

**Present**

A Celebration of the Life and Legacy of Civil Rights Leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

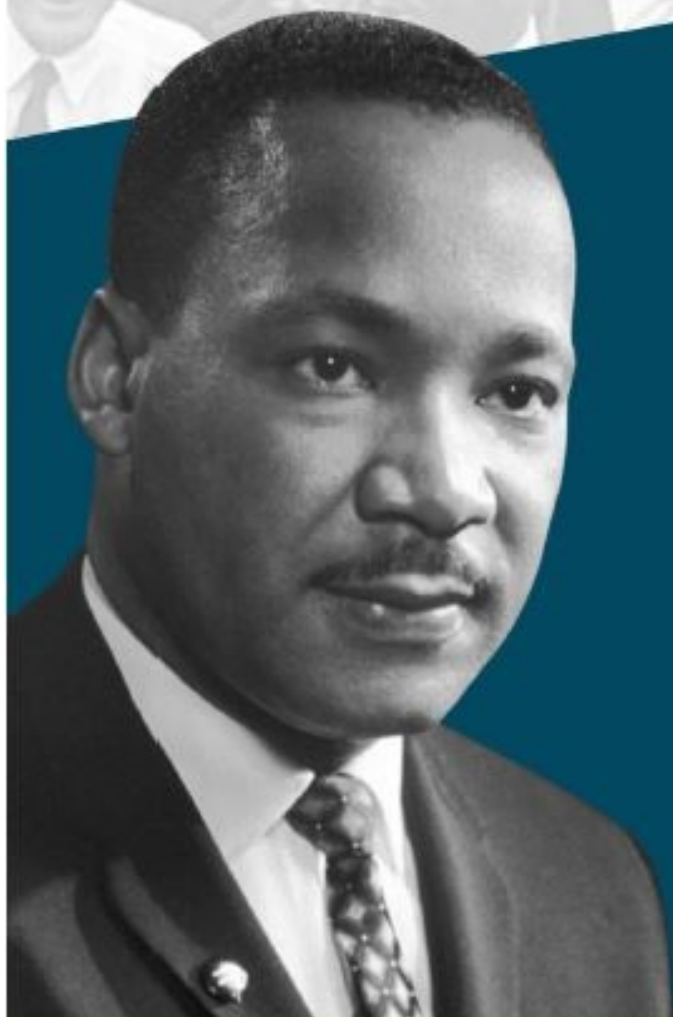
"Whatever affects one directly,  
affects all indirectly."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**Annual  
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Holiday Celebration**

Keynote Address by Best Selling Author and  
Former Non-Profit CEO

**WES MOORE**



**VIRTUAL**

SUNDAY  
**JANUARY 16**  
2022

**For More Information:**

[www.howardcountymd.gov/HOCOMLK](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/HOCOMLK)

**(410) 313-6430**

***"Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly."***



A handwritten signature of Martin Luther King, Jr. in cursive script, written in black ink.

Born January 15, 1929, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. played a pivotal role as an activist, leader and monumental figure in the Civil Rights Movement. An exceptionally brilliant student, King's skills in writing and public speaking, combined with continuous exposure to the harsh realities of racism, especially at a young age, shaped the dynamic path of his short life.

Following in his grandfather and father's footsteps, Dr. King received a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Morehouse College, at the tender age of 19. After graduating undergrad, Dr. King attended Boston University, where he earned a Ph.D. in Systematic Theology. While in Boston, he met Coretta Scott. They wed in 1953 and together, had four children: Yolanda Denise King, Martin Luther King III, Dexter Scott King and Bernice Albertine King.

In 1954, the King family moved to Montgomery, Alabama, where Dr. King resided as the pastor of Dexter Avenue Baptist Church. During this time, he became a member of the Executive Committee of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

On December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks, secretary of the local chapter of the NAACP, refused to surrender her seat to a white passenger on a Montgomery bus and was arrested. Activists coordinated a bus boycott that lasted 381 days. Dr. King was chosen to serve as the official spokesperson and leader of the protest. During the boycott, Dr. King was arrested, abused and his home was fire-bombed. In November 1956, the U.S. Supreme Court ultimately ruled that segregated seating on public buses was unconstitutional. This victory solidified Dr. King's place in history as an international, inspirational proponent of organized, nonviolent resistance.

