS FOR THE
STATE OF MISSOURI**

The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. State Celebration Commission was appointed by the governor of the state of Missouri in 1986. The specific mission of the Celebration Commission is to consider and recommend to individuals and organizations appropriate activities for the recognition and celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday in the state of Missouri. Commissioners are:

Mrs. Constance Gully
Chairperson
St. Louis

Mrs. Anita Banks
St. Louis

Dr. James H. Buford
St. Louis

The Honorable Rev. Emanuel Cleaver II
Kansas City

Lady Merdean F. Gales
St. Louis

Mr. Ollie Gates
Kansas City

Ms. Charlotte C. Hardin
Springfield

Rev. Sammie E. Jones
St. Louis

Mr. Jack McBride
Fulton

Dr. Michael Middleton
Columbia

Rev. Earl Nance Jr.
St. Louis

Dr. Gwendolyn D. Packnett
St. Louis

The Honorable Francis G. Slay
St. Louis

Mrs. Ruth Smith
St. Louis

Mrs. Myrle Mensey-Symonds
St. Louis

Ms. Bertha A. Thomas
Kirksville

The Honorable Betty Thompson
St. Louis

Ms. Lessie J. Thompson
Lee's Summit

Dr. Henry Givens Jr.
Chairman Emeritus



The Honorable
Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon
Governor

October 27, 2015

Dear Friends:

Please accept my congratulations and best wishes, made on behalf of the six million citizens of Missouri, to the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. State Celebration Commission in celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Commission. For three decades, you have led our state in paying tribute to the lifework and legacy of one of the greatest leaders this country has ever seen, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and I have been honored to be a part of your efforts.

During his all-too brief life, Dr. King was a beacon of hope and inspiration for many millions of people worldwide through his thoughtful wisdom, moving oratory, and courage in the face of physical danger. More than 47 years after he was taken, his spirit has continued to inspire countless people to work to remove barriers, and to promote peace and justice. May that inspiration live on for many generations to come.

Thank you for what you have accomplished on behalf of our state. May God bless the memory of Dr. King, and may God bless our great state of Missouri and these United States.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jay Nixon", written in a cursive style.

Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon
Governor

250,000 people marched in Washington, D.C. on August 28, 1963, coming by plane, bus, train, and on foot, and from every walk of life. It was the biggest peaceful demonstration for civil rights in history.

*Quote from "Martin Luther King Jr. 1929-1968,
An Ebony Picture Biography"*

The National Celebration of the Birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

On August 27, 1984, following an act of the 98th Congress of the United States of America, President Ronald Reagan signed into law, legislation creating the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Federal Holiday Commission.

As provided in the authorizing legislation, the purpose of the Commission was to encourage appropriate ceremonies and activities throughout the United States relating to the first legal observance of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday, January 15, 1986, and to provide advice and assistance to federal, state and local governments, as well as private organizations with respect to the observance.

Congress created the Commission in recognition of the historical importance of the first observation of our newest holiday and the need for an organized effort at the federal level to ensure that the first observance was a success.

In this spirit, the State Celebration Commission of Missouri wholeheartedly supports the federal Commission's efforts to successfully fulfill this Congressional mandate.

“I Have A Dream” Speech

by

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

**Delivered on the Lincoln Memorial Steps
in
Washington, D.C.
August 28, 1963**



“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 capitol 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. 1963 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 to 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 majestic 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 mobility 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 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 former slaves and the sons of former slave owners 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 all 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 come 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 snowcapped 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!'"



“I would challenge you today to see that his spirit never dies and that we will go forward from this experience, which to me represents the crucifixion – on toward the resurrection and redemption of his spirit. We must carry on...”

Coretta Scott King

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The King Holiday

Mrs. Coretta Scott King

A day to reaffirm the American ideals of freedom, justice and opportunity for all.

A day to love, not hate; for understanding, not anger; for peace, not war.

A day for families to share together, to reach out to relatives and friends and to mend broken relationships.

A day when the community rids itself of the barriers that divide it and comes together as one.

A day when people of all races, religions, classes and nations in life put aside their differences and join in a spirit of togetherness.

A day for nations of the world to cease all violent actions, seek nonviolent solutions and demonstrate that peace is not just a dream but a real possibility, if only for one day.

If for only one day, each of us serves as a “drum major for justice and peace,” then we bring to life the inspiring vision of freedom of which Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. dreamed, a tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who awakened in us the best qualities.

**City of St. Louis
Official Proclamation
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Statewide Celebration**



**Francis G. Slay
Mayor, City of St. Louis**

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in the challenging times we currently face, the values of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. -- tolerance, nonviolence, compassion, responsibility and moral courage -- are even more critical to all of us; and

WHEREAS, Monday, January 18, 2016, has been established as a day to reaffirm those values and the universal ideals of freedom, peace, justice and equal opportunity for all; and

WHEREAS, the powerful words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. touched the hearts of people around the world and will live on as surely as men and women continue to seek justice and peace; and

WHEREAS, the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday is designed for people from every walk of life -- every race, color, creed, age, gender and economic status to continue the efforts to reach out to each other, recognizing that we

have far more in common than we have differences; and

WHEREAS, I encourage all St. Louisans to remember the life and legacy of Dr. King and work for justice and equal opportunity and to celebrate and bring his dream to life.

Now, therefore, I, Francis G. Slay, Mayor of the City of St. Louis, do hereby proclaim January 18, 2016, as:

**“DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY”
IN THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS**

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the seal of the City of St. Louis, this 18th day of January, A.D. 2016.

If I can help somebody as I pass
along,
If I can cheer somebody with a song,
If I can show somebody he's
traveling wrong,
Then my living will not be in vain.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

King Holiday Bell Ringing

In 1986, the Martin Luther King Jr. Federal Holiday Commission began the tradition of ringing the U.S. Liberty Bell on the holiday honoring Dr. King. The Bell-Ringing Ceremony takes place in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on the third Monday of January at noon E.S.T. Simultaneously, similar ceremonies take place on the capitols of each of the 50 states with the governors ringing replica Liberty Bells, which were cast and sent to the states by President Harry Truman.

The Bell-Ringing Ceremony was created to serve as an appropriate opening for events that encourage us to remember, celebrate and act on the King Holiday, such as community service projects, forums on race relations, parades or marches. Since the ceremony began, churches, synagogues, mosques, schools and civic organizations have also participated. For religious or ethnic cultures that have no tradition of bell ringing, the commission has encouraged them to participate in the ceremony with an expression appropriate to their tradition, like the blowing of the shofar or the singing of a song.

A particularly fitting symbol for honoring the work of Dr. King, the Liberty Bell was introduced to a national audience as a symbol for the abolitionist movement. The first reference historians can find to the name "Liberty Bell" is on the cover of an 1837 edition of *Liberty*, published by the New York Anti-Slavery Society. Previously known only in Philadelphia as the State House Bell, the bell, used as an antislavery symbol, brought it to much greater prominence.

Major Issues of Dr. King's Campaigns From 1954-1968

1955

Non-segregated buses – Montgomery, AL

1961

Freedom Rides – Washington, D.C. to New Orleans

1962

Non-segregated public accommodations and voting rights – Albany, GA

1963

Non-segregated public accommodations: affirmative action – Birmingham, AL

1964

Non-segregated public accommodations – St. Augustine, FL

1965

Guaranteed protection voting rights – Selma, AL

1966

Open housing; ending slums – Chicago, IL

1967

Ending slums; jobs – Cleveland, OH

1968

Right to organize for garbage workers – Memphis, TN

End poverty in the United States – Poor People's Campaign

Right to organize for hospital workers (planned by Dr. King, led by Ralph Abernathy) – Charleston, SC

DR. KING'S SIX PRINCIPLES OF NONVIOLENCE

“Often the question has arisen concerning my own intellectual pilgrimage to nonviolence. In order to get at this question it is necessary to go back to my early teens in Atlanta. I had grown up abhorring not only segregation, but also the oppressive and barbarous acts that grew out of it.”

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Principle 1: *Nonviolence is not passive, but requires courage.*

Principle 2: *Nonviolence seeks reconciliation, not defeat of an adversary.*

Principle 3: *Nonviolent action is directed at eliminating evil, not destroying an evil-doer.*

Principle 4: *A willingness to accept suffering for the cause, if necessary, but never to inflict it.*

Principle 5: *A rejection of hatred, animosity or violence of the spirit, as well as refusal to commit physical violence.*

Principle 6: *Faith that justice will prevail.*

DR. KING'S SIX STEPS OF NONVIOLENCE

- 1. *Information gathering and research to get the facts straight.***
- 2. *Education of adversaries and the public about the facts of the dispute.***
- 3. *Personal commitment to nonviolent attitudes and action.***
- 4. *Negotiation with an adversary in a spirit of goodwill to correct injustice.***
- 5. *Nonviolent direct action, such as marches, boycotts, mass demonstrations, picketing, sit-ins, etc., to help persuade or compel adversary to work toward dispute-resolution.***
- 6. *Reconciliation of adversaries in a win-win outcome to establish a sense of community.***

Fundamental tenets of Dr. King's philosophy of nonviolence described in his first book, *Stride Toward Freedom.*

**THE DISTINGUISHED
KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

*2016 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Statewide Celebration
Kick-Off Program*

*Saturday, January 9, 2016
6:30 p.m.
Harris-Stowe State University
Dr. Henry Givens Jr. Administration
Building
3026 Laclede Avenue
St. Louis, MO*



***The Honorable
Rev. Emanuel Cleaver II
United States Representative
District 5***

***Member, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
State Celebration Committee***

Emanuel Cleaver, II is now serving his sixth term representing Missouri's Fifth Congressional District, the home district of President Harry Truman. He is a member of the exclusive House Financial Services Committee, the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance, and also a Senior Whip of the Democratic Caucus.

Having served for 12 years on the city council of Missouri's largest municipality, Kansas City, Cleaver was elected as the city's first African American Mayor in 1991.

During his eight year stint in the Office of the Mayor, Cleaver distinguished himself as an economic development activist and an unapologetic redevelopment craftsman. He and the City Council brought a number of major corporations to the city, including TransAmerica, Harley Davidson, and Citi Corp. Cleaver also led the effort, after a 40 year delay, to build the South Midtown Roadway. Upon completion of this major thoroughfare, he proposed a new name: The Bruce R. Watkins Roadway. Additionally, his municipal stewardship includes the 18th and Vine Redevelopment, a new American Royal, the establishment of a Family Division of the Municipal Court, and the reconstruction and beautification of Brush Creek.

Cleaver has received five honorary Doctoral Degrees augmented by a bachelor's degree from Prairie View A&M, and a Master's from St. Paul's School of Theology of Kansas City.

In 2009, Cleaver, with a multitude of accomplishments both locally and Congressionally, introduced the most ambitious project of his political career—the creation of a Green Impact Zone. This zone, consisting of 150 blocks of declining urban core, has received approximately \$125 million dollars in American Recovery and Reinvestment funds. The Green Impact Zone is aimed at making this high crime area the environmentally greenest piece of urban geography in the world. This project includes rebuilding Troost Avenue, rehabbing bridges, curbs and sidewalks, home weatherization, smart grid technology in hundreds of homes, and most importantly, hundreds of badly needed jobs for Green Zone residents. During the 112th Congress, Cleaver was unanimously elected the 20th chair of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Cleaver, a native of Texas, is married to the former Dianne Donaldson. They have made Kansas City home for themselves and their four children.

CAPE GIRARDEAU



Designates Youth and Family Event

Date: January 20, 2016
Time: 6 p.m.
Event: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Annual
Celebration Dinner
Place: Show Me Center Arena
1333 North Sprigg St.

The annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Dinner honors the legacy of the historic humanitarian with a night of reflection, dinner and entertainment. Our guest speaker for the evening is author, philanthropist, Rhodes Scholar and decorated Army combat veteran, Mr. Wes Moore. Admission is \$20/ticket or sponsorship levels ranging from \$250-\$3000. Sponsored by Southeast Missouri State University. **Contact:** Sia Sharma at 573-651-5113 or mlkcommittee@semo.edu.

Date: February 3, 2016
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Event: The Hard Facts About Soft Skills
Place: Southeast Missouri State University
University Center Indian Room

Soft Skills/Business Skills training have become critical to students and new professionals in the

21st Century world of work. Many employers list this as the primary area of training needed by incoming employees to be successful beyond the knowledge necessary to perform their positions. Join us for this seminar to discuss why soft skills such as: communication, teamwork, networking, professionalism, etc. are as important to your career as your coursework and connections. Open to all. Sponsored by Academic Support Centers and the Cape Girardeau Area Chamber of Commerce. **Contact:** Valdis Zalite at 573-651-2273 or vzalite@semo.edu.

Date: February 11, 2016

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Event: All Politics are Personal: From the Fiscal Cliff to Your Front Yard

**Place: Southeast Missouri State University
University Center Indian Room**

Political awareness and understanding are critical to Americans; the shifting political base impacts us all from the local to the national level. This guided discussion will center on the idea that the “future belongs to those of us that remain aware and vigilant” and will be aimed at addressing current beliefs, the differences and commonalities between the two major political parties, the changing demographics of where we are today and how we must all be involved moving forward. Open to all. Sponsored by Academic Support Centers. **Contact:** Valdis Zalite at 573-651-2273 or vzalite@semo.edu.

Date: February 13, 2016

Time: 12:30 p.m.

Event: Becoming an Expert – Excelling in Your Environment

**Place: Southeast Missouri State University
University Center Redhawks Room**

This facilitated panel discussion will provide an opportunity for emerging professionals and students to discuss the importance of being “value-added” in their field. We will address topics related to professionalism, assessing and understanding your work environment and how we define success. **Attendance by invitation only.** Sponsored by Academic Support Centers. **Contact:** Sean Spinks at 573-989-6135 or sspinks@semo.edu.

Darkness cannot drive out darkness;
only light can do that.
Hate cannot drive out hate;
only love can do that.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Date: February 17, 2016

Time: Noon

Event: Sisters are Doing it for Themselves

**Place: Southeast Missouri State University
University Center Program Lounge**

This is a celebration of African American women (faculty and staff) and the opportunity to encourage and support the next generation of African American women (students). The discussion will be adapted from the book “Black Woman Redefined” that addressed African American women in the workplace. Our speaker Kay Monk-Morgan, Leadership Consultant and Facilitator, will address breaking the proverbial glass ceiling and challenging the traditional stereotypes that impact African American professional women. This is a time to remember how to be “Our Sister’s Keeper.”

Admission is by invitation only. Sponsored by Academic Support Center. **Contact:** Kei-Shae

McCrary at 573-986-6135 or
kmccrary@semo.edu.

Date: February 17, 2016

Time: Noon

Event: What Plagues Our Youth (Forum)

**Place: Southeast Missouri State University
University Center Redhawks Room**

Students, faculty and staff can participate in facilitated discussion regarding the challenges and issues impacting African American youth. Working together, the group can generate approaches and suggestions that may address common concerns and obstacles. Open to all. Sponsored by Black Male Initiative Program.
Contact: Robert Turner at 573-651-2823 or
rdturner3s@semo.edu.



Date: February 17, 2016

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Event: The Etiquette Advantage

**Place: Southeast Missouri State University
University Center Program Lounge**

Manners Matter. Learn how to present a professional image when dining with future employers and colleagues. Join us for an interactive dining experience covering professional dress, etiquette and social skills.
Admission by invitation only. Sponsored by

Academic Support Centers. **Contact:** Kei-Shae McCrary at 573-986-6135 or kmccrary@semo.edu.

