

2022

Commemoration and Celebration
of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

January 17, 2022

9:30 a.m.

@WVHHOMA

Facebook & YouTube

7:00 p.m.

WVPB,
the West Virginia Channel



It Starts With Me: Shifting Priorities to Create the Beloved Community



Greetings from Governor Jim Justice



Jim Justice
Governor of West Virginia

GREETINGS FROM GOVERNOR JUSTICE

As Governor, it is a great privilege to welcome you to the Martin Luther King Jr. State Holiday Commission and the Herbert Henderson Office of Minority Affairs 2022 Ecumenical Service. This event commemorates the life and influence of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dr. King is among one of the most influential leaders in our nation's history. He helped define the 20th Century with his extraordinary role in the American civil rights movement. His principles remain to lead and inspire us in implementing change and recognizing challenges in our communities. His legacy is a true testament to the strength of his vision and the purpose of his pursuit.

Each year, I am encouraged by the response on this special day of remembrance. This event is the prime example of how to properly honor such an important icon in American history.

On this day, I implore all West Virginians to pay tribute to the vision and dream that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. had for our great nation. Please accept my best wishes!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Justice".

Jim Justice
Governor

Greetings from Senator Joe Manchin

Joe Manchin III
WEST VIRGINIA



United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC

GREETINGS FROM JOE MANCHIN UNITED STATES SENATOR

2022 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. State Holiday Celebration

On behalf of the Citizens of the Mountain State and as your United States Senator, it is my distinct honor to welcome you as we are virtually joined together to celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s life and legacy. While these are difficult times, I applaud that this important event has not been deterred. We need Dr. King's message now more than ever.

In fitting with the 2022 MLK Holiday theme, *It Starts with Me: Shifting Priorities to Create the Beloved Community*, we are reminded once again of Dr. King's actions and speeches for civil rights that truly changed the world. However, he was more than just an advocate for one issue. He promoted volunteerism and education and he challenged everyone, regardless of their circumstances, to embody the change they wanted to see in the world. Dr. King understood that we must constantly strive for unity in order for all to achieve the American Dream.

As we honor and pay tribute to the great Dr. King, it is vital that we remain united in all that we accomplish, in order to continue his legacy of promoting tolerance and equality for all. Throughout the years, our society has been faced with many challenges. What cannot be ignored is the countless people who have stood up in the face of adversity, who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to help a neighbor in need, and who have embodied the ideals that Dr. King inspired in so many of us.

Dr. King once said, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is 'What are you doing for others?'" The Mountain State and this great nation are home to countless leaders who – in the spirit of Dr. King – are inspiring others and making substantial contributions to their communities and our entire nation. I appreciate this year's keynote speaker, Dr. Elizabeth Dooley, the Herbert Henderson Office of Minority Affairs, the Martin Luther King, Jr. State Holiday Commission, and everyone involved in this special celebration for your passion and for your innovative ideas that honor Dr. King's memory every single day.

With warmest regards,

A stylized blue ink signature of Joe Manchin III.
Joe Manchin III
United States Senator

Statement of Purpose



The Martin Luther King Jr. State Holiday Commission is pleased to bring you our 2022 commemoration and celebration of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

This year's national theme and call to action is:

"It Starts With Me: Shifting Priorities to Create the Beloved Community"

The Commission greatly appreciates your continued commitment to honoring the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. and for joining us in this year's statewide Ecumenical Service.

Cordially,

Jill Upson

Executive Director, Herbert Henderson Office of Minority Affairs
Chair, Martin Luther King Jr. State Holiday Commission

"I HAVE A DREAM..."

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Elizabeth A. Dooley, a native of Fairmont, W.Va., is an academic leader, educator, professor, scholar, mentor, and academic coach with over 32 years of experience in higher education. Dr. Dooley is married to Reverend Cornell L. Newbill; they have a daughter, Briahna N. Dooley-Newbill, and reside in Central Florida.



Dr. Dooley is currently a professor in the College of Community Innovation and Education at the University of Central Florida and has served in executive leadership positions at West Virginia University and the University of Central Florida. She was the first woman and African-American to be named provost and vice president for academic affairs at the University of Central Florida (UCF), one of the nation's largest universities in the country in the history of UCF. Prior to that role, Dooley served as Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning and Dean, College of Undergraduate Studies also at UCF. While at WVU, she served as a department chair, associate provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs, interim dean, College of Education and Human Performance, and Founding Dean of the WVU University College. She is currently a professor at, College of Education and Community Innovation at the University of Central Florida.

In 2019, Dooley was recognized as one of the Florida Women on the Move, Onyx Magazine. She is a distinguished Alum and an inductee in the West Virginia University College of Education and Human Resources Hall of Fame and an Inductee in the West Virginia All Black Schools Sports and Academic Hall of Fame in 2009. She is also a 2015 honoree of the West Virginia Human Rights Commission: Advancing Civil Rights through Advocacy (Office of the Governor) and a 2009 recipient of the Marion County Humanities Award for Music and Creativity.