During his fight for civil rights, Dr. King traveled more than six million miles, authored five books, and spoke more than 2,500 times. He appeared wherever there was an injustice, protest or action. Dr. King led a massive protest in Birmingham, Alabama that caught the attention of the world, providing a "coalition of conscience" and inspired his, "Letter from a Birmingham Jail." Dr. King also coordinated voter registration drives for African Americans in Alabama and orchestrated the 1963 March on Washington, D.C., during which he delivered his arguably most famous oratory achievement, the "I Have a Dream," speech before 250,000 people.

In his lifetime, Dr. King was arrested upwards of 20 times and assaulted at least four times. He was also awarded five honorary degrees, named "Man of the Year" by *Time* magazine in 1963, and became not only the symbolic leader of African Americans, but a global touchstone of human rights. At just 35 years old, Dr. King was the youngest man to ever receive the Nobel Peace Prize. When notified of his selection, he announced that he would turn over the prize money of \$54,123 to further the Civil Rights Movement.

Sadly, on April 4, 1968, while preparing to lead a protest march for striking garbage workers in Memphis, Tennessee, Dr. King was assassinated. A few days after this crushing blow to the Civil Rights Movement, Congress passed the Civil Rights Act of 1968. Known as the Fair Housing Act, it prohibited discrimination in housing and housing-related transactions based on race, religion, or national origin. This legislation is a tribute to Dr. King's legacy.

Beginning in 1971, cities and states established annual holidays to honor Dr. King. Following President George H. W. Bush's 1992 proclamation, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is observed yearly on the third Monday of January, near the time of Dr. King's birthday. In fact, January 17, 2000, was the first time the holiday was officially observed in all 50 states.

**(Sources: The King Center, Wikipedia and IMBD Database)**



## HOWARD COUNTY OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE

3430 Courthouse Drive ■ Ellicott City, Maryland 21043 ■ 410-313-2013 Voice/Relay

Calvin Ball  
Howard County Executive  
cball@howardcountymd.gov

www.howardcountymd.gov  
FAX 410-313-3051

Greetings Friends,

Thank you to our Office of Human Rights and Equity and our Martin Luther King Holiday Commission for organizing this important celebration. Every year, as we honor the life and legacy of Dr. King, we have an opportunity to recommit ourselves to his work and our community. Today we celebrate the students and community leaders serving, protecting, and advocating for all of us here in Howard County. Howard County's strength is in our dedication to serving our neighbors in need, protecting the vulnerable, and advocating for justice for all.



This year's theme reminds us all of how vital it is that we work together – "Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly." As we continue to battle a pandemic, this sentiment rings even truer. The challenges we face today cannot be overcome just by independent actions. We have now learned that together is the only way.

Our shared experiences over many generations have taught us that we can accomplish great things when we work together as a community and as a people. As we look towards the upcoming year, we must embrace the enormous opportunity to emerge a stronger and better community for all.

Congratulations to all our honorees, who so beautifully captured the essence of Dr. King's legacy and have positively impacted Howard County. Thank you to all our community members who have dedicated themselves to the service of others. Keep pushing, keep persevering, and keep serving. Our community thanks you for it.

Sincerely,





JOHN P. SARBANES  
3RD DISTRICT, MARYLAND  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

January 16, 2022

*Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration*

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to extend warm greetings to all those gathered for this year's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration. It is an honor to join you in commemorating Dr. King and celebrating the individuals, organizations and students from Howard County who exemplify Dr. King's vision.

This celebration, along with tomorrow's day of service, provide an occasion to reflect on the important lessons imparted by Dr. King – lessons that are increasingly relevant as we continue to fight against injustice and for universal freedom and equality. Dr. King is a symbol of hope and perseverance; a reminder that together we can ensure a better and more just society. We must never forget Dr. King's message of acceptance and unconditional love to all, even when it seems we can find little common ground.

Today, we honor the sacrifices made by Dr. King and all those who participated in the Civil Rights Movement. We also recognize those whose exceptional outreach, artwork, writing and oratory performance reflect Dr. King's vision. This year's theme, "Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly," reminds us of the important role that we all play in fighting for justice and carrying on Dr. King's legacy.

Congratulations to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission for organizing a successful event. Please accept my best wishes for a truly memorable gathering.