Date: February 18, 2016

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Event: An Evening with Dr. CP Gause; Black Masculinity in America

Place: Southeast Missouri State University
University Center Redhawks Room

Book celebration for Dr. Gause's latest book. Dr. Gause will provide an overview of his latest book and discuss his experiences and research that led to developing the topic and writing the book. Following the discussion will be a question and answer session. **Admission by invitation only.** Sponsored by the Office of Institutional Equity and Diversity. **Contact:** Robert Turner at 573-651-2823 or rdturner3s@semo.edu.

Date: February 23, 2016

Time: 11:30 a.m.

Event: UNCF Scholars Luncheon

Place: Southeast Missouri State University
University Center Program Lounge

In 2009, Southeast Missouri State University began a partnership with UNCF that has resulted in over 60 UNCF Scholars attending Southeast, with the first two cohorts graduating 15 students. Moving into the next phase with the new UNCF area director McFarlane Duncan, we are hosting a luncheon for the current scholars to meet and share their experiences with Mr. Duncan and the staff of the Academic Support Centers.

Admission by invitation only. Sponsored by Academic Support Centers. **Contact:** Trent Ball at 573-986-6135 or tball@semo.edu.

Date: February 23, 2016
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Event: University Speakers Series presents
Common
Place: Show Me Center
1333 N. Sprigg Street

The "King of Conscious Hip Hop," Common is one of music's most poetic and respected lyricists. Over the course of nine albums, his introspective rhymes have pushed boundaries with their incisive social commentary. From "Can I Borrow a Dollar?" to "BE" and "Finding Forever" along with his Grammy-nominated collaborations with Kanye West, Common has spent 16 years in the notoriously fickle world of hip hop by taking risks and staying one step ahead of the game. Common has also branched out into acting, portraying freed slave Elam Ferguson in AMC's historical drama series "Hell on Wheels." He also appears in several movies, including "Smokin' Aces," "Wanted," "Terminator Salvation," "Date Night" and "Just Wright." In 2007, he launched the Common Ground Foundation, an organization dedicated to the empowerment and development of America's urban youth. Offering the younger generations a better understanding of self-respect and love, he has combined hip hop with literature, releasing three children's books: "The MIRROR and ME", "I like You but I Love Me" and "M.E. (Mixed Emotions)." His first book for adults is the provocative and touching memoir, "One Day It'll All Make Sense." In 2015, Common received an Oscar and a Golden Globe Award for Best Original Song with John Legend for their powerful collaboration, "Glory," featured in the civil rights film, "Selma." Whether inspiring audiences through his music, his books or his foundation, Common continues to break new ground and remains one of hip hop's most innovative, positive voices. Sponsored by University Speakers Series. Admission is free with a valid Redhawks ID;

\$10 for community members. University tickets are available in the University Center-Center for Student Involvement (UC 204) and the Show Me Center Box Office. General public tickets are available at www.showmecenter.biz and the Show Me Center Box Office. **Contact:** Joanna Shaver at 573-651-2280 or jshaver@semo.edu.

Date: February 25, 2016

Time: 6 p.m.

Event: National TRIO Day Celebration

Place: Show Me Center Meeting Rooms

National TRIO Day celebrates the sustained impact and success of the Federal TRIO programs in communities and recognizes the importance of educational opportunity programs in creating a fairer society for all Americans. As a critical component of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, TRIO programs work to protect and further access to higher education for low income, first generation students, students with disabilities and veterans and are committed to the principles of social justice. Accomplishments of current and former participants in the SEMO TRIO programs will be highlighted. **Attendance by invitation only.** Sponsored by TRIO/McNair Scholars, TRIO/Student Support Services and Academic Support Centers. **Contact:** Monica Barnes at 573-966-6135 or mbarnes@semo.edu.



COLUMBIA

ATTY. MICHAEL MIDDLETON
Commissioner, Columbia



Favorite Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Quote:

*“The arch of the moral universe is long,
but it bends toward justice.”*



Designates Youth and Family Event

Date: January 20, 2016

Time: 7 PM

**Event: University of Missouri Celebration
and Commemoration of Dr. Martin
Luther King Jr.**

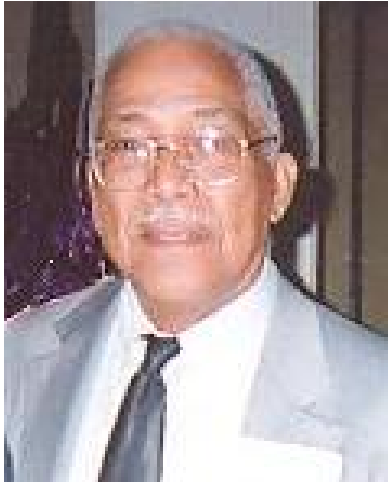
**Place: Missouri Theater
203 S. Ninth Street**

The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. event is an
annual community production of the

Chancellor's Diversity Initiative. It honors Dr. King's legacy with a high profile, distinguished speaker and community award to an individual and/or organization in the Columbia Community that exemplifies the endeavors and dreams of Dr. King. Guest speaker will be Diane Nash, civil rights and peace activist who will speak on the topic, "From Jail in Jackson to the Distinguished American Award: My Life as an Activist." Diane Nash's nonviolent involvement in the movement began in 1959 while she was a student at Fisk University. In 1961, she coordinated the Freedom Ride from Birmingham, Alabama to Jackson, Mississippi, a story which was documented in the recent PBS American Experience film "Freedom Riders." Her many arrests for civil rights activities culminated in Nash's 30-day imprisonment in 1961 while she was pregnant with her first child. Diane Nash is the recipient of many awards for her activism, and her work has been cited in numerous books, documentaries and magazines. Admission is free and open to the public. Event is sponsored by the University of Missouri Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Planning Committee. **Tickets are required to attend the event and are available beginning December at the Missouri Theatre and MSA/GPC box offices.** We welcome accommodation requests for people with disabilities. **Contact:** Office of the Chancellor's Diversity Initiative at 573-882-5838 or diversity@missouri.edu.

FULTON

JACK MCBRIDE
Commissioner, Fulton



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Quote:

*“We must learn to live together as brothers
or perish together as fools.”*



Designates Youth and Family Event

**The Fulton Dr. Martin Luther King
Celebration was not finalized at the time
this calendar was published.**

JEFFERSON CITY



Designates Youth and Family Event

Date: January 13, 2016

Time: 7 p.m.

Event: Missouri Legislative Black Caucus
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Celebration

Place: Missouri State Capitol Building
1st Floor Capitol Rotunda

Contact: Cheryl Dozier at 573-230-1341.



JOPLIN



Designates Youth and Family Event



Date: January 18, 2016

Time: 8 a.m.

**Event: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Celebration Breakfast**

**Place: Missouri Southern State University
Billingsly Student Center Ballroom
3950 E. Newman Road**

Guest speaker: Judge Jimmy Edwards, 22nd
Judicial Circuit Court of Missouri, St. Louis and
founder of Innovative Concept Academy.

Admission is \$10/person, free to children under
age 5. Doors open at 7:30 a.m. **Contact:**

Faustina Abrahams, Chairperson, MSSU
Diversity Advisory Committee at 417-625-9521
or Abrahams-f@mssu.edu.

Date: January 18, 2016

Time: All Day

**Event: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of
Service**

Place: Various non-profit organizations

MSSU employees, students and the community
will have the opportunity to volunteer at an
organization of their choice from a list of
registered non-profit organizations. The names
of the organizations, service time and nature of
services to be performed will be posted on the
Missouri Southern State University MLK
website at www.mssu.edu/mlk in December.

Information on how to sign up for a location to serve will be posted on the website. **Contact:** Faustina Abrahams, Chairperson, MSSU Diversity Advisory Committee at 417-625-9521 or Abrahams-f@mssu.edu.



KANSAS CITY AREA

LESSIE THOMPSON
Commissioner, Lee's Summit



Favorite Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Quote:

*"Freedom is never voluntarily given by the
oppressor,
it must be demanded by the oppressed!"*



Designates Youth and Family Event

Date: January 10, 2016
Time: 7 p.m.
Event: Artist Tribute at Unity Temple
Place: Unity Temple
707 W. 47th St.

The Prince of Praise and Worship, Byron Cage, will perform during the tribute. In addition to the numerous Stellar Awards, he has also won a Grammy and two NAACP Image Awards. Cage serves as minister of music at Saint Paul's Baptist Church in Richmond, VA. Also performing will be the must-hear sister duo Tobbi and Tommi. The presence of the Lord will surely be at the event. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and are available for purchase online at www.sclckc.org. **Contact:** Arlana J. Coleman at 913-522-7526 or ajoycole@att.net. The Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) is a non-violent, direct action, social change organization founded nationally in 1957 by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and a group of Southern ministers.

Date: January 11, 2016
Time: TBD
Event: Interfaith Service
Place: Community Christian Church
4601 Main Street

Speaker will be the Rev. Dr. Charles G. Adams of Detroit, MI. Dr. Adams is one of the nation's most prominent ministers, an acclaimed preacher and Pastor of Hartford Memorial Baptist Church. His method of preaching has earned him the title of "The Harvard Whooper," referring to his years of study at Harvard University. Ebony magazine twice named him as one of the nation's 15 greatest Black preachers. He received the coveted "Rabbi Marvin Katzenstein Award" from the Harvard Divinity School. The Honorable John Sharp, a member of the Kansas City, MO City Council

and community leader, will receive the 2015 Evelyn Wasserstrom award. Special music will be performed by Tim Whitmer, Millie Edwards, Ah'Lee Robinson, Shi Balev, the Kansas City Boys Choir and the Kansas City Girls Choir. This event is free and open to the public.

Contact: Arlana J. Coleman at 913-522-7526 or ajoycole@att.net. The Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) is a non-violent, direct action, social change organization founded nationally in 1957 by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and a group of Southern ministers.

More than 2,000 demonstrators were arrested in the Birmingham anti-segregation campaign. Police used fire hoses and dogs on marching children.

*“Martin Luther King Jr. 1929-1968,
An Ebony Picture Biography”*

Date: January 13, 2016

Time: Noon

Event: Community Luncheon

Place: Sheraton Crown Center

Atlanta Ballroom

2345 McGee Street

In keeping with this year's SCLC theme, we have invited Maggie Anderson, noted activist, CEO of the Empowerment Experiment and author of "Our Black Year" to be the luncheon speaker. Anderson's historic experiment resulted in a landmark study conducted by Kellogg. On the lecture/media/speaking circuit, the study, her book, her lifestyle and activism render her one of the most credible, outspoken business diversity/self-help economic experts in

the country. The Community Service Award will be presented to Ollie W. Gates, president of Gates Bar-B-Q – more familiar to Kansas City barbecue aficionados as just “Gates BBQ.” The President’s Award will be presented to Ms. Cheptoo Kositany-Buckner, deputy director, Kansas City Public Library. **Luncheon tickets are \$60 and are available online at www.sclckc.org.** **Contact:** Arlana J. Coleman at 913-522-7526 or ajoycole@att.net. The Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) is a non-violent, direct action, social change organization founded nationally in 1957 by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and a group of Southern ministers.

Date: January 15, 2016

Time: 7 p.m.

Event: Fourth Annual Black Achievers’ Reception and Dinner

**Place: Sheraton Crown Center
Atlanta Ballroom
2345 McGee St.**

This event will honor individuals nominated by their companies for exhibiting exemplary leadership within their company and the community. Persons receiving this recognition will include: Thomas Collin – Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas City; Valencia Gant – Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinics; Teniece Hardy and Scott Young – Hallmark Cards Inc.; Dwight Drake and Brenette Wilder – Honeywell FM&T; and Keanon Swan – Sprint. The Black Achiever Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to Peter Burney, Hallmark Cards Senior Vice President, Supply Chain and Business Enablement and the Black Achiever of the Year honor will go to Gina Houston – Hallmark Cards. The private reception will be held at 6 p.m. and will be followed by the dinner at 7 p.m. Reservations for the dinner are \$75 and

are available online at www.sclckc.org.

Contact: Arlana J. Coleman at 913-522-7526 or ajoycole@att.net. The Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) is a non-violent, direct action, social change organization founded nationally in 1957 by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and a group of Southern ministers.



Date: January 16, 2016

Time: 8 a.m.

Event: Youth Leadership Development Workshop

Place: Kauffman Conference Center
G4801 Rockhill Road

Youth from the metro area will gather to enjoy breakfast while hearing Dr. Joseph Seabrooks, president of MCC Penn Valley and the luncheon speaker Rahiel Tesfamariam, who launched Urbancusp.com to provide a reality that depicts African-Americans in an intellectual, spiritual way and is read in over 200 countries. Students will participate in insight sessions facilitated by community professions. **Attendance is by invitation only.** **Contact:** Arlana J. Coleman at 913-522-7526 or ajoycole@att.net. The Southern Christian Leadership Conference

(SCLC) is a non-violent, direct action, social change organization founded nationally in 1957 by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and a group of Southern ministers.

Date: January 16, 2016

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Event: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. State Celebration

**Place: Concord Fortress of Hope Church
11050 W. Longview Parkway**

Theme: Cultivating the Dream...Conquering the Struggle! Event is a musical tribute including talent from the Kansas City metro area. Talent will include choir, soloist, dance, youth jazz group and poetry. Also, reflections from two community leaders: Mrs. Anita Russell – president of NAACP and Dr. Kirk Nooks – president of Longview Community College. Special guest will be the mayor of Kansas City, Sly James, with an appearance by Dr. John King, relative of Dr. King. Narrator will be Mrs. LaTanya Patton. Admission is free. Sponsored by the State of Missouri in partnership with Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority – Beta Omega Chapter of Kansas City. **Contact:** Lessie J. Thompson at 816-763-1232 or ctljt2804@aol.com.



Date: January 17, 2016

Time: 9 a.m.

Event: Scholarship Prayer Breakfast

**Place: College Basketball Experience
1401 Grand Blvd.**

Students receiving scholarships will be recognized at the Scholarship Prayer Breakfast. Keynote speaker will be Dr. Susan Wilson, vice chancellor Division of Diversity and Inclusion at

UMKC. **Attendance is by invitation only.**

Contact: Arlana J. Coleman at 913-522-7526 or ajoycole@att.net. The Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) is a non-violent, direct action, social change organization founded nationally in 1957 by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and a group of Southern ministers.

Date: January 18, 2016

Time: 6 p.m.

Event: Methodist Ministers Fellowship

**Place: Bethel AME Church
2329 Flora Avenue**

The message will be brought by Rev. Sharma D. Lewis, district superintendent of the Atlanta Decatur Oxford District – United Methodist Church. Admission is free and open to the public. **Contact:** Arlana J. Coleman at 913-522-7526 or ajoycole@att.net. The Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) is a non-violent, direct action, social change organization founded nationally in 1957 by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and a group of Southern ministers.

Everyone can be great,
because everyone can serve.
You only need a heart full of grace,
a soul generated by love.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Date: January 18, 2016
Time: 7 p.m.
Event: Martin Luther King Day Celebration
Place: Truman Memorial Building
416 W. Maple. Ave.
Independence, MO

Guest speaker will be Frank White, former player for the Kansas City Royals with award presentation and scholarship recipient presentation. Admission is free. Sponsored by Community of Concerned Citizens. **Contact:** Marissa Willis at mwillis@indepmo.org.

Date: January 19, 2016
Time: 3:30 p.m.
Event: Forum and Mass of Celebration
Place: Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church
2310 Linwood Blvd.