Dr. Dooley champions academic excellence, encourages innovation in scholarship, teaching, and learning, and is a highly respected leader at the forefront of reimagining higher education for the 21st century. As an academic leader, she has led enterprise-level initiatives, oversaw multiple colleges, campuses, research centers, academic and student engagement units - yielding results that positively influenced faculty excellence, teaching and learning, student success, and curriculum redesign. She believes that transformative change only happens when we embrace change, expand opportunities and value diverse viewpoints. Dr. Dooley has launched initiatives and organizational structural change to create system efficiency, leverage technology's power, build interdisciplinary strength to help solve problems, and empower people through education.

She has spearheaded efforts to advance diversity and inclusive educational practices throughout her career that lead to robust engagement of stakeholders, cross-unit collaboration, and improved recruitment and retention of underrepresented faculty members and graduate students. Dr. Dooley is a co-founder of the West Virginia University Health Sciences Technology Academy (HSTA), a university-community partnership designed to enhance the academic preparedness of underserved youth for entry into college.



Keynote Speaker *continued*



Throughout her professional career, service to the community has remained a priority. She has never wavered from shepherding community-based academic programs for youth, serving her church as a Minister of Music, lyricist, composer, member of the Trustee Board, Treasurer to leading capital campaigns. Although her parents, Fred and Juanita Dooley, are deceased, she cherishes their gifts of love, unwavering support, and for providing a foundation upon which her character and success were built.

Dr. Dooley is an alumna of Alderson Broaddus University, where she earned a bachelor of arts degree in education. She earned her master's in Special Education and her doctorate in Education, with a minor in Higher Education Administration from West Virginia University.



Order of Ecumenical Service

PRESIDER

Deputy Commissioner Jacqueline A. Proctor

Bureau of Senior Services

Commissioner, Martin Luther King, Jr. State Holiday Commission



Call to Worship and Invocation

Reverend Joseph Jarrett

Pastor, Asbury United Methodist Church

Traditional Hymn

New Day

Martin Luther King, Jr. Male Chorus

Remarks

West Virginia Governor Jim Justice

United States Senator Shelley Moore Capito

United States Senator Joe Manchin

United States Congresswoman Carol Miller

Musical Selections

Rise Up

Capital High School VIP

(Voices in Perfection) Choir

Meditations and Prayers

Dr. Ibetsam “Sue” Barazi

Vice President of the

Islamic Association of West Virginia

Rabbi Victor Urecki

Congregation B’nai Jacob

Reverend Ronald English

Ministerial assistant to

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Sr.





Order of Ecumenical Service



Musical Selection
Give You Praise

Martin Luther King Jr. Male Chorus

Living the Dream Awards Presentation

Mrs. Patricia Wilson
*Chair of Education Department,
West Virginia State University
Commissioner, Martin Luther King, Jr.
State Holiday Commission
Chair of the Living the Dream
Awards Committee*

Introduction of Keynote Speaker

Deputy Commissioner Jacqueline A. Proctor
*Bureau of Senior Services
Commissioner, Martin Luther King, Jr.
State Holiday Commission*

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Elizabeth A. Dooley
*Professor, University of Central Florida,
College of Community Innovation and Education*

Musical Selections
Unity

Capital High School VIP
(Voices in Perfection) Choir

Hymn of the Movement
Total Praise

Capital High School VIP
(Voices in Perfection) Choir
& Martin Luther King, Jr. Male Chorus

Thank You for Watching

Jill Upson
Executive Director, Herbert Henderson
Office of Minority Affairs
Chair, Martin Luther King Jr.
State Holiday Commission

End of Service



2022 Martin Luther King, Jr. Living the Dream Awards



Service Organization Honor Roll Award

Greenbrier Historical Society

The Advocate of Peace Award is awarded to a person who has been an advocate of social change in a non-violent way.

The Greenbrier Historical Society, located on 814 Washington St. W., Lewisburg, W.Va., is recognized in 2022 and is added to the Service Organization Honor Roll.

The Greenbrier Historical Society (GHS) has a history of exhibits presenting local African-American history starting with the Invisible Roots and Legends Exhibit in 2014 for which Janice Cooley, its curator, received the “Sharing of Self” award in 2015. In 2017, GHS sponsored a monologue about the life of Katherine Johnson written by Pamela Barry with Neely Seams acting the part of Katherine Johnson. They jointly received the “Sharing of Self” award in 2018. Books about Katherine Johnson were recently donated to local schools through grant funding. Since then, GHS and Ms. Cooley reworked the Invisible Roots and Legends exhibit and installed it in newly created space in the North House Museum. It was then replaced by the current exhibit “Echoes of Slavery in Greenbrier County” which explores the impact of slavery on the black people who remained in the area after the Civil War and through to the present day.