Sincerely,

John P. Sarbanes  
Member of Congress



# Howard County Council

George Howard Building  
3430 Court House Drive  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043-4392

## COUNCILMEMBERS

**Opel Jones, Chair**  
District 2  
**Christiana Rigby, Vice Chair**  
District 3  
**Liz Walsh**  
District 1  
**Deb Jung**  
District 4  
**David Yungmann**  
District 5

January 6, 2022

Dear Friends,

I bring you greetings on behalf of the Howard County Council and am honored to participate in the annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Celebration and Day of Service.

2021 marked another challenging year for our community when social unrest highlighted historical injustice and the continued stress of a global pandemic persisted in ways unimaginable.

A cornerstone of Dr. King was unity, the idea to come together as a people if we are to accomplish anything. So how fitting, as we usher in a new year, with new hope and promise we honor the life, ministry, and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. He reminds us that only love can conquer hate, and all our lives are mutually tied together.

The justice within our community is driven by what we know of ourselves, what we learn from those around us, and how quickly we move to action when we see injustice occur. It does not have to be grand or big; it is in the everyday small gestures – seeking to show grace, express mercy and have conversations that build up one another.

I encourage the community to keep sharing their voice, keep pushing for change, and continue to foster hope, as we dream for a better today, a today that is more unified, more compassionate, and just.

Many thanks to the members of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Holiday Commission for organizing this amazing celebration as our community continues to honor Dr. King's legacy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Opel Jones".

Opel Jones, Howard County Council Chair



HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

9820 Patuxent Woods Drive, Suite 237 ■ Columbia, Maryland 21046 ■ 410-313-6430

Lonnie R. Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer

Voice/Relay

Yolanda F. Sonnier, Administrator, Office of Human Rights & Equity  
ysonnier@howardcountymd.gov

FAX 410-313-6468



January 16, 2022

It is my distinct honor to welcome you to the 2022 virtual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Celebration and Day of Service. This year's *theme is "whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly."* Dr. King stated these powerful words in his Commencement Address to the graduating class of Oberlin College in 1965. Declaring the "inescapable network of mutuality" that exists amongst the human family, Dr. King's full statement insists that "...all mankind is tied together; all life is interrelated, and we are all caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of identity. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. For some strange reason I can never be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be. And you can never be what you ought to be until I am what I ought to be – this is the interrelated structure of reality." Now more than ever do these words ring true as we continue to wrestle with the COVID-19 pandemic and racial inequity in America.

This year, I am pleased to announce that Howard County is blessed to have students and community leaders that are committed to exemplifying the importance of Dr. King's words through artwork, essays, and community service. Congratulations to all our 2022 student contest winners and our Living the Dream Award recipients.

I particularly want to thank the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commissioners, the staff of the Howard County Office of Human Rights & Equity, the Owen Brown Interfaith Center, the Columbia Entertainment Resource Group, Jack & Jill of America, Inc., Columbia Chapter, Waring Mitchell Law Society, and all our community partners. Each of you spent countless hours coordinating this year's virtual celebration and Day of Service offerings and it is because of your commitment to preserving the teachings and legacy of Dr. King that this weekend's initiatives are possible.

In closing, the Howard County Office of Human Rights & Equity is committed to preserving Dr. King's legacy of justice for all. Together, we investigate complaints of discrimination, seek to eradicate discrimination, increase equal opportunity, and protect and promote human rights throughout the county. This year, I invite you to join us as we seek to follow in Dr. King's footsteps striving to rid our communities of injustice and promote the rights of all.

Thank you and may we all continue to commit ourselves to a life of service!

Sincerely,

*Yolanda F. Sonnier*

Yolanda F. Sonnier  
Administrator  
Office of Human Rights & Equity





## DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., HOLIDAY COMMISSION

9820 Patuxent Woods Drive, Suite 237 ■ Columbia, Maryland 21046 ■ 410-313-6430

Howard County Government, Calvin Ball County Executive

Lonnie Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer

Yolanda F. Sonnier, Office of Human Rights & Equity Administrator

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Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Howard County Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Commission, I welcome you to our annual celebration of the life of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. For over twenty years, our commission has had the distinct pleasure of keeping Dr. King's legacy a critical part of Howard County. This annual ceremony recognizes students and community leaders whose creativity, activism, and service garners acknowledgement and affirmation. Today, we are recognizing the student winners selected from the MLK contests in artwork and essay. This year's theme asked students to reflect on Dr. King's famous quote: *"What affects one directly, affects all indirectly."* I am proud of all the students who submitted to this year's contests and look forward to continuing to challenge our Howard County youth to reflect on and live up to the example of Dr. King.