The Forum will feature a panel of inspiring community leaders addressing the theme, “An Edifice which Produces Beggars Needs Restructuring: Changing Systems of Racism, Poverty and Militarism.” Following the Forum, the celebration will conclude with the Mass of Celebration at 6 p.m. Keynote speaker will be the Honorable Emanuel Cleaver II, representing Missouri’s Fifth Congressional District. Congressman Cleaver has distinguished himself as an economic development activist and a redevelopment craftsman. Event is free and open to the public. This year’s call to action at the Mass of Celebration: attendees are encouraged to bring non-perishable items to donate to Harvester Community Food Network. **Contact:** Arlana J. Coleman at 913-522-7526 or ajoycole@att.net. The Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) is a non-violent, direct action, social change organization

founded nationally in 1957 by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and a group of Southern ministers.



KIRKSVILLE

BERTHA THOMAS
Commissioner, Kirksville



Favorite Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Quote:

"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."



Designates Youth and Family Event

Date: December 5, 2015
Event: MLK Basketball Tournament
Place: Truman State University
100 E. Normal Avenue

As an additional fundraising opportunity to support the MLK Challenge, we will be hosting a basketball tournament for students. Aside from the fundraising opportunity to accompany this event, we saw the value in having an event where students could take a break from studying for finals. **Contact:** pmoore@truman.edu.

Date: January 18, 2016
Time: 9 a.m.
Event: Martin Luther King Day Service Challenge
Place: Truman State University
100 E. Normal Avenue

A key tenet of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's was his commitment to service to his community. In accordance with the endless and unwavering dedication displayed by Dr. King during his tenure as a Civil Rights activist, we aim to commemorate his work through service. Participants will travel across the greater Kirksville community to provide their services to support local organizations. **Contact:** pmoore@truman.edu.

All men are caught in an inescapable
network of mutuality.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



Date: January 18, 2016

Time: 9 a.m.

Event: Faculty & Staff Diversity Workshop

**Place: Truman State University
100 E. Normal Avenue**

The purpose of the faculty & staff diversity workshop is to challenge educators to think more critically about their interactions with students. With underrepresented groups having such low retention and graduation rates, we recognize that part of their student experience entails their interactions in the classroom. We want to ensure we're equipping professors with the knowledge and skills to work well with students from different identities, statuses and affiliations. This year, we will be welcoming Consuela Ward as our workshop facilitator.

Contact: pmoore@truman.edu.

Date: January 18, 2016

Time: 6 p.m.

Event: Reflection Dinner and Unity Program

**Place: Truman State University
100 E. Normal Avenue**

At the reflection dinner, MLK participants will have the opportunity to engage in reflective dialogue about their experiences with the MLK

challenge as well as Dr. King and his commitment to service. This often builds a gap of globalism where students begin thinking of their world outside of themselves and are more in tune to the experiences of those around them. Additionally, we have our student groups perform as entertainment for the dinner.

Contact: pmoore@truman.edu.

In Selma, Alabama, 1965, the “march on ballot boxes” was met with extreme brutality. People from all over the country, including many clergymen, came to protest and support the demonstrations. One of them, Rev. James Reeb, was beaten to death.

*“Martin Luther King Jr. 1929-1968,
An Ebony Picture Biography”*

ST. LOUIS REGIONAL AREA

CONSTANCE GULLY
Commissioner and Chairwoman



Favorite Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Quote:

“An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity.”



Designates Youth and Family Event



Date: Months of January and February
Event: Storytelling Quilt
Place: St. Louis County Library
Mid-County Branch
7821 Maryland Ave.

In January, members of the Mid-County Branch community tell the rich story of Black Heritage through quilting. Stop by the Mid-County branch to see the completed community artwork. The quilt will be on display through the month of February. All ages. **Visit us at:**
www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.



Date: January 2016
Time: Branch Hours
Event: Use Time Creatively
Place: St. Louis Public Library
Baden Branch
8448 Church Road

Families. **Contact:** 314-388-2400.



Date: January 2016
Time: Branch Hours
Event: Display: The Legacy of MLK
Place: St. Louis Public Library
Barr, Buder, Carondelet and
Carpenter Branches

All ages.

Date: January 1, 2016
Event: Afro World's
46th Anniversary Kick-off Celebration
Place: Afro World
7276 Natural Bridge Road

Bring a canned good to share with those in need.
46% off one item. **Contact:** 314-389-5194.



Date: January 4, 2016
Time: 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Event: Do Great Things: Community Mural
Place: St. Louis Public Library
Divoll Branch
4234 North Grand Blvd.

Families. **Contact:** 314-534-0313.



Date: January 4-18, 2016
Time: 6-7:30 p.m.
Event: Great Things Mural
Place: St. Louis Public Library
Carpenter Branch
3309 South Grand Blvd.

Grades K-5. **Contact:** 31-534-0313.

Date: January 9, 2016
Time: 1-2:30 p.m.
Event: Envision This
Place: St. Louis Public Library
Cabanne Branch
1106 Union Blvd.

Teens/Adults. **Contact:** 314-367-0717.

We must come to see that the end we seek is a society at peace with itself, a society that can live with its conscience. That will be a day not of the white man, not of the black man. That will be a day of man as man.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Date: January 9, 2016

Time: 6:30 p.m.

**Event: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Celebration Commission Kick-off
Program for Missouri**

**Place: Harris-Stowe State University
Main Auditorium
3026 Laclede Avenue**

2016 Theme: The Dream Belongs to All of Us. Keynote speaker will be the Honorable Emanuel Cleaver II, U.S. House of Representatives, 5th District, and member of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. State Celebration Commission. Performances by various artists including David McCall and the Normandy High School Choir. A pre-program will feature the Jazz Edge. A reception following the program will feature Danita Mumphard and her band. All seating is on a first-come, first-served basis except for those reserved for program participants and awardees. Admission is free and open to the public. **Contact:** Harris-Stowe State University at 314/340-3386.

Date: January 12, 2016
Time: 8:30 – 11 a.m.
**Event: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial
Tribute**
**Place: Saint Louis University
Busch Student Center
Wool Ballroom
20 N. Grand Blvd.**

Saint Louis University will host its fifth annual memorial tribute in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast will be served from 8:30 – 9:15 a.m. and the program will begin at 9:30 a.m. Diane Nash, a founding member of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), a Freedom Rider, and a long-time Civil Rights and peace activist will be the featured keynote speaker. Also joining the program will be Fred Pestello, Ph.D., president of Saint Louis University, and Chris Collins, S.J., assistant to the president for mission and identity. SLU alumnus Michael McMillan, president and CEO of the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis will emcee the program. The University will honor the following individuals and businesses for their contributions to the St. Louis community: Rev. Starsky Wilson-Community Service Award; Dr. Tiffany Anderson-Education Award; Dr. Celerstine Johnson-Donald Brennan Humanitarian Award; Diane Nash-Civil Rights Award; and Centene Corporation-Corporate Leadership Award. Entertainment will be provided by drummer Sylvester “Sunshine” Lee and Leslie Johnson. Please make plans to attend to celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. King.

Contact: Regina Walton at 314-977-4585 or rwalton1@slu.edu. Register at <https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/15158c78a8bbe2cc>

ANITA BANKS
Commissioner, St. Louis



Favorite Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Quote:

*“If I can help somebody as I pass along,
then my living will not be in vain.”*

Date: January 12, 2016

Time: 4-5 p.m.

Event: MLK Book Club: “March: Book One”

Place: St. Louis Public Library
Central Library
1301 Olive St.

For Teens. **Contact:** 314-24-2288



Date: January 13, 2016

Time: Branch Hours

Event: Do Great Things: I Have A Dream
Hand Prints

Place: St. Louis Public Library
Cabanne Branch
1106 Union Blvd.

Families. **Contact:** 314-367-0717.



Date: January 13, 2016

Time: 4-5 p.m.

Event: Giant Steps to Change the World

Place: St. Louis Public Library
Central Library
1301 Olive St.

For grades K-5. **Contact:** 314-241-2288.

Date: January 13, 2016

Time: 7 p.m.

Event: Joint Venture Interfaith MLK Service

Place: Central Reform Congregation
5020 Waterman Blvd.

The annual MLK Interfaith action program began 22 years ago. Special guests will include Rev. Tracy Blackmon, Rabbi Susan Talve and Ferguson youth leaders. Admission is free. Sponsored by CRC and Christ the King UCC Church of Florissant. **Contact:** Jennifer Bernstein at 314-361-1564, ext. 117 or jenniferb@centralreform.org.



Date: January 14, 2016

Time: 4-5 p.m.

Event: Creative Kids: Nobel Peace Prizes

Place: St. Louis Public Library
Carondelet Branch
6800 Michigan Ave.

Grades K-5. **Contact:** 314-752-9224.

Date: January 14, 2016
Time: 4:30 – 6 p.m.
Event: Envision This
Place: St. Louis Public Library
Divoll Branch
4234 North Grand Blvd.

Teens/Adults. **Contact:** 314-534-0313.



Date: January 14, 2016
Time: 5-6 p.m.
Event: Empowerment Tree
Place: St. Louis Public Library
Barr Branch
1701 South Jefferson Ave.

Families. **Contact:** 314-771-7040.

Date: January 15, 16 & 18, 2016
Time: 11 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m.
Event: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Movie
Place: Afro World
7276 Natural Bridge Road

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.: A Historical Perspective. Bring a canned good to share with those in need. **Contact:** 314-389-5194.

Date: January 15, 2016
Time: 5-6:30 p.m.
Event: Throwing and Growing Foundation
3rd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King
Jr. Program
Place: The Youth and Family Center
818 Cass Avenue

Guest speaker will be Students 4 Change. Students 4 Change is an organization made up of high school students from St. Louis and surrounding areas who have come together to organize their peers to disentangle, unravel and root out the systemic racism that lives and thrives in their region. Admission is free and open to the public. **Contact:** Commissioner Myrle Mensey Symonds at 314-650-1008 or throwingandgrowing@gmail.com, website: throwingandgrowing.org.

Date: January 16, 2016
Time: 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Event: MLK Jr. Workshop & Worship
Place: John Knox Presbyterian Church
13200 New Halls Ferry Road

Morning continental breakfast followed by workshop to hear what efforts have been made to dismantle racism. Panel will consist of a member of Ferguson Commission; Florissant police chief; Rev. Rance Thomas; Bernie Sammons-STL Reconciliation Network and others. Lunch and afternoon worship service will follow. Childcare by pre-registration. Admission is free. Sponsored by Dismantling Racism and Privilege Ministry Team of Giddings-Lovejoy Presbytery. **Contact:**

Giddings-Lovejoy Presbyterian Headquarters at
314-772-2395 or c.corley@glpby.org.



Date: January 16, 2016
Time: 10 a.m.
Event: MLK Family Celebration
Place: Missouri History Museum in
Forest Park
5700 Lindell Blvd.

Sponsored by the Missouri History Museum.
Admission is free. **Contact:** Lindsay Newton at
314-454-3114 or lnewton@mohistory.org.



Date: January 16, 2016
Time: 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Event: 6th Annual Rhythm & Rhyme: A
Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King
Jr.
Place: St. Louis Public Library
Baden Branch
8448 Church Road

Keynote speaker and author Nikita Lynette
Nichols will discuss her creative writing process
and read from her latest book, “The Ugly Side of
Me.” Neighborhood “Rhyme Man” Stanley

Pitchford and other local performers will read, sing and recite poetry – and forever use their time creatively. Ages 12 and up/families.

Contact: 314-388-2400.

Date: January 16, 2016

Time: 1 p.m.

Event: “King: A Filmed Record” (Pt. 1)

Place St. Louis Public Library
Central Library
1301 Olive St.

Central Cinema: the Life of Martin Luther King Jr. Adults. **Contact:** 314-241-2288.

Early in 1957 sixty black leaders founded the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and elected Martin Luther King Jr. president. In May he organized the Prayer Pilgrimage in Washington, D.C., the biggest civil rights demonstration that had been made by Negroes.

*“Martin Luther King Jr. 1929-1968,
An Ebony Picture Biography”*

Date: January 17, 2016

Time: 11 a.m.

Event: “The Dream, Like the Promise of God, is for All of Us”

Place: Compton Hill M.B. Church
3141 LaSalle St.

Tribute to Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.
Admission is free. **Contact:** Viola Biggers at 314-239-5786.

Date: January 17, 2016
Time: 3 p.m.
**Event: Skinker-DeBaliviere Annual Dr.
Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration**
**Place: New Cote Brilliante Church of God
6195 Washington Avenue**

Skinker-DeBaliviere celebrates the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and recognizes neighbors that have unselfishly volunteered their time and talents to enhance the quality of life in the Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood. The theme for the 2016 celebration is based on the following MLK quote: "An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity." Special guest will be Mr. James Clark, vice president of community outreach, Better Family Life. Admission is free. Sponsored by Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council. **Contact:** Karen Kelsey, Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council at 314-862-5122 or Karen.kelsey@skinker-debaliviere.com.



Date: January 17, 2016
Time: 7 p.m.
**Event: 14th Annual Tribute to Dr. Martin
Luther King Jr.**
**Place: Hazelwood Civic Center East
8969 Dunn Road**

Family friendly event featuring inspirational speakers, vocal and instrumental music, candle lighting and refreshments. Mr. Andre Hepkins, KMOV-TV is the keynote speaker. Music will be provided by Ms. Felicia Ezell, Hazelwood school choir and the McGeeBay sisters. Special guest will be the 2016 NCCU Oratory Contest winner. Sponsored by Hazelwood Community Enrichment Commission. Admission is free.

Contact: Pam Reynolds at 314-731-0980 or pfreynolds@hazelwoodmo.gov.

Date: January 18, 2016

Time: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Event: “Let Freedom Ring”

Place: Christ Church Cathedral Episcopal Church
13th & Locust

A daylong observance of the life and legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. All are invited to come, sit and listen and/or to read the writings and speeches of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Let his words resound and wash over you. To read, just come up to the front and indicate to the reader that you wish to take over.

Admission is free. Sponsored by Christ Church Cathedral. **Contact:** The Very Reverend Michael Kinman, dean, Christ Church Cathedral, at 314-231-3454 or mkinman@christchurchcathedral.us.

Date: January 18, 2016

Time: 9 a.m.

Event: Civic Ceremony

Place: Old Court House Rotunda
4th & Market

Theme: “The Dream is Ours.” Pre-celebration activities will begin at 9 a.m. with the civic ceremony beginning at 10 a.m. The civic ceremony will include greetings, remarks and statements of concern from elected officials and other dignitaries, including Mayor Francis Slay and Alderman President Lewis Reed. At 11 a.m., the March of Celebration will begin in the streets of downtown St. Louis and proceed to Washington Tabernacle Baptist Church. At 12:30 p.m. an interfaith service will be held at Washington Tabernacle Baptist Church at 3200 Washington Avenue, the first church at which

Dr. King spoke in St. Louis. Performances by Community Gospel Choir and Michael Latchison Singers. There will be an emphasis on youth: where do we go from here and how do we get there? Youth movements from education institutions, community and youth civil rights activists. Church will have special seating for pastors and civil rights leaders. Admission is free. Churches, youth groups and families are encouraged to participate. Sponsored by the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Committee, Lady Merdean Gales, president; Nigel Word, vice president; Mr. Gary Boyd, program coordinator; Patricia Barber, secretary and Norman R. Seay, founder. **Get your celebration buttons by calling 314/583-0532 or 314/458-6906.** Join us for one of the greatest celebrations ever!



Date: January 18, 2016
Time: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Event: MLK Day of Service
Place: Harris-Stowe State University
3026 Laclede Avenue

Harris-Stowe will hold a MLK Day of Service community Partnership project with the local Boys & Girls Club in the St. Louis community.
Contact: Katie Negron at negronc@hssu.edu

DR. JAMES BUFORD
Commissioner, St. Louis



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Quote:

“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.”