A pop-up exhibit about the life and work of Anthony and Fanny Carter, a black family who was freed in the 1837, explores what it was like to make a living at that time in a slave-holding town. The celebration of the 200 years of the North House from 1820 to 2020 included a book written by Americorps member Sarah Shepherd and featured sections on the enslaved people who worked in the house. The exhibit also contains panels with the names and histories (as much as is known) of the enslaved people who made the house run. All three of these exhibits are available on-line at www.greenbrierhistorical.org/events--exhibits.html. Black History 365 is an educational resource for teachers and parents to provide information to help them address racial issues. It is available at www.greenbrierhistorical.org/black-history-365.html.

A Black History Walking Tour of downtown Lewisburg was created in 2021 with 16 businesses, churches, and a cemetery affiliated with the black community. Most businesses were active from the 1830's to the 1930's with the churches still active today. The programming cited above is unique in the state of West Virginia and, indeed, would not be found in most museums across the country.

GHS President Janice Cooley has set the inclusion of information about enslaved and freed black people in all exhibits developed by the North House as a goal of her presidency. These exhibits demonstrate the promotion of human and civil rights as well as tolerance by fostering an understanding of the contributions made by African-American people to the development of the Greenbrier Valley while enslaved and when free.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. WV Holiday Commission is proud to recognize the Greenbrier Historical Society is on the Service Organization Honor Roll.

2022 Martin Luther King, Jr. Living the Dream Awards



Scholarship Award

Mrs. Myrna B. Geiger

The Scholarship Award is presented to a person who has made significant contributions in the area of education.

Myrna Geiger was born, raised and educated in Kanawha County. She earned her Bachelor's Degree from West Virginia State College (now University) and received her Master's Degree from WVCOGS (Marshall University). She began her teaching career in 1962 as a kindergarten teacher at Mt. Pleasant Elementary School in Cleveland, Ohio. After her marriage in 1966, she returned to Charleston, W.Va. and continued her teaching career at Decota Elementary. In 1969, she began teaching at Holz Elementary where she taught for 33 years. She retired from John Adams Middle School in 2007 after 45 years of teaching.

Mrs. Geiger's commitment to education has been exemplified by her personal service to children. She donated personal classroom library books and teaching materials to the Metropolitan Baptist Church to establish a library and tutoring program for children in the community. She answered the call as a substitute teacher at John Adams Middle School and George Washington High School and served in this capacity ten years beyond her retirement. While employed by Kanawha County Schools, she represented the school system at various conferences and served as Director of the Kanawha County Teachers' Academy. After retirement, she supervised student teachers for Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, AZ, and was an Assessment Administrator for NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress—the Nation's Report Card) for the United States Department of Education.

She has been a member of the Metropolitan Baptist Church for seventy years where she has served as a Sunday School teacher, Church Clerk, Church Treasurer, and Trustee Board Chair. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Charleston Branch, NAACP, and the Tuesday Morning Group. During the summers, Mrs. Geiger also volunteered in the West Virginia State University Summer Day Camp for Future Educators.

As a member of the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, she continues to serve as a mentor to the Xinos, a group of high school female students. In addition, for ten years she has served on the Board of Trustees for Thomas Memorial Hospital and chaired the Education/Scholarship Committee to assist hospital employees to advance in the field of health. She is involved in many educational organizations—National Sorority of Phi Delta, National Association of University Women and Delta Kappa Gamma. Mrs. Geiger's personal statement reflects her personal commitment to education—"Teaching is my passion!"

Click here for
2023 Living the Dream Award
Nomination Form

2022 Martin Luther King, Jr. Living the Dream Awards



Sharing of Self Award

Mrs. Kenyatta Coleman Grant

The Sharing of Self Award is presented to a person who has rendered service to others in the private or public sector.

Kenyatta Coleman Grant continues to be a rising voice, community organizer, and coordinator in the domestic violence movement since 2001. She is an active participant in the social justice movement and is committed to advocating for social change and equality. She is employed with the West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence (WVCADV).

For five years, Ms. Grant was the Criminal Justice Specialist at the WVCADV where her role focused on statewide coordination of the Batterers Intervention Prevention Programs (BIPPs), collaborating with law enforcement agencies, and coordinating statewide trainings. She is currently the Community Organizing Coordinator. As the Community Organizing Coordinator, she is responsible for educating and raising awareness of domestic violence in marginalized communities such as communities of color and the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, and Intersex (LGBTQQI) community. She coordinates and facilitates culturally specific trainings on anti-oppression, diversity, cultural competency, and awareness to statewide domestic violence advocates, law enforcement, and other non-profit agencies.

Ms. Grant also represents the WVCADV as a member of the statewide Civil Rights Task Force, Call to Action for Racial Equality Coalition, YWCA Racial Justice Committee, and the West Virginia Women's Commission. She is passionate in advocating for justice and equality through community organizing and promoting cultural accountability and awareness.

Role modeling and mentorship