We are also acknowledging community members who are true embodiments of King's commitment to service, advocacy for all people, and the betterment of society. This year, I want to congratulate, Larry Walker, Ayra Mazhar Hussain and Women's Giving Circle of Howard County, our 2022 recipients of the Living the Dream Award.

In the words of the world's most renown scholar, minister and activist "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." It is our hope that today's ceremony inspires us all to rededicate our lives to being allies, community stewards and activists. Please join us on Monday, January 17, 2022 for the **Annual Day of Service: A Day On, Not A Day Off** as we engage in community service activities throughout Howard County.

Have a prosperous and productive 2022!

Sincerely,

*Dr. Diane B. Martin*

Dr. Diane B. Martin  
Chairperson, Howard County Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission

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### COMMISSIONERS

Abbie Diane Martin, Ph.D,  
Chairperson  
Kurt W. Wall,  
Vice Chair  
Teresa Garcia, Secretary

Hunter Craig  
Dr. Clarita Dawson  
Maurice Frazier  
Caroline Harper, Ph.D  
Bert Hash

Tina Horn  
Chalise Latimer  
Kimberly McCauley  
Daniel Nairn  
Yetta Roggeron

Bonnie Sorak  
Brett D. Vess  
Tracey L. Williams

# Awards Ceremony Program



## **Welcome**

Dr. A. Diane Martin, Chairperson  
*Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission*

## **Mistress of Ceremony**

Sabrina Semper  
*Marriotts Ridge High School*

## **Presentation and Posting of the Colors**

### **National Anthem**

*Howard High School JROTC*

## **Invocation**

Reverend Charles Davis  
*Full Gospel Baptist Church*

## **Lift Every Voice and Sing**

Cynthia Fykes

## **Introduction of Howard County Executive**

Sabrina Semper  
*Marriotts Ridge High School*

## **Remarks**

Dr. Calvin Ball, Howard County Executive



# Awards Ceremony Program



## **Wishing on Stars Dance Performance**

Kailee Suess, Dancer  
Misako Aoki, Choreographer  
Kanichi Shimosaka, Composer

## **Introduction of Howard County Council Chairman**

Sabrine Semper  
*Marriotts Ridge High School*

## **Remarks by Howard County Council Chairman**

Dr. Opel Jones  
*Howard County Council Chair*

## **Introduction of Keynote Speaker**

Sierra Sewchand, Student Commissioner  
*Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission*

## **Keynote Address**

Wes Moore

## **Chamber Music Ensemble**

Genevieve Thompson, Violinist and  
Jen Retterer, Cellist  
Lake Elkhorn Middle School

## Awards Ceremony Program



### **Day of Service Invitation**

Bert Hash

*Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commissioner*

### **"I AM"**

Campbell Bolling, Aliah Evans, Tristan Evans, Faith McCullough,  
Kiara Robinson, Malick Savage, Christian Smith, Shiane Sullivan, and Indigo Turner.

### **Presentation of Elementary School Poster Awards**

Brett Vess

*Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commissioner*

### **Presentation of Middle School & High School Essay Awards**

Tina Horn

*Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commissioner*

### **Announcement of High School Food Drive Winner**

Sierra Sewchand, Student Commissioner

Hunter Craig, Commissioner

*Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission*

# Awards Ceremony Program



**Presentation of Living The Dream Award**  
Teresa Garcia and Yetta Roggerson  
*Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commissioners*

**Introduction of Congressman John Sarbanes**  
Yetta Roggerson  
*Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commissioner*

**Congressional Remarks**  
Congressman John Sarbanes

**Closing Remarks**  
Yolanda F. Sonnier, Administrator  
*Howard County Office of Human Rights & Equity*



# **Howard County Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission Congratulates the 2022 Contest & Award Winners**

## **Living the Dream Award- Individual**

Larry Walker

## **Living the Dream Award - Individual**

Ayra Mazhar Hussain

## **Living the Dream Award - Organization**

Women's Giving Circle of Howard County

## **High School Food Collection Contest**

Reservoir High School

## **High School Essay Contest**

1st Place: Similoluwa Adeniyi

2nd Place: James Jiyu Obasiolu

3rd Place: Gabrielle Dougé

## **Middle School Essay Contest**

1st Place: Karon Robinson

2nd Place: Chidera Nwokeh

3rd Place: Raima Shah

## **Elementary School Poster Contest**

1st Place: Ameyah Beroid

2nd Place: Eli Mathieu

3rd Place: Anayah Mathieu



## **Howard County Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Commission**

Diane B. Martin, Ph.D., Chairperson

Kurt W. Wall, Vice-Chairperson

Teresa Garcia, Secretary

Hunter Craig

Dr. Clarita Dawson

Caroline Harper, Ph.D.