Date: January 18, 2016
Time: 11 a.m.
Event: MLK Unity Walk
Place: Wentzville City Hall
Wentzville, MO

Walking in solidarity as we sing songs bringing the community together. Free hot chocolate and coffee. Keynote speaker will be B.T. Rice. Admission is free. Sponsored by Wentzville McDonalds. **Contact:** Barbara at 636-957-2998 or Joan at 636-332-8800.

Date: January 18, 2016
Time: 1 p.m.
Event: Celebrate & Remember Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. A Musical Celebration
Place: Kirkwood High School Keating Auditorium 801 W. Essex Ave.

Tickets: \$6 donation, students free. **Purchase tickets online:** www.meachamparknia.org. Sponsored by the Meacham Park Neighborhood Association in partnership with the Kirkwood School District and the City of Kirkwood.

Date: January 18, 2016
Time: 3-5 p.m.
Event: St. Louis Crisis Nursery Martin Luther King Jr. Art Show: "Ferguson Children's Art"
Place: St. Louis Crisis Nursery 1928 Gravois Avenue

In celebration of Dr. King's life, The Saint Louis Crisis Nursery will be displaying children's artwork at the Crisis Nursery's Martin Luther King, Jr. Art Show: "Ferguson Children's Art." Special guest at the event will be local author, Rosalyn Madden. Snacks and tours of the Nursery will be provided. The event is free. For more information, please visit www.crisisnurserykids.org.

Date: January 18, 2016
Time: 4 p.m.
Event: Martin Luther King Jr.
Celebration Lecture
Place: Eric P. Newman Center
Washington University School of
Medicine
320 S. Euclid Ave.

The Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Lecture is a celebration of the life and legacy of the civil rights leader. Special guest will be Sherman James, Ph.D. Prior to assuming his present position as Research Professor of Epidemiology and African American Studies at Emory University, Sherman James was the inaugural Susan B. King Professor of Public Policy in Duke's Sanford School of Public Policy from 2003-2014. James' research focuses on the social determinants of racial and ethnic disparities in health and healthcare. He is the originator of the John Henryism Hypothesis, which states that the excess risk for chronic diseases such as hypertension and heart disease among poor and working class African Americans results from the stress of coping with social and economic adversity. Admission is free. Sponsored by the Office of Diversity Programs at Washington University School of Medicine. **Contact:** Office of Diversity Programs at 314-362-6854 or medschooldiversity@wusm.wustl.edu.

Date: January 18, 2016
Time: 7 p.m.
Event: 11th Year Anniversary MLK
Celebration
Place: Wentzville Holt High School
Auditorium

Praise dancing by RHEMA International Dance Ministry. Choirs, spoken word and free food and drinks after celebration. Admission is free.

Sponsored by Wentzville McDonalds. **Contact:** Barbara at 636-357-2998 or Joan at 636-332-8800.

Date: January 18, 2016
Time: 7 p.m.
Event: Washington University's 29th Annual
Martin Luther King Jr.
Commemoration
Place: Washington University
Danforth Campus, Graham Chapel
1 Brookings Drive

The Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration is an annual celebration honoring the legacy of Dr. King and the impact he has made on those who carry the torch for humanity. Washington University in St. Louis has hosted this event for the past 28 years through an alliance of dedicated faculty, staff and students representing various departments, offices and organizations in an effort to keep the dream alive. Keynote speaker will be Jason Q. Purnell, Asst. Professor, George Warren Brown School of Social Work, Washington University. Other guests will include 2016 Rosa L. Parks Awardee, Mr. Sylvester Brown Jr.; Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton; Provost Holden Thorp; Orchestrating Diversity Youth Orchestra; Black Anthology, the Washington University student run production group; and others. Admission is free. Sponsored by the Washington University Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration Committee. **Contact:** Rudolph Clay Jr. at 314-935-5059 or rudolphc@wustl.edu.

Date: January 21, 2016
Time: 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Event: MLK Celebration
Civil Rights Letters & Speeches
Remembered
Place: St. Louis Community College –

**Forest Park
Mildred E. Bastian Theatre
5600 Oakland Avenue**

Civil rights letters and speeches remembered through theatrical performances including: spoken word, monologues and music.

Admission is free, first-come first served.

Contact: Deborah Logan at 314-644-9101 or Dlogan@stlcc.edu.

Date: January 22, 2016

Time: 10 a.m.

Event: Black History Quiz

Place: White Castle System

11120 New Halls Ferry Road

All members of the senior citizen community submit questions 30 days in advance. Special guests to be determined. Admission is free. This event will occur the 4th Friday of every month in 2016. Sponsored by the Senior Citizen Group of White Castle System. **Contact:** Benjamin O. Chandler at 314-562-2916.

Date: January 23, 2016

Time: 1 p.m.

Event: "King: A Filmed Record (Pt. 2)

Place: St. Louis Public Library

Central Library

1301 Olive St.

Central Cinema: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Adults. **Contact:** 314-241-2288.



Date: January 24, 2016

Time: 3 p.m.

Event: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Essay Contest & Church Celebration

**Place: St. Alphonsus “Rock” Catholic Church
1118 North Grand Blvd.**

Essay contest for 6th, 7th and 8th grade middle school catholic and public city schools. Guest speaker will be former mayor, Atty. Freeman Bosley Jr. The top three winners will receive electronic gifts and read their essays at the church celebration. All other participants receive Certificates of Appreciation. A reception will follow the program in the parish gymnasium. Admission is free and open to the public. Sponsored by the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. State Celebration Commission and Commissioner Anita Banks. **Contact:** Anita Banks at 314-382-9545.

Date: January 25, 2016

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Event: The Todrick Hall Experience

Place: Webster University

The MCISA is welcoming students back to campus with the Todrick Hall Experience. Todrick is the YouTube sensation who currently has his own show on MTV. The event will take place in the Loretto Hilton Center beginning at 7:30 pm. He is also a gay black man who will share his story with the audience. Tickets for this event will go on sale December 1st. Students, faculty and staff will get one free ticket with their ID. All additional tickets will be \$15.00. There will be no admission without a ticket. **Contact:** Nicole (Nicci) Roach at 314-246-8250 or nroach@webster.edu.

Date: January 30, 2016

Time: 1 p.m.

Event: “MLK: A Call to Conscience”

**Place: St. Louis Public Library
Central Library**

1301 Olive St.

Central Cinema: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Adults. **Contact:** 314-241-2288.

We must combine the
toughness of the serpent
and the softness of the dove,
a tough mind and a tender heart.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Date: January 30, 2016

Time: 3-5 p.m.

Event: Black History/Award Gospel
Celebration

Place: Afro World
7276 Natural Bridge Road

Featuring gospel recording artist, Lady E, gospel rap Mike Dyson and others. Bring a canned good to share with those in need. **Contact:** 314-389-5194.

Date: February 2016

Time: Branch Hours

Event: Calvary and Bellefontaine Cemeteries
Display

Place: St. Louis Public Library
Baden Branch
8448 Church Road

View photographs of famous African Americans buried in the Calvary and Bellefontaine cemeteries. Read about Dred Scott and his case at the old courthouse, about Reverend John

Berry Meachum, who founded the Freedom School on the Mississippi River and more. Families. **Contact:** Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.



Date: February 1, 2016
Time: 6-7:30 p.m.
Event: Pilot Pruitt and Soaring with other
Sumner Alums
Place: St. Louis Public Library
Carpenter Branch
3309 S. Grand Blvd.

Come learn more about some of the high-flying alumni of Sumner high school – Wendell O. Pruitt of the Tuskegee Airmen, Roscoe Robinson Jr of the U.S. army and Edward Bouchet, Ph.D. Craft model airplanes, learn the physics of a good paper airplane and discover more about these famous St. Louis men. Families. **Contact:** Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.



Date: February 1-28, 2016
Event: African American Inventions Exhibit
Place: St. Louis County Library
Thornhill Branch
12863 Willowyck Dr.

Experience a hands-on exhibit of African American innovation featuring inventors such as Elijah McCoy, George Washington Carver, Madame C. J. Walker and Lonnie Johnson. Try out these early inventions that led to today's blood banks, refrigerators, traffic signals and the Supersoaker! **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.



Date: February 1, 2016

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Event: Discovery Club: African American Scientists & Inventors

**Place: St. Louis County Library
Indian Trails Branch
8400 Delport Dr.**

What is the connection between a dentist and a golf tee? A tailor and the traffic light? A picky eater and the potato chip? Come find out as we learn about African American scientists and inventors. Ages 7-11. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 2, 2016

Time: TBD

**Event: Kane Smego - Who I Really Am:
Spoken Word and Constructing
Identity**

Place: Webster University

Kane is a poet and Poet Slam finalist. He is also the co-founder and former Artistic Director of the award-winning youth arts nonprofit, Sacrificial Poets base in the Research Triangle area of North Carolina. His performance/lecture examines spoken word and poetry and storytelling as tools for expressing identity, celebrating diversity and building relationships across lines of difference. Kane gives

participants the tools to express who they are and who they wish to be. This event will take place in EAHL 253/263. A time has not been confirmed for the event. **Contact:** Nicole (Nicci) Roach at 314-246-8250 or nroach@webster.edu.

Date: February 2, 2016

Time: 1 p.m.

Event: Central Cinema Presents: Black History Month

Place: St. Louis Public Library
Central Library – Central
Auditorium
1301 Olive St.

Freedom Riders (2011). This PBS documentary tells the story of the civil rights activists who fought against segregation in the American South by traveling together in interracial groups on interstate buses. **Contact:** Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.



Date: February 2, 2016

Time: 4:30 p.m.

Event: Art & Soul

Place: St. Louis County Library
Eureka Hills Branch
156 Eureka Towne Center

Come to the library to listen to music by famous African American musicians and create beautiful art inspired by what you hear. Ages 7-12.

Registration required. **Visit us at:**

www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

LADY MERDEAN GALES
Commissioner, St. Louis



Favorite Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Quote:

“To curb injustices, you must expose them before the light of human conscience, and the bar of public opinion, regardless of whatever tensions that exposure generates.”

Date: February 2, 2016

Time: 7 p.m.

Event: Pocket Universe Bookclub

“World War Z” by Max Brooks

Place: St. Louis County Library

Grant’s View Branch

9700 Musick Rd.

“World War Z,” an account of the decade-long conflict between humankind and hordes of the predatory undead is told from the perspective of dozens of survivors who describe in their own

words the epic human battle for survival. We will also be discussing the comics “Cyborg #1” by David F. Walker and “Captain Marvel #1” by Dwayne McDuffie for Black History Month. Copies available at the desk. Adults. Room 2.
Visit us at: www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 2, 2016
Time: 7 p.m.
Event: Character Development
Place: St. Louis County Library
Indian Trails Branch
8400 Delport Dr.

Share your freedom story with others and listen to their stories as well. Refreshments will be served. Registration recommended. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.



Date: February 2, 2016
Time: 7 p.m.
Event: African Percussion
Place: St. Louis County Library
Thornhill Branch
12863 Willowyck Drive

Expand your cultural knowledge and learn the techniques and rhythms of authentic instruments like the djembe, caxixi, agogo and kalimba. Presented by Freedom Arts and Education. Ages 8 and up. Registration required. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 3, 2016
Time: 4 p.m.
Event: Snack Time Around the World: A Taste of African Heritage
Place: St. Louis County Library
Thornhill Branch

12863 Willowyck Drive

Come and enjoy an introduction to the rich cultural history of African heritage foods and their lifestyle. Sample a few of the snacks enjoyed in Africa and learn about their culture. Adults. Registration required. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.



Date: February 3, 2016
Time: 4-5 p.m.
Event: Black History Month: School Spirit
Place: St. Louis Public Library
Central Library
1301 Olive St.

Celebrate Harris-Stowe State University and other historically black colleges by decorating school pennants to show your school spirit. Kids. **Contact:** Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.

Date: February 3, 2016
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Event: A Taste of African Heritage
Place: St. Louis County Library
Lewis & Clark Branch
9909 Lewis-Clark Blvd.

Join us for an introduction to the rich cultural history of the African heritage diet. A demonstration of budget-friendly, healthy cooking techniques incorporating African traditional spices and herbs will help reduce sugar and salt in your diet. Registration required. Adults. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.



Date: February 4, 2016

Time: 3-4:30 p.m.
**Event: Creative Kids: African American
Quilt Board**
**Place: St. Louis Public Library
Julia Davis Branch
4415 Natural Bridge Ave.**

Use fabric to make a quilt board with
Underground Railroad codes. Kids. **Contact:**
Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or
tdavis@slpl.org.

Date: February 4, 2016
Time: 4-6 p.m.
Event: Harris-Stowe State University
**Place: St. Louis Public Library
Central Library
1301 Olive St.**

Celebrate Black History Month by learning
about Harris-Stowe State University and other
historically black colleges. Make a pennant for
the school of your choice. Teens. **Contact:**
Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or
tdavis@slpl.org.

Date: February 4, 2016
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Event: A Taste of African Heritage
**Place: St. Louis County Library
Indian Trails Branch
8400 Delport Dr.**

Join us for an introduction to the rich cultural
history of the African heritage diet. A
demonstration of budget-friendly, healthy
cooking techniques incorporating African
traditional spices and herbs will help reduce
sugar and salt in your diet. Registration
required. Adults. **Visit us at:**
www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.



Date: February 4, 2016

Time: 7 p.m.

**Event: Featured Speaker Andrea Davis
Pinkney**

**Place: St. Louis Public Library
Schlafly Branch
225 N. Euclid Ave.**

Andrea Davis Pinkney is the New York Times bestselling and award-winning author of more than thirty books for children and adults. Named one of the “25 Most Influential Black Women in Business” by *The Network Journal*, and one of “The 25 Most Influential People in Our Children’s Lives” cited by *Children’s Health Magazine*, Pinkney has had an illustrious career as an author, publisher and editor. Pinkney teamed up with her husband, acclaimed illustrator Brian Pinkney, to create *Boycott Blues: How Rosa Parks Inspired a Nation* (Greenwillow Books) a rhythmic, bluesy, compelling picture book about the 382 days before the Supreme Court sent Jim Crow flying, and all the people who walked and walked and walked and never gave up. *Boycott Blues* presents a poignant, blues infused tribute to the men and women of the Montgomery bus boycott, who refused to give up until they got justice. Her most recent novel, *The Red Pencil*, is set in the height of the Darfur genocide and the war in Sudan. With interactive and inspiring

keynotes, workshops, presentations, and commencement speeches, Pinkney brings a wealth of experience in topics ranging from diversity to career/family balance, parenting, relationships, media trends, literacy, education, and special needs. She speaks to corporate executives, media leaders, educators, students, advocacy organizations, and parenting groups. Additionally, Pinkney has spoken at fifteen leading colleges and universities, and has addressed groups at the United Nations. She is a seasoned presenter, available for conferences, benefits, fundraisers, graduations, management retreats, podcasts, and more. Her novels and other works have been awarded multiple Coretta Scott King Book Awards, NAACP Image Award nominations, the Boston Globe/Horn Book Honor medal, *New York Times* Notable Book and Editors' Pick citations, and have received several Parenting Publication Gold Medals. Pinkney was recently selected to deliver the May Hill Arbutnot Lecture. This honor recognizes her significant contributions to literature for young people provided through a body of work that brings a deeper understanding of children's books and their impact. Pinkney's work has been featured on the Today Show as an Al Roker Book Club pick, and has appeared on national media venues: ABC's Oprah Winfrey Show, Oprah Radio, National Public Radio, USA Today, and more. She has launched many high-profile publishing and entertainment entities, including Disney's Jump at the Sun imprint, the first African-American book imprint at a major company; the hugely popular Cheetah Girls series, and the teen book *Serving from the Hip* by world-class tennis pros Venus and Serena Williams. A graduate of Syracuse University's Newhouse School of Public Communications, she is also a former member of the Newhouse School's Board of Trustees. Pinkney has also served as a trustee for the National Center for Learning Disabilities. Currently, Pinkney lives in New York City with

her husband and their two children. **Contact:**
Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or
tdavis@slpl.org.



Date: February 4, 2016
Time: 7 p.m.
Event: African Percussion
Place: St. Louis County Library
Jamestown Bluffs Branch
4153 N. Highway 67

Expand your cultural knowledge and learn the techniques and rhythms of authentic instruments like the djembe, caxixi, agogo and kalimba. Presented by Freedom Arts and Education. Ages 8 and up. Registration required. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.



Date: February 4, 2016
Time: 7 p.m.
Event: American Girl Book Club
Place: St. Louis County Library
Rock Road Branch
10267 St. Charles Rock Road

Come share your love of all things American Girl! We'll discuss "Addy Studies Freedom" and "Shadows on Society Hill." Ages 8-12. Registration required. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

DR. HENRY GIVENS JR.
Emeritus Chairman



Favorite Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Quote:

“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.”

Date: February 5, 2016

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Event: Donuts and a Movie:

“Michael Jackson’s This Is It”

Place: St. Louis County Library

Grand Glaize Branch

1010 Meramec Station Road

Presents a rare, behind-the-scenes look at Jackson as he developed, created and rehearsed for his sold-out concerts at London’s O2 Arena. Drawn from behind-the-scenes footage, the singer, dancer, filmmaker, architect, creative genius, and great artist at work is shown as he

created and perfected his planned final London shows. MPAA Rating: PG. Running time: 111 min. ©Sony Pictures Home Entertainment.

Adults. Room 1. **Visit us at:**

www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.



Date: February 5, 2016

Time: 2 p.m.

Event: Rhythms and Folklore of Africa

**Place: St. Louis County Library
Daniel Boone Branch
300 Clarkson Road**

Immerse yourself in the rhythms and stories of Africa as you join Kenya Ajanaku in this exciting program. All ages. **Visit us at:**

www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.



Date: February 6, 2016

Time: 10 a.m.

**Event: Craft and a Movie
“Akeelah and the Bee”**

**Place: St. Louis County Library
Grand Glaize Branch
1010 Meramec Station Rd.**

A young girl learns to believe in herself and value her intelligence in this critically-acclaimed, family-friendly drama. MPAA Rating: PG. Running time: 112 min. ©Lions Gate Film, Inc. All ages. Room 1. **Visit us at:**

www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 6, 2016

Time: 10:30 – noon

Event: Dred Scott and Sacred Sanctuaries

**Place: St. Louis Public Library
Buder Branch
4401 Hampton Ave.**

Ms. Lynne Jackson, great-great granddaughter of Dred Scott, will discuss his life and times and the significance of Dred Scott in local, regional and national African American history. Her presentation is titled, "Dred Scott and Sacred Sanctuaries." **Contact:** Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.

50 years ago, James Meredith begins a one-man "walk against fear" through Mississippi on June 5 and is wounded in an ambush on June 6. Dr. King, McKissick and Carmichael agree on June 7 to lead a march along Meredith's intended route. Carmichael gives a speech calling for "black power" at a rally in Greenwood on June 16. "Meredith March" ends with a rally in Jackson on June 26.

Date: February 6, 2016

Time: 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

**Event: Calvary and Bellefontaine Cemeteries
Scavenger Hunt**

**Place: St. Louis Public Library
Baden Branch
8448 Church Road**

Search for facts, pictures and books in the library's scavenger hunt and learn about the famous people like Rev. John Berry Meachum and Dred Scott, buried in the Calvary and Bellefontaine cemeteries. Multi-generational program. People of any age welcome. **Contact:** Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.

Date: February 6, 2016
Time: 3-5 p.m.
Event: Meet/Greet Dr. Johnson
Place: Afro World
7276 Natural Bridge Road

Dr. Johnson is the author of “The Black Biblical Heritage.” Bring a canned good to share with those in need. **Contact:** 314-389-5194.



Date: February 8, 2016
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Event: Family Movie Night:
“The Princess and the Frog”
Place: St. Louis Public Library
Grant’s View Branch
9700 Musick Rd.

MPAA rating: G. Running Time: 98 min.
©Disney. All ages. Room 1. **Visit us at:**
www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.



Date: February 8, 2016
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Event: Soul Clouds
Place: St. Louis County Library
Indian Trails Branch
8400 Delport Dr.

How do these blues, jazz, rap, hip-hop and spiritual songs make you feel? We’ll make a word-cloud of feelings that you can display as a piece of art. Ages 7-11. **Visit us at:**
www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 9, 2016
Time: 1 p.m.
Event: Central Cinema Presents: Black
History Month

**Place: St. Louis Public Library
Central Library – Central
Auditorium
1301 Olive St.**

Malcolm X (1992). Spike Lee's epic and dramatic film captures the life of one of America's most important civil rights figures.

Contact: Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.



Date: February 9, 2016

Time: 4-5 p.m.

**Event: Creative Kids: George Washington
Carver Monument**

**Place: St. Louis Public Library
Machacek Branch
6424 Scanlan Ave.**

Children will make their own monument to George Washington Carver like the one in Diamond, Missouri. Kids. **Contact:** Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.



Date: February 9, 2016

Time: 4-6 p.m.

**Event: Creative Kids: Black History Month:
Discover the Life and Music of Scott
Joplin**

**Place: St. Louis Public Library
Walnut Park Branch
5760 West Florissant Ave.**

Move your feet to the ragtime beat on the world's biggest piano ever. Kids, Teens.
Contact: Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.

REV. SAMMIE JONES
Commissioner, St. Louis



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Quote:

“The curse of poverty has no justification in our age. It is socially as cruel and blind as the practice of cannibalism at the dawn of civilization.”



Date: February 9, 2016

Time: 4:30 p.m.

Event: African Percussion

Place: St. Louis County Library

Grand Glaize Branch

1010 Meramec Station Rd.

Expand your cultural knowledge and learn the techniques and rhythms of authentic instruments like the djembe, caxixi, agogo and kalimba.

Presented by Freedom Arts and Education.

Ages 8 and up. Registration required. **Visit us**

at: www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 9, 2016
Time: 6 p.m.
Event: African American Music Trivia Night
Place: St. Louis County Library
Indian Trails Branch
8400 Delport Dr.

How many #1 songs did Michael Jackson have? Name all three members of The Supremes. How many band members were in Duke Ellington's orchestra? Think you know the answers? Join us as we travel through an African American musical time machine with trivia questions from ragtime, spirituals, jazz, R&B and hip-hop. Adults. Registration recommended. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 9, 2016
Time: 7-8:30 p.m.
Event: Sumner and Vashon High School
Place: St. Louis Public Library
Carpenter Branch
3309 S. Grand Blvd.

Please join Carpenter Library and the alums of Sumner and Vashon high schools in a Black History Month 2016 reunion that will be quite entertaining as well as educational. A brief history of each institution will be given. There will be a trivia game testing the knowledge of the alums. Light refreshments will be served. Adults. **Contact:** Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.

Date: February 9, 2016
Time: 7 p.m.
Event: Novelist Chinelo Okparanta
"Under the Udala Trees"
Place: St. Louis County Library
Headquarters

1640 S. Lindbergh Blvd.

Inspired by her mother's stories of war and Nigeria's folktale traditions, "Under the Udala Trees" is Chinelo Okparanta's debut novel about the dangers of living and loving openly. Ijeoma is 11 when civil war breaks out in Nigeria. Sent away to safety, she meets another displaced child and they, star-crossed, fall in love. They are from different ethnic communities. They are also both girls. When their love is discovered, Ijeoma learns that she will have to hide this part of herself. Co-sponsored by the University of Missouri St. Louis Natural Bridge Debut Writers' Series and the International Institute of St. Louis. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.



Date: February 10, 2016

Time: 10 a.m.

Event: Story Time featuring African American Authors

**Place: St. Louis County Library
Mid-County Branch
7821 Maryland Ave.**

Join us for a special story time featuring picture books written by African American authors. Stay for a craft that celebrates diversity. Ages 2-5. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.



Date: February 10, 2016
Time: 2 p.m.
Event: Lunch and a Movie: “The Good Lie”
Place: St. Louis County Library
Thornhill Branch
12863 Willowyck Drive

A group of Sudanese refugees, given the chance to resettle in America, arrive in Kansas City, Missouri, where their encounter with an employment agency counselor forever changes all of their lives. MPAA rating: PG-13. Running time: 110 min. ©Blue Sky Films. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 10, 2016
Time: 4-5 p.m.
Event: Annie Malone’s House: Make and Take It Hair Product
Place: St. Louis Public Library
Cabanne Branch
1106 Union Blvd.

For the love of chemistry and hair care, as Annie Malone did: Concoct your very own natural hair care product. Teens. **Contact:** Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.



Date: February 11, 2016
Time: 2 p.m.
Event: Homeschool Explorations: Log Cabins
Place: St. Louis County Library
Grant’s View Branch
9700 Musick Rd.

Even though both boys started out poor and living in a log cabin, Frederick Douglass was a slave and Abraham Lincoln was a free man. Compare how both men grew up, learn how both men fought to abolish slavery and create your

own log cabin. Ages 5-12. Registration required. Limit 50. Children's activity room.

Visit us at: www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 11, 2016

Time: 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Event: **Voices of Experience, Voices of Hope:
Personal Hallowed Grounds in St.
Louis Past, Present and Future**

Place: **St. Louis Public Library
Schlafly Branch
225 N. Euclid Ave.**

There are well known places in St. Louis in civil rights history such as Jefferson Bank, the Old Courthouse and Ferguson. But stronger than buildings are the memories of St. Louis citizens and their smaller struggles and triumphs that have created personal hallowed grounds. Join us in the premier of a short documentary created by the Schlafly region highlighting ordinary people and their powerful and unique stories of past experiences in places such as Famous Barr, Straubs, Fairground Park and the St. Louis Public Schools and how their refusal to accept the status quo changed the history of St. Louis, a little bit at a time. These personal hallowed grounds through the City of St. Louis give hope to future generations. Families. **Contact:** Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.



Date: February 12, 2016

Time: 10 a.m.

Event: **Budding Artists: Celebrate Black
History Month**

Place: **St. Louis County Library
Bridgeton Trails Branch
3455 McKelvey Road**

Create your own African mask. Art activities will be open-ended and exploratory in nature. Ages 3-6. Registration is required. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.



Date: February 12, 2016
Time: 2 p.m.
Event: Crafty Café: African Bead Jewelry
Place: St. Louis County Library
Lewis & Clark Branch
9909 Lewis-Clark Blvd.

Learn how to make African paper beads. All ages. Registration required. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 12, 2016
Time: 7 p.m.
Event: Saxophonist Rhoda G
Place: St. Louis County Library
Florissant Valley Branch
195 New Florissant Road S.

Rhoda G is one of the most respected talents in St. Louis. She has opened shows for some of the most celebrated R&B acts of our time, both in the U.S. and abroad. The evening will also feature Trio Tres Bien. The group represents the musical synergy of three brothers, culminating in a universal language that can be heard and felt by all who appreciate music. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.



Date: February 13, 2016
Time: 2 p.m.
Event: Rhythms and Folklore of Africa
Place: St. Louis County Library
Florissant Valley Branch
195 New Florissant Rd., South

Immerse yourself in the rhythms and stories of Africa as you join Kenya Ajanaku in this exciting program. All ages. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.



Date: February 13, 2016
Time: 2 p.m.
Event: African American Read-In
Place: St. Louis County Library
Indian Trails Branch
8400 Delport Drive.

Join us as we celebrate African American authors by reading selections aloud. We'll have local guest celebrity readers, activities and refreshments. All are welcome for a chance to read. All ages. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 13, 2016
Time: 3-5 p.m.
Event: In Store Jazz Concert
Place: Afro World
7276 Natural Bridge Road

Featuring jazz recording artist Ron Wilkinson. Free gift for the ladies. Bring a canned good to share with those in need. **Contact:** 314-389-5194.

Date: February 16, 2016
Time: 1 p.m.
Event: Central Cinema Presents: Black History Month
Place: St. Louis Public Library
Central Library – Central Auditorium
1301 Olive St.

Hail!Hail! Rock 'n' Roll (1987). In 1986 Chuck Berry performed two concerts at the historic Fox Theatre in St. Louis. This film captures the performances and rehearsals, along with testimonials to Berry's importance in American popular music. **Contact:** Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.

MYRLE MENSEY-SYMONDS
Commissioner, St. Louis



Favorite Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Quote:

"Being a winner is not only achieved by breaking records, but by making good decisions in one's daily life."



Date: February 16, 2016
Time: 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Event: Sounds of Sumner
Place: St. Louis Public Library
Kingshighway Branch
2260 S. Vandeventer Ave.

Discover Rock'n'Roll greats Chuck Berry and Tina Turner and learn the dances they popularized. Families. **Contact:** Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.



Date: February 16, 2016
Time: 4:30 – 6 p.m.
Event: Creative Kids: Annie Malone Hope Floats
Place: St. Louis Public Library
Divoll Branch
4234 N. Grand Blvd.

The Annie Malone May Day parade has been a St. Louis tradition for over a century. Construct a mini parade float to honor Annie Malone's contributions to the culture, business and community of St. Louis. Kids. **Contact:** Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.



Date: February 16, 2016
Time: 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Event: This Case is Dred Scott's, A Fight for Freedom
Place: St. Louis Public Library
Buder Branch
4401 Hampton Ave.

Who needs reality TV when you can see real life artifacts from the actual time period of this historic case tried in St. Louis' own Old Courthouse downtown! Families. **Contact:** Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.



Date: February 16, 2016
Time: 7 p.m.
Event: African Percussion
Place: St. Louis County Library
Eureka Hills Branch
156 Eureka Towne Center

Expand your cultural knowledge and learn the techniques and rhythms of authentic instruments like the djembe, caxixi, agogo and kalimba. Presented by Freedom Arts and Education. Ages 8 and up. Registration required. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.



Date: February 17, 2016
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Event: Black History Month Trivia-style
Bingo
Place: St. Louis County Library
Rock Road Branch
10267 St. Charles Rock Road

Join us in celebrating Black History Month with trivia-style bingo. All ages. Registration required. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.



Date: February 17, 2016
Time: 7 p.m.
Event: Line Dancing with a Twist: African Heritage
Place: St. Louis County Library
Thornhill Branch
12863 Willowyck Drive

Get inspired, motivated and empowered with a sampling of African music, dance and drumming. All abilities are welcome to come learn some new dance moves inspired by African heritage. Adults. Registration required. Auditorium. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 17, 2016
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Event: The Rowdy Readers After Dark Book Club
Place: St. Louis County Library
Florissant Valley Branch
195 New Florissant Rd., South

“The Invention of Wings” by Sue Monk Kidd. In this bestseller inspired by the true story of early-nineteenth-century abolitionist and suffragist Sarah Grimke, Kidd paints a moving portrait of two women inextricably linked by the horrors of slavery. Copies available at the checkout desk. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Nonviolence is a powerful and just weapon.
It is a weapon unique in history, which cuts
without wounding and enobles the man who
wields it.
It is a sword that heals.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Date: February 18, 2016

Time: 4 p.m.

**Event: Book Worms: “The Honest to
Goodness Truth”**

**Place: St. Louis County Library
Mid-County Branch
7821 Maryland Ave.**

Book by Patricia McKissack. Join us for a book discussion and book-related activities. Book copies available at the front desk. Ages 8-11.