Maurice Frazier

Bert Hash, Jr.

Tina Horn

Chalise Latimer

Kimberly McCauley

Daniel Nairn

Yetta Roggerson

Bonnie Sorak

Brett Vess

Tracey L. Williams

Sierra Sewchand, Student Commissioner

**The Howard County Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission extends its most sincere gratitude to the individuals and organizations who dedicated their time and energy to ensuring the success of our Annual Celebration and Day of Service.**

**Howard County Executive Calvin Ball**

**Howard County Council Chair, Dr. Opel Jones**

**Congressman John Sarbanes**

**Individuals & Organizations:**

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. — Iota Lambda Omega Chapter  
Baltimore Regional Housing Partnership  
Columbia Entertainment Resource Group  
Delta Sigma Theta, Inc., Columbia, MD Chapter  
Harriet Tubman Foundation of Howard County  
HopeWorks Howard County  
Howard County Food Bank  
Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake-One Water Partnership  
Jack and Jill of America, Columbia, MD Chapter  
Jewish Federation of Howard County  
The Links, Inc., Columbia, MD Chapter  
Maryland Food Bank  
Michael Harris, Howard County Office of County Council Chairman  
Morgan State University Alumni, Howard County Chapter  
Onyx Medical Society  
Owen Brown Interfaith Center  
Vikki Garcia, Office of Congressman John Sarbanes  
Waring Mitchell Law Society



## Acknowledgments



**The following High Schools participated in the annual MLK High School Food Drive Competition and together, raised over 2600 pounds of food, which was donated to the Howard County Food Bank:**

Atholton High School, Centennial High School, Glenelg High School  
Howard High School, Reservoir High School  
River Hill High School, Wilde Lake High School

**The following High School Students Judged the Annual MLK Poster Contest:**  
Mathew Banyas, Corinne Chau, Alisha Service, Shreya Rath, Reese Roberts

### **Howard County Office of Human Rights & Equity Staff:**

Yolanda F. Sonnier, Administrator  
Claudia Allen  
Miriam Bennett  
Dr. Denise Boston  
Wanda Cao  
Todd Givens  
Fatina Jackson  
Kevin Logan  
Marla Moore  
Juan Torres



# OHRE

## OFFICE OF HUMAN RIGHTS & EQUITY

Discrimination is illegal in Howard County, Maryland. Howard County Law prohibits discrimination in the following areas: Employment, Housing, Public Accommodations, Financing, and Law Enforcement.



### Protected Identities

Race, Creed, Color, National Origin, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Immigration & Citizenship Status



### Protected Bodily

Age, Physical or Mental Disability, Personal Appearance, Sex.



### Protected Economically

Marital Status, Familial Status, Occupation, Source of Income.



### Protected Ideologically

Religion and/or Political Opinion.

## Howard County chooses us!

The Office of Human Rights and Equity is an entity of the Howard County Government that seeks to eradicate discrimination, increase equal opportunity and protect and promote human rights and equity in the County.



JOIN HOWARD COUNTY EXECUTIVE CALVIN BALL,  
THE OFFICE OF HUMAN RIGHTS & EQUITY AND THE  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY COMMISSION FOR:

## A DAY OF VIRTUAL SERVICE ACROSS HOWARD COUNTY

Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission Day of Service  
Amazon Food Drive

Make Monetary Donations to The Howard County Food Bank

10:00 AM: Onyx Medical Society Black Health Workshop

1:00 PM: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.- Iota Lambda Omega  
Chapter MLK Community Impact Day: "What's in Your Purse?"

1:00 PM: HopeWorks' Youth Leadership Project  
Presents a Teen Listening Session

2:00 PM: The "I Can I Will Create Peace" Virtual  
Workshop by HopeWorks of Howard County

7:00 PM: Chesapeake Conversation's Screening and Panel  
Discussion of "Disruption: Baltimore's Highway to Nowhere"

Annual  
**Dr. Martin  
Luther King, Jr.**  
Day of Service

MONDAY

**JANUARY**  
2022

**17**

**For More Information:**

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**(410) 313-6430**