Registration required. **Visit us at:**

www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.



Date: February 18, 2016

Time: 4-5 p.m.

Event: Creative Kids: Historic Headstones

**Place: St. Louis Public Library
Carondelet Branch
6800 Michigan Ave.**

Discuss historic African American cemeteries from the St. Louis area and some of the people buried there. Make your own headstone words and pictures. Kids. **Contact:** Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.



Date: February 18, 2016
Time: 5-6 p.m.
**Event: Creative Kids: Famous Alumni of
Sumner and Vashon**
**Place: St. Louis Public Library
Barr Branch
1701 South Jefferson Ave.**

Play a round or two of historical bingo and learn about famous alumni of Sumner and Vashon high schools. Kids. **Contact:** Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.



Date: February 18, 2016
Time: 6-7 p.m.
Event: Annie Malone Hope Floats
**Place: St. Louis Public Library
Schlafly Branch
225 N. Euclid Ave.**

The Annie Malone May Day parade has been a St. Louis tradition for over a century. Construct a mini parade float to honor Annie Malone's contributions to the culture, business and community of St. Louis. Families. **Contact:** Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.

REV. EARL NANCE JR.
Commissioner, St. Louis



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Quote:

*“Life’s most persistent and urgent question
is, what are you doing for others?”*



Date: February 18, 2016

Time: 7 p.m.

Event: Rhythms and Folklore of Africa

Place: St. Louis County Library

Lewis & Clark Branch

9909 Lewis-Clark Blvd.

Immerse yourself in the rhythms and stories of Africa as you join Kenya Ajanaku in this exciting program. All ages. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.



Date: February 19, 2016

Time: 10:30 a.m.

**Event: Joining Hands: Stories and Crafts for
Black History Month**

**Place: St. Louis County Library
Thornhill Branch
12863 Willowyck Drive**

Do you know who invented the stop light? How about uses for peanut butter? Join Thornhill for stories and crafts about some of our favorite everyday items. Ages 3-6. Registration required. Auditorium. **Visit us at:**
www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 19, 2016

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**Event: George Washington Carver National
Monument and Carver's Artistic
Origins**

**Place: St. Louis Public Library
Machacek Branch
6424 Scanlan Ave.**

The George Washington Carver National Monument in Diamond, Missouri is a park established in Carver's birthplace to honor his life and recognize his earliest years. Designated by Congress in 1943, it was the first park to honor an African American scientist, educator and humanitarian. This program will also honor Carver and recognize the contributions of his earliest years by highlighting his first love of painting the sights of Diamond, Missouri. Patrons will view a slideshow provided by the National Park Service about Carver's artistry and its origins in Diamond, before painting their own version of one of Carver's plant paintings. Light refreshments will also be provided. Adults. **Contact:** Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.



Date: February 19, 2016

Time: 2 p.m.

Event: Rhythms and Folklore of Africa

**Place: St. Louis County Library
Bridgeton Trails Branch
3455 McKelvey Rd.**

Immerse yourself in the rhythms and stories of Africa as you join Kenya Ajanaku in this exciting program. All ages. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 19, 2016

Time: 7 p.m.

**Event: A Reflective Evening with Frankie
Freeman and Koran Bolden**

**Place: St. Louis County Library
Headquarters
1640 S. Lindbergh Blvd.**

Growing up in the Jim Crow-era South, Frankie Freeman learned lessons about discrimination. She also learned how to fight injustice and make a difference. Ms. Freeman is a legendary St. Louis civil rights activist, attorney and author of “A Song of Faith and Hope: The Life of Frankie Muse Freeman.” Motivational speaker Koran Bolden is a youth motivational speaker and author of “Rock, Paper, Scissors.” Together, Freeman and Bolden will discuss the Civil Rights movement and discrimination issues, past and present. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.



Date: February 20, 2016

Time: 1 p.m.

Event: Rhythms and Folklore of Africa

**Place: St. Louis Public Library
Indian Trails Branch
8400 Delport Dr.**

Immerse yourself in the rhythms and stories of Africa as you join Kenya Ajanaku in this exciting program. All ages. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.



Date: February 20, 2016
Time: 2 p.m.
Event: St. Louis Freedom Struggle 1821-1968
Place: St. Louis County Library
Daniel Boone Branch
300 Clarkson Road

Presented by Gwen Moore, Curator of Urban Landscape and Community Identity. St. Louis played a leading role in the battle for fair and equitable treatment, a role that is generally under-appreciated. Gwen will focus on two periods: before Brown v Board of Education (1821-1954) and the modern Civil Rights Movement (1954-1968). Adults. Registration recommended. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 20, 2016
Time: 2 p.m.
Event: Recipes and Traditions: Soul Food
Desserts
Place: St. Louis County Library
Jamestown Bluffs Branch
4153 N. Highway 67

Come share your desserts and recipes passed down through the family and enjoy a discussion on African American traditions. Coffee and tea provided. Adults. Room 1. **Visit us at:**
www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 20, 2016
Time: 2 p.m.
Event: Reading Women: “Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks”
Place: St. Louis County Library
Thornhill Branch
12863 Willowick Drive

Book written by Rebecca Skloot. Her name was Henrietta Lacks, but scientists know her as HeLa. She was a poor black tobacco farmer whose cells – taken without her knowledge in 1951 – became one of the most important tools in medicine, vital for developing the polio vaccine, cloning, gene mapping and more. Adults. Small meeting room. **Visit us at:**
www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 20, 2016
Time: 3-5 p.m.
Event: Conversation with Journalist
Sylvester Brown
Place: Afro World
7276 Natural Bridge Road

Mr. Brown is founder of the “Sweet Potato Project,” speaking on what’s next for our

community. Bring a canned good to share with those in need. **Contact:** 314-389-5194.



Date: February 20, 2016

Time: 4-5 p.m.

Event: Lila: The Life of a Missouri Slave

Place: St. Louis Public Library

Julia Davis Branch

4415 Natural Bridge Ave.

St. Louis native and storyteller Angela DaSilva will be performing Lila: the Life of a Missouri Slave. The performance will speak to slavery in Missouri during the Civil War Era. The performance will be tied into the theme for the branch: The Old Stone Meeting House. The performance will be followed by time for discussion with the audience. Families.

Contact: Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.

Date: February 21, 2016

Time: Noon-3 p.m.

Event: Black History Month Program

Place: St. Louis Catholic Academy

School Gym

4720 Carter Avenue

Discussion on the African American community in St. Louis and activism. Also art, music and refreshments. Admission is free and open to the public. Sponsored by Monsignor John A. Shocklee, Court 213, Ladies Auxiliary and Knights of Peter Claver. **Contact:** Barbara Morrow at 314-868-1621.

DR. GWENDOLYN PACKNETT
Commissioner, St. Louis



Favorite Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Quote:

“The hope of a secure and livable world lies with disciplined nonconformists who are dedicated to justice, peace and brotherhood.”

Date: February 21, 2016

Time: Noon to 3 p.m.

Event: An Historic Journey

Place: St. Louis Public Library

Central Library

1301 Olive St.

As part of its Black History Month celebration, the library will have on display for touring a 1958 Trailways bus identical to the one used by the St. Louis **“FREEDOM RIDERS”** in 1961. The Civil Rights activists left St. Louis in July of 1961 aboard a Trailways bus to test the “Jim Crow” laws at transportation facilities in Arkansas and Louisiana. Their efforts helped bring an end to segregated waiting rooms and

lunch counters at bus terminals and train stations throughout the South. You will be able to walk through the bus and see historical information about their journey. The bus is sponsored by the **American Association of Railroaders, Inc.**, St. Louis Chapter, a non-profit educational and historical organization interested in transportation, especially railroads and tracked systems. **Contact:** Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.

Date: February 21, 2016

Time: 2 p.m.

Event: Celebration of Black History Month

**Place: St. Louis Public Library
Central Library
1301 Olive St.**

The Library is proud to cap off its celebration of Black History Month 2016 with a keynote address by Sonia Sanchez. The event is FREE and open to the public. *Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis.* Members of the FRIENDS of the St. Louis Public Library should call 539-0359 for *limited* reserved seating.

Keynote Speaker Sonia Sanchez - Poet, Professor and Activist. A prolific writer, Sonia Sanchez is serious and original. Her poems depict the struggles between black people and white people, between men and women, and between cultures. She is innovative in her use of language and structure, sometimes using black speech in her poetry. Her brilliant sense of history and vision of her people helps her to create expressive poetry, with themes and underlying tones. Sanchez deals with the characterization of women, making it clear to audiences the stereotypes that black women endured in the 1960s and 1970s. A renowned playwright, her work includes the token black whore, a white woman (sometimes represented as a whore), and a revolutionary sister, charting the changes that a black woman went through

from soul sister to old Christian woman. Sanchez always examines the lives of women within family and society as they have changed throughout her time. Deemed “a lion in literature’s forest” by poet Maya Angelou, Sanchez explores women’s lives, the struggles and triumphs of people of color, and global and humanist themes through her writings. The author of 14 books, including *Shake Loose My Skin: New and Selected Poems*, she has received countless awards. Sanchez was the recipient of the Harper Lee Award for 2004. *Does Your House Have Lions?* was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. Sanchez was also honored with the Lucretia Mott Award in 1984, the Outstanding Arts Award from the Pennsylvania Coalition of 100 Black Women, the 1985 American Book Award for *Homegirls and Hand grenades*, the Governor’s Award for Excellence in the Humanities for 1988, and the 1999 Langston Hughes Poetry Award. Her poetry has also appeared in the movie *Love Jones*. She is the Poetry Society of America’s 2001 Robert Frost Medalist. A nationally recognized and respected public speaker, Sanchez has lectured at more than 500 universities and colleges in the US, in addition to speaking engagements in Africa, Cuba, England, Australia, China, Norway and numerous other countries. Her ability to identify with audiences of all types helps her leave a memorable image and connect with listeners. She is also an activist for peace. **Contact:** Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.

Date: February 22, 2016

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Event: A Conversation with the Founders of #BlackLivesMatter Movement

Place: Loretto Hilton Center

Fueled by deep-rooted social, economic and cultural issues stemming from decades of tense race relations and powered by the pervasive presence of social media, Black Lives Matter has rapidly evolved from a Twitter hashtag into this generation's civil rights movement. Since the hashtag was started in 2013 by Opal Tometi, Alicia Garza and Patrisse Cullors in response to the acquittal of George Zimmerman in the shooting death of Trayvon Martin, the impassioned message has seamlessly shifted from the internet into the streets and the mainstream, while maintaining its online clout and widespread allure. Emblazoned across t-shirts, protest banners and news headlines, #BlackLivesMatter has turned attention to the troubling disconnect between law enforcement and the black community, driving nationwide protests on a scale not seen in a half-century. Rooted in a quest for liberation, the movement's powerful message has connected people across the country working to end the various forms of injustice. Seen as a fundamental means to an essential end, the movement strives to transform society into a world where the lives and contributions of all individuals are recognized equally. A galvanizing movement from the onset, it has gained powerful momentum in the wake of the shootings of Michael Brown and John Crawford III and the death of Eric Garner; after a grand jury cleared the officer charged in Garner's case, BlackLivesMatter was tweeted 13,000 times in one hour. With a vision of justice for all, the Black Lives Matter founders engage audiences in discussion about race relations in America and how their activism from the fringes became the national movement it is today, galvanizing individuals to stand up and together against the state violence, police brutality and social injustice plaguing our country. The format for this program will be a facilitated discussion moderated by Adjunct Professor Bernie Hayes. Questions will be generated via class participation, twitter and

other social media platforms. The doors for this event will open one hour prior to the event beginning and it admittance will be on a first come first served based. Forty seats have already been reserved for Dr. Stoble and her guests. **Contact:** Nicole (Nicci) Roach at 314-246-8250 or nroach@webster.edu.



Date: February 22, 2016

Time: 7 p.m.

Event: Black History Month Trivia

Place: St. Louis County Library
Lewis & Clark Branch
9909 Lewis-Clark Blvd.

Do you know your Black History? Match wits and learn more about it with hostess Ms. Robin. All ages. Registration recommended. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 23, 2016

Time: 1 p.m.

Event: Central Cinema Presents: Black History Month

Place: St. Louis Public Library
Central Library – Central
Auditorium
1301 Olive St.

Ali (2001). One of the most renowned heavyweight fighters in boxing history also stood against the war in Vietnam and continued to remain an outspoken proponent of black pride. This film captures Ali's life from 1964 to 1974, which were some of the most turbulent years in American history. **Contact:** Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.



Date: February 23, 2016

Time: 3 p.m.

Event: African Percussion

Place: St. Louis County Library

Grant's View Branch

9700 Musick Rd.

Expand your cultural knowledge and learn the techniques and rhythms of authentic instruments like the djembe, caxixi, agogo and kalimba. Presented by Freedom Arts and Education. Ages 8 and up. Registration required. Limit 20. Room 2. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

MAYOR FRANCIS SLAY
Commissioner, St. Louis



Dr. Martin Luther King Quote:

“The hope of a secure and livable world lies with disciplined nonconformists who are dedicated to justice, peace and brotherhood.”



Date: February 23, 2016

Time: 7 p.m.

Event: Barefoot Bookworms Book Discussion

Place: St. Louis County Library

Rock Road Branch

10267 St. Charles Rock Road

Join us for a read aloud book discussion featuring choose your own adventure books dealing with Hurricane Katrina and the Underground Railroad. Ages 7-11. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

It may be true that the law cannot make a man love me, but it can stop him from lynching me, and I think that's pretty important.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Date: February 23, 2016

Time: 7 p.m.

Event: Books for the Soul: Literary Desserts

Place: St. Louis County Library

Thornhill Branch

12863 Willowick Drive

In celebration of Black History Month, sample a selection of literary inspired soul food desserts. Leave with an appreciation of African American cooking, recipes, and a list of possible new reads. Feel free to bring a family recipe to share. Adults. Registration required. Auditorium. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

**Date: February 24,
2016**

Time: TBA

**Event: Ilyasah Al-Shabazz X: A novel
Winfried Moore**

Place: Webster University

Ilyasah Al-Shabazz, the youngest daughter of Malcom X and Dr. Betty Shabazz will discuss her book *X: A novel*: co-written by Malcolm X's daughter, this riveting and revealing novel follows the formative years of the man whose words and actions shook the world. Malcolm Little's parents have always told him that he can achieve anything, but from what he can tell, that's a pack of lies—after all, his father's been murdered, his mother's been taken away, and his dreams of becoming a lawyer have gotten him laughed out of school. There's no point in trying, he figures, and lured by the nightlife of Boston and New York, he escapes into a world of fancy suits, jazz, girls, and reefer. But Malcolm's efforts to leave the past behind lead him into increasingly dangerous territory. Deep down, he knows that the freedom he's found is only an illusion—and that he can't run forever. X follows Malcolm from his childhood to his imprisonment for theft at age twenty, when he found the faith that would lead him to forge a new path and command a voice that still resonates today. The book has been getting rave reviews. The MCISA will work with the Novel Neighbor to sell books for signing at this event. The MCISA and Office of Student Engagement are working together with Webster Groves high school to bring this event to campus. **Contact:** Nicole (Nicci) Roach at 314-246-8250 or nroach@webster.edu.



Date: February 24, 2016
Time: 7 p.m.
Event: African Percussion
Place: St. Louis County Library
Headquarters
1640 S. Lindbergh Blvd.

Expand your cultural knowledge and learn the techniques and rhythms of authentic instruments like the djembe, caxixi, agogo and kalimba. Presented by Freedom Arts and Education. Ages 8 and up. Registration required. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.



Date: February 25, 2016
Time: 10 a.m.
Event: Budding Artists: Black History
Place: St. Louis County Library
Grant's View Branch
9700 Musick Rd.

Join us for a brand new preschool art program where the focus is on the process of making art rather than the finished product. Art activities will be open-ended and explorative in nature. Dress to be messy. Ages 3-6. Registration required. Limit 20. Children's activity room. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 25, 2016
Time: Noon
Event: New World
Place: St. Louis Community College at
Meramec
Meramec Theater
11333 Big Bend Road

This is an original play that tells the true stories of three women from the Republic of Congo, Bosnia and Afghanistan. You will hear how these women came to St. Louis with hope to create a new world by healing their old world wounds. Sponsored by Gitana Productions in partnership with the Center for Survivors of War and Trauma and St. Louis Community College at Meramec. Admission is free: **Contact:** Cecilia Nadal at 314-721-6556 or info@gitana-inc.org.



Date: February 25, 2016
Time: 2 p.m.
Event: The Skin We Live In
Place: St. Louis County Library
Indian Trails Branch
8400 Delport Dr.

We'll explore skin color and celebrate the differences in all people with art projects and activities. Dress to get messy. Ages 3-6. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 25, 2016
Time: 7 p.m.
Event: Non-fiction Bookclub:
"Elizabeth and Hazel: Two Women of Little Rock"
Place: St. Louis County Library
Grant's View Branch
9700 Musick Rd.

Book written by David Margolick. The names Elizabeth Eckford and Hazel Bryan Massery may not be well known, but the image of them from September 1957 surely is: a black high school girl, dressed in white, walking stoically in front of Little Rock Central High School, and a

white girl standing directly behind her, face twisted in hate, screaming racial epithets. In this gripping book, David Margolick tells the remarkable story of two separate lives unexpectedly braided together. Adults. Room 2. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 26, 2016

Time: 10 a.m.

Event: Black History Quiz

Place: White Castle System

11120 New Halls Ferry Road

All members of the senior citizen community submit questions 30 days in advance. Special guests to be determined. Admission is free. This event will occur the 4th Friday of every month in 2016. Sponsored by the Senior Citizen Group of White Castle System. **Contact:** Benjamin O. Chandler at 314-562-2916.

Date: February 26, 2016

Time: 2 p.m.

Event: St. Louis Freedom Struggle 1821-1968

Place: St. Louis County Library

Grant's View Branch

9700 Music Rd.

St. Louis played a leading role in the battle for fair and equitable treatment, a role that is generally under-appreciated. This presentation will focus on two periods: before Brown v Board of Education (1821-1954) and the modern Civil Rights Movement (1954-1968). Presented by Gwen Moore, curator of the Missouri History Museum. Adults. Room 1. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 27, 2016
Time: 11 a.m. – noon
Event: Historic Greenwood Cemetery
Place: St. Louis Public Library
Carondelet Branch
6800 Michigan Ave.

Greenwood Cemetery is the oldest commercial African American cemetery in St. Louis. Archivist Etta Daniels and some of her colleagues from Friends of Greenwood Cemetery will talk about their efforts to clean and restore the cemetery and about some of the famous and unknown people interred there and how they relate to African American history in St. Louis. Adults. **Contact:** Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.

Date: February 27, 2016
Time: 1-2:30 p.m.
Event: A Visit with The King of Ragtime
Place: St. Louis Public Library
Walnut Park Branch
5760 West Florissant Ave.

Walnut Park chose the Scott Joplin House State Historic Site as its “Hallowed Ground” for Black History Month 2016. The Walnut Park Branch is located near Calvary Cemetery, where Ragtime composer Louis Chauvin is buried. Chauvin wrote the Ragtime song *Heliotrope Bouquet* with Joplin. Thanks to the generosity of Scott Joplin House Administrator Almetta Jordan, 40 lucky Walnut Park patrons will tour the Scott Joplin House for free during the program (a savings of \$6 per adult ticket). Pre-registration, to be handled by the Walnut Park Branch, will be required. The tour will be limited to 40 participants (divided into two groups of 20). Patrons are responsible for their own transportation to and from the site, which is located at 2658 Delmar Blvd. Street parking is available. The tour will include museum

exhibits that interpret Joplin's life and an authentic self-playing piano featuring Scott Joplin melodies. Each attendee will receive a small token, provided by the Scott Joplin House, to take home at the end of the tour. Adults.
Contact: Tiffany Davis at 314-771-5450 or tdavis@slpl.org.

HON. BETTY THOMPSON
Commissioner, St. Louis



Dr. Martin Luther King Quote:

“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education”

Date: February 27, 2016

Time: 1-3 p.m.

Event: Gospel Artists

Place: St. Louis County Library
Florissant Valley Branch
195 New Florissant Road S.

Enjoy a myriad of gospel artists who will leave you feeling encouraged and inspired. Featuring saxophonist Rod Tate, Meghan Williams and New Spring Church Choir, praise dancer Angelica LaGrone and more. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 27, 2016

Time: 2 p.m.

Event: Make It Funky

Place: St. Louis County Library
Jamestown Bluffs Branch
4153 N. Highway 67

We'll watch the movie, "Get On Up," which looks at the life and contributions of James Brown. MPAA Rating: PG-13. Running time: 139 min. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.



Date: February 27, 2016

Time: 2 p.m.

Event: African Percussion

Place: St. Louis County Library
Rock Road Branch
10267 St. Charles Rock Road

Expand your cultural knowledge and learn the techniques and rhythms of authentic instruments like the djembe, caxixi, agogo and kalimba. Presented by Freedom Arts and Education. Ages 8 and up. Registration required. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.



Date: February 27, 2016

Time: 2 p.m.

Event: Rhythms and Folklore in Africa

Place: St. Louis County Library
Weber Road Branch
4444 Weber Road

Immerse yourself in the rhythms and stories of Africa as you join Kenya Ajanaku in this exciting program. All ages. **Visit us at:** www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 27, 2016

Time: 3-5 p.m.

Event: Author Series Meet/Greet

Place: Afro World

7276 Natural Bridge Road

Authors Keith Antone Willis Sr.: "10 Laws of the Ultimate Rainmaker;" John E. Fortson: "According to God's Word;" and H.C. Armstrong: "Who Are You!" Bring a canned good to share with those in need. **Contact:** 314-389-5194.

50 years ago, the Black Panther Party was founded by Huey Newton and Bobby Seale in Oakland, California, on October 15, 1966.

Date: February 28, 2016

Time: 3 p.m.

Event: Black History

Place: Solomon Temple M.B. Church

4859 St. Louis Avenue

Lighting the Way: Past, Present and Future. Youth of Solomon Temple M.B. Church, Pontoon Beach Baptist Church Choir, Joyfullete gospel singers and Viola Biggers. Free will offering will be accepted. Sponsored by Glory Gospel Singers. **Contact:** Hattie Hardin at 314-862-4203 or Ira Eubanks at 314-533-8705.

Date: February 28, 2016
Time: 3 p.m.
Event: Black History
Place: Compton M.B. Church
3141 LaSalle St.

Profiling various people and businesses. Guests will include Cool Valley Singers, Joyfullettes gospel singers, Joys of Glory gospel singers and men of Compton Heights. Free will offering will be accepted. Sponsored by the church at large. **Contact:** Angelia Johnson at 314-771-7971.

Date: February 29, 2016
Time: 7 p.m.
Event: Blues Unlimited: Essential Interviews from the Original Blues Magazine
Place: St. Louis County Library
Headquarters
1640 S. Lindbergh Blvd.

Bill Greensmith, former host of KDHX's weekly blues radio program, and Mark Camarigg, publications manager for "Living Blues Magazine" and chair of the University of Mississippi's annual Blues Symposium, present interview highlights from the groundbreaking magazine "Blues Unlimited." The presentation will focus on the history of blues music in St. Louis and highlight St. Louis musicians Fontella Bass, Ike and Tina Turner, Oliver Sain and Jimmy Thomas. **Visit us at:**
www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Date: February 29, 2016
Time: 7 p.m.
Event: Black History Month Poetry Slam
Place: St. Louis County Library
Lewis & Clark Branch
9909 Lewis-Clark Blvd.

Calling all poets to create their own poem or song about the Black Experience. You'll have a chance to showcase your work in a poetry slam. Ages 12 and up. Registration recommended. Visit us at: www.slcl.org/black-history-celebration.

Our scientific power has outrun our spiritual power. We have guided missiles and misguided men.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Date: March 5, 2015
Time: 3-5 p.m.
Event: Meet/Greet Author Dr. Eugene Redmond
Place: Afro World
7276 Natural Bridge Road

Bring a canned good to share with those in need.
Contact: 314-389-5194.

Date: March 12, 2016
Time: 3-5 p.m.
Event: Local Author's Book Signing
Place: Afro World
7276 Natural Bridge Road

Lydia Douglas, Stanley Pitchford, Marie Elliot & artist Antoinette Crayton will be signing books. Bring a canned good to share with those in need. **Contact:** 314-389-5194.

Date: March 25, 2016
Time: 10 a.m.
Event: Black History Quiz
Place: White Castle System
11120 New Halls Ferry Road

All members of the senior citizen community submit questions 30 days in advance. Special guests to be determined. Admission is free. This event will occur the 4th Friday of every month in 2016. Sponsored by the Senior Citizen Group of White Castle System. **Contact:** Benjamin O. Chandler at 314-562-2916.

Date: March 26, 2016
Time: 5-8 p.m.
Event: Meet Actress/Life Coach Redina
Medley
Place: Afro World
7276 Natural Bridge Road

She will perform a one act excerpt of her story, "The New Harriet Tubman." Bring a canned good to share with those in need. **Contact:** 314-389-5194.

Date: March 27, 2016
Time: 3 p.m.
Event: 156th Year Church Anniversary
Place: Compton Hill M.B. Church
3141 LaSalle St.

A viable church in a polluted environment. Free will offering will be accepted. Sponsored by the church at large. **Contact:** Elmus Miller Jr. at 314-355-1528.

Date: April 22, 2016
Time: 10 a.m.
Event: Black History Quiz
Place: White Castle System
11120 New Halls Ferry Road

All members of the senior citizen community submit questions 30 days in advance. Special guests to be determined. Admission is free.

This event will occur the 4th Friday of every month in 2016. Sponsored by the Senior Citizen Group of White Castle System. **Contact:** Benjamin O. Chandler at 314-562-2916.

Date: May 6, 2016
Time: 5-7 p.m.
Event: Meet/Greet/Conversation
Place: Afro World
7276 Natural Bridge Road

Founder Harriet "Rosebud," largest female Milner in the United States. \$10/canned good. Light refreshments will be served. **Contact:** 314-389-5194.

Date: May 7, 2016
Time: 11 a.m. & 3 p.m.
Event: In-Store Hat Show
Place: Afro World
7276 Natural Bridge Road

Featuring "Rosebud Hat Show" Harriet Rosebud. Theme: 46th meet 26th Anniversary. \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. Bring a canned good to share with those in need. **Contact:** 314-389-5194.

Date: May 22, 2016
Time: 3 p.m.
Event: 39th Year Anniversary of the Joyfullettes Gospel Singers
Place: TBA

Special guest will be Spencer Taylor and Highway Q.C. Cost is \$20/person. Sponsored by Joyfullettes gospel singers. **Contact:** Margaret Simmons at 314-650-8113.



Date: May 27, 2016

Time: 10 a.m.

Event: Black History Quiz

Place: White Castle System

11120 New Halls Ferry Road

All members of the senior citizen community submit questions 30 days in advance. Special guests to be determined. Admission is free. This event will occur the 4th Friday of every month in 2016. Sponsored by the Senior Citizen Group of White Castle System. **Contact:** Benjamin O. Chandler at 314-562-2916.

Date: June 13, 2016

Time: 3-5 p.m.

Event: Juneteenth In-Store Celebration

Place: Afro World

7276 Natural Bridge Road

Bring a canned good to share with those in need.
Contact: 314-389-5194.

Date: June 24, 2016
Time: 10 a.m.
Event: Black History Quiz
Place: White Castle System
11120 New Halls Ferry Road

All members of the senior citizen community submit questions 30 days in advance. Special guests to be determined. Admission is free. This event will occur the 4th Friday of every month in 2016. Sponsored by the Senior Citizen Group of White Castle System. **Contact:** Benjamin O. Chandler at 314-562-2916.

King's first book, *Stride Toward Freedom*, was published in May of 1958. While autographing copies in a Harlem department store, King was attacked and stabbed by a crazed woman who plunged a letter opener into his chest.

"Martin Luther King Jr. 1929-1968, An Ebony Picture Biography"

Date: June 26, 2016
Time: 3 p.m.
Event: Ushers and Health Unit Annual Day
Place: Compton Hill M.B. Church
3141 LaSalle St.

Various musical groups will perform. Special guests will be the usher boards and health units from Metropolitan St. Louis churches. Free will offering will be accepted. Sponsored by Ushers and Health Unit. **Contact:** Pamela Wallace at 314-771-7971.

Date: July 10, 2016
Time: 3 p.m.
Event: 53rd Anniversary Ivy Air Gospel Singers
Place: Mount Zion M.B. Church
1444 South Compton

Master of ceremonies will be Minister Mel St. Clair, Minister Stella Norris, WGNU. Free will offering will be accepted. Sponsored by Ivy Air gospel singers. **Contact:** Gerta M. Spratt at 314-382-7449.

Date: July 22, 2016
Time: 10 a.m.
Event: Black History Quiz
Place: White Castle System
11120 New Halls Ferry Road

All members of the senior citizen community submit questions 30 days in advance. Special guests to be determined. Admission is free. This event will occur the 4th Friday of every month in 2016. Sponsored by the Senior Citizen Group of White Castle System. **Contact:** Benjamin O. Chandler at 314-562-2916.

Date: July 31, 2016
Time: 3 p.m.
Event: Feed our Future Children
Place: Solomon Temple M.B. Church
4859 St. Louis Avenue

Combatting childhood hunger within St. Louis public schools. Guests will include LAX singers, Ivy Airs, Joyfullettes gospel singers, Mt. Zion male chorus. Free will offering will be accepted. Sponsored by Joys of Glory gospel singers. **Contact:** Elmus Miller Jr. at 314-355-1528.

Date: August 14, 2016
Time: 3 p.m.
Event: Women's Missionary Union Annual Day
Place: Compton Hill M.B. Church
3141 LaSalle St.

Theme: Committed to Christ's Commission/It's Personal. Guests will include various churches from the St. Louis metropolitan Area. Free will offering will be accepted. Sponsored by Women Missionary Union of Compton Hill M.B. Church. **Contact:** Valerie A Miller at 314-771-7971.

Nothing in all the world is more dangerous
than sincere ignorance and conscientious
stupidity.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Date: August 26, 2016
Time: 10 a.m.
Event: Black History Quiz
Place: White Castle System
11120 New Halls Ferry Road

All members of the senior citizen community submit questions 30 days in advance. Special guests to be determined. Admission is free. This event will occur the 4th Friday of every month in 2016. Sponsored by the Senior Citizen Group of White Castle System. **Contact:** Benjamin O. Chandler at 314-562-2916.

Date: August 28, 2016
Time: 3 p.m.
Event: Men's and Women's Day
Place: Compton Hill M.B. Church
3141 LaSalle St.

Theme: Unity. Men and women from the church will serve as speakers with invited friends. Free will offering will be accepted. Sponsored by the church at large. **Contact:** Eddie Horton at 314-771-7971.



Date: September 4, 2016
Time: 3 p.m.
Event: 55th Year Anniversary
Place: TBA

Theme: A Little More Time. Master of ceremonies Leatha King. Performance by Joys of Glory, Kings of Joy, New Morning Star Church and many more. Free will offering will be accepted. Sponsored by Jordan Air gospel singers. **Contact:** Leatha Young at 314-725-2514.

Date: September 18, 2016
Time: 3 p.m.
Event: 53rd Year Anniversary
Place: Solomon Temple M.B. Church
4859 St. Louis Avenue

Motto: A Lonesome Journey. Theme: Better Living Together. Performances by Solomon Temple M.B. Choir, Jordan Airs, Joyfullettes, Ivy Airs, Kings of Joy, Greater Providence M.B. Church. Free will offering will be accepted. Sponsored by Joys of Glory gospel singers.
Contact: Ira Eubanks at 314-533-8705 or Hattie Hardin at 314-862-4203.

Date: September 23, 2016
Time: 10 a.m.
Event: Black History Quiz
Place: White Castle System
11120 New Halls Ferry Road

All members of the senior citizen community submit questions 30 days in advance. Special guests to be determined. Admission is free. This event will occur the 4th Friday of every month in 2016. Sponsored by the Senior Citizen Group of White Castle System. **Contact:** Benjamin O. Chandler at 314-562-2916.

Date: September 25, 2016
Time: 3 p.m.
Event: Choir Annual Day
Place: Compton Hill M.B. Church
3141 LaSalle St.

Grace Choir 4th Anniversary. Various musical groups from metropolitan St. Louis and East St. Louis, Illinois will perform. Sponsored by Grace Choir. **Contact:** Sis Linda Washington at 314-771-7971

Date: October 1-31, 2016
Event: Breast Cancer Awareness Month
Place: Afro World
7276 Natural Bridge Road

20% off all wigs. **Contact:** 314-389-5194.

Date: October 28, 2016
Time: 10 a.m.
Event: Black History Quiz
Place: White Castle System
11120 New Halls Ferry Road

All members of the senior citizen community submit questions 30 days in advance. Special guests to be determined. Admission is free. This event will occur the 4th Friday of every month in 2016. Sponsored by the Senior Citizen Group of White Castle System. **Contact:** Benjamin O. Chandler at 314-562-2916.

Date: November 6, 2016
Time: 3 p.m.
Event: Major Day
Place: TBA

Music and praise dancers, Gospel Redeemers, Joys of Glory, Ivy Airs, New Sounds of Joy. Free will offering will be accepted. Sponsored by Joyfullettes gospel singers. **Contact:** Margaret Simmons at 314-650-8113.

Date: November 13, 2016
Time: 11 a.m.
Event: "In Your Honor"
Place: Compton Hill M.B. Church
3141 LaSalle St.

Tribute to U.S. veterans, military personnel and civil personnel. Admission is free. **Contact:** Viola Biggers at 314-239-5786.

Date: November 19, 2016
Time: Noon
Event: Harvest Homecoming
Place: Compton Hill M.B. Church
3141 LaSalle St.

Feed the Hungry food baskets distributed to the needy. Names must be turned in 30 days in advance. Sponsored by Usher Board and Health Unit. **Contact:** Pamela Wallace at 314-771-7971.



Date: November 25, 2016
Time: 10 a.m.
Event: Black History Quiz
Place: White Castle System
11120 New Halls Ferry Road

All members of the senior citizen community submit questions 30 days in advance. Special guests to be determined. Admission is free. This event will occur the 4th Friday of every month in 2016. Sponsored by the Senior Citizen Group of White Castle System. **Contact:** Benjamin O. Chandler at 314-562-2916.

Date: November 25, 2016
Time: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Event: Black Friday
Place: Afro World
7276 Natural Bridge Road

Fun for all. Buy one 50% off sale. **Contact:**
314-389-5194.



Date: December 9, 2016
Time: Noon
Event: Food Basket Distribution
Place: Compton Hill M.B. Church
3141 LaSalle St.

Food baskets distributed to parents of students of various communities. St. Louis public schools will participate and White Castle System, Halls Ferry. Food donations accepted. Sponsored by Joys of Glory gospel singers.
Contact: Hattie Hardin at 314-862-4203.

Date: December 10, 2016
Time: Noon
Event: Toys for Tots
Place: Compton Hill M.B. Church
3141 LaSalle St.

Toys distributed through the Salvation Army by Compton Hill M.B. Church. Only parents who have submitted applications 40 days in advance. Sponsored by Compton Hill M.B. Church. **Contact:** Nicole Smiley at 314-771-7971.

We must accept finite disappointment, but we must never lose infinite hope.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Date: December 10 & 17, 2016
Time: 1-5 p.m.
Event: Soulful Santa
Place: Afro World
7276 Natural Bridge Road

Picture books, fruit and treats for the children. Cost is \$10 plus a canned good for a local pantry. **Contact:** 314-389-5194.

Date: December 30, 2016
Time: 10 a.m.
Event: Black History Quiz
Place: White Castle System
11120 New Halls Ferry Road

All members of the senior citizen community submit questions 30 days in advance. Special guests to be determined. Admission is free. This event will occur the 4th Friday of every month in 2016. Sponsored by the Senior Citizen Group of White Castle System. **Contact:** Benjamin O. Chandler at 314-562-2916.

Date: December 31, 2016
Time: 3-5 p.m.
Event: Kwanzaa Celebration
Place: Afro World
7276 Natural Bridge Road

Featuring actress Redina Medley and poetic percussionist David A.N. Jackson. Bring a canned good to share with those in need.
Contact: 314-389-5194.



SPRINGFIELD

CHARLOTTE HARDIN
Commissioner, Springfield



Favorite Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Quote:

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."



Designates Youth and Family Event

Date: January-February, 2016 (Throughout Both Months)
Event: "Moms Inventions"
"Saturday Night Socials"
"Sunday Mornings"
Place: Midtown Carnegie Branch Library
397 E. Central

A series of displays and exhibits celebrating African American Heritage. Admission is free. Sponsored by the Springfield-Greene County Library District. **Contact:** Kathleen O'Dell at 417-616-0564 or kathleeno@thelibrary.org.

Date: January 17, 2016
Time: 3 p.m.
Event: "Dr. Martin Luther King Celebration"
Place: Covenant of Grace Christian Center
713 S. Newton

A celebration honoring the life and contributions of Dr. King, including musical tributes and speakers. Admission is free. Sponsored by Covenant of Grace Ministries. **Contact:** Rev. Tray Walton at 417-866-1125.

Date: January 18, 2016
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Event: "We Stand As One" Freedom March and Rally
Place: Mediacom Ice Park
635 E. Trafficway

Assemble at Mediacom Ice Park and proceed north across the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Bridge, ending at the Gillioz Theatre (325 Park Central Square). The celebration will include poetry, music, guest speakers, and recognition of the NAACP Dr. MLK Essay Contest winners. Admission is free, but please bring a non-

perishable food item. Sponsored by the Springfield Branch NAACP. **Contact:** Cheryl Clay at 417-501-1672 or claynaacp4081@ymail.com.

Date: January 18, 2016
Time: Noon- 4p.m.
Event: Springfield Multicultural Festival
"Connect, Discover, and Celebrate"
Place: Missouri State University
Hammons Hall for the
Performing Arts
525 John Q. Hammons Parkway

An opportunity to gather various forms of information and network, while experiencing multicultural performances from around the world. Admission is free. Sponsored by Unite of Southwest Missouri. **Contact:** Samuel Knox at 417-864-7444 or unitepublication@yahoo.com.

The good neighbor looks beyond the external accidents and discerns those inner qualities that make all men human and, therefore, brothers.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Date: January 25, 2016
Time: 7 p.m.
Event: "The War That Forged a Nation:
Why the Civil War Still Matters"
Place: The Library Center
4653 S. Campbell -- Meeting Room A

A Civil War book discussion. Admission is free. Sponsored by the Springfield-Greene County Library District. **Contact:** Kathleen O'Dell at 417-616-0564 or kathleeno@thelibrary.org

Date: February, 2016 (All Month)
Event: "Hallowed Grounds: Sites of African American Memory"
Place: Park Central Branch Library
128 Park Central Square

A slide show/exhibit celebrating African American heritage and history. Admission is free. Sponsored by the Springfield-Greene County Library District. **Contact:** Kathleen O'Dell at 417-616-0564 or kathleeno@thelibrary.org.

Date: February, 2016 (All Month)
Event: "Images and Books of African Culture and Art"
Place: The Library Station
2535 N. Kansas Expressway

An exhibit honoring Black history and heritage. Admission is free. Sponsored by the Springfield-Greene County Library District. **Contact:** Kathleen O'Dell at 417-616-0564 or kathleeno@thelibrary.org.

Date: February 2, 2016
Time: 6 p.m.
Event: "Beloved" by Toni Morrison
Evening Book Discussion Series
Place: Republic Branch Library
921 N. Lindsey Ave.

Explore the years surrounding the American Civil War through books encompassing the stories of those who lived it. Admission is free.

Sponsored by the Springfield-Greene County Library District. **Contact:** Kathleen O'Dell at 417-616-0564 or kathleeno@thelibrary.org.

Date: February 5, 2016

Time: 10 a.m.

Event: "Let's Celebrate Our History With Books!"

Place: Midtown Carnegie Branch Library
Children's Department
397 E. Central

A celebration for infants through age 6 regarding the contributions of African Americans throughout U.S. history. Help us commemorate African American Heritage Month as we read stories by great African American authors at this special Racing to Read Storytime. Admission is free. Sponsored by the Springfield-Greene County Library District. **Contact:** Kathleen O'Dell at 417-616-0564 or kathleeno@thelibrary.org.



Date: February 6, 2016

Time: 10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Event: "Meet and Greet Celebration"

Place: Midtown Carnegie Branch Library
397 E. Central

A diverse lineup of educational storytelling presentations that convey the legacy of heritage, community, and culture.

10 a.m. -- Upper Level Meeting Room

Q. and A. with Dr. Sabrina Brinson focusing on strategies to motivate reading in the community, as well as discussing the social and emotional benefits of reading.

11:30 a.m. -- Teen Room

"The Nappy Hair Story -- Call and Response". Join a celebration of Carolivia Herron's book, "Nappy Hair" as she originally intended it and experience the joy of interactive storytelling. This program will also include refreshments and a personalized art project.

1:30 p.m. -- Upper Level Meeting Room

"A Trip to the South". Experience Grandma's in-home beauty salon and learn how it reveals living history. Admission is free.

Sponsored by the Springfield-Greene County Library District. **Contact:** Kathleen O'Dell at 417-616-0564 or kathleeno@thelibrary.org.

Date: February 11, 2016

Time: 6 p.m.

Event: "Invisible Man" by Ralph Ellison
Classics Book Discussion Series

Place: Midtown Carnegie Branch Library
Upper Level Meeting Room
397 E. Central

An in-depth discussion of one of the Modern Library's 100 Best Novels. Admission is free. Sponsored by the Springfield-Greene County Library District. **Contact:** Kathleen O'Dell at 417-616-0564 or kathleeno@thelibrary.org.

Date: February 28, 2016
Time: 2 p.m.
Event: "With the Ironclads: Following the
Second Kansas Colored Infantry
Through the Civil War"
Place: The Library Center -- Auditorium
4653 S. Campbell Ave.

A presentation by Jeff Patrick, Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Librarian and Brian Grubbs, Local History and Genealogy Department Manager regarding how numerous freed and liberated Missouri slaves filled the ranks of the regiment and transitioned from slaves to soldiers who earned their place in Civil War history. Admission is free. Sponsored by the Springfield-Greene County Library District:
Contact: Kathleen O'Dell at 417-616-0564 or kathleeno@thelibrary.org.

Date: March 12, 2016
Time: 2:30 - 4:30 pm
Event: "Celebrating Springfield's African American Culture"
Place: Midtown Carnegie Branch Library
Upper Level Meeting Room
397 E. Central

Admission is free. Sponsored by the Springfield-Greene County Library District.
Contact: Kathleen O'Dell at 417-616-0564 or kathleeno@thelibrary.org.



50 years ago, the SCLC and Chicago civil rights groups begin a campaign against housing discrimination in Chicago with a mass rally on July 10, 1966. SCLC begins a series of marches through white neighborhoods on July 30 that are often met with violence from mobs; during a march on August 5, Dr. King is struck in the head by a rock.

WARRENSBURG



Designates Youth and Family Event

Date: January 12, 2016
Time: 12:30 p.m.
Event: Let's Talk: Civil Rights Discussion
Place: Café Rouge
Elliott Student Union

Contact: Ed Wirthwein at
wirthwein@ucmo.edu.

Date: January 13, 2016
Time: 11:45 a.m.
Event: MLK Community Service Awards
Place: Cross Eyed Cricket
822 S. Maguire St.

Awards will be presented at the Greater Warrensburg Area Chamber of Commerce monthly business luncheon. **Register with the Chamber of Commerce by calling 660-747-3168.**

Date: January 18, 2016
Time: 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Event: MLK Service Day

Pre-register by December 11 on-line at www.ucmo.edu/volunteer or by contacting Kristie Brinkley or Terry Mueller at 660-543-4007.

Date: January 18, 2016
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Event: Community Praise and Worship Service
Place: University of Central Missouri Alumni Chapel

Contact: Ed Wirthwein at wirthwein@ucmo.edu.

Date: January 19, 2016
Time: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Event: Equality Photo Booth
Place: University of Central Missouri Elliott Student Union Atrium

Contact: Ed Wirthwein at wirthwein@ucmo.edu.



Date: January 19, 2016
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Event: Freedom Scholarship Dinner
Place: University of Central Missouri Elliott Student Union Atrium

Featured speaker will be Cynthia “Mama J” Johnson. **Purchase tickets in advance** at the

Mentoring, Advocacy and Peer Support office in
Dockery 212 or call 660-543-4156.

Date: January 20, 2016

Time: 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Event: Student Volunteer Fair

Place: University of Central Missouri
Elliott Student Union Atrium

Contact: Ed Wirthwein at
wirthwein@ucmo.edu.

Date: January 26-27, 2016

Time: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Event: Community Service Blood Drive

Place: University of Central Missouri
Elliott Student Union Atrium

Contact: Ed Wirthwein at
wirthwein@ucmo.edu.

We are prone to judge success by the index
of our salaries or the size of our
automobiles, rather than by the quality of
our service and relationship to humanity.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

**Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Memorial
“Build the Dream” Campaign**



National Memorial Site



Dr. King Monument

Three Ways to Donate:

1. Submit your donation online at www.mlkmemorial.org.

2. Make your donation over the phone at 888/484-3373.
3. Send your tax-deductible payment to:

Washington, D.C. Martin Luther
King Jr.
National Memorial Project
Foundation Inc.
Department 211
Washington, D.C. 20055

Take the first step in faith. You don't have
to see the whole staircase, just take the first
step.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

If any of you are around when I have to meet my day, I don't want a long funeral. And if you get somebody to deliver the eulogy, tell him not to talk too long. And every now and then I wonder what I want him to say. Tell him not to mention that I have a Nobel Peace Prize. That isn't so important. Tell him not to mention that I have three or four hundred other awards – that's not important. Tell him not to mention where I went to school.

I'd like somebody to mention that day that Martin Luther King Jr. tried to give his life serving others. I'd like for somebody to say that day that Martin Luther King Jr. tried to love somebody. I want you to say that I tried to be right on the war question. I want you to be able to say that day that I did try to feed the hungry. I want you to say that day that I did try in my life to clothe those who were naked. I want you to say on that day that I did try in my life to visit those who were in prison. And I want you to say that I tried to love and serve humanity.....

*Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
February 1968
Ebenezer Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia*

**Major
Contributors**
to the
**State of Missouri
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Birthday Celebration**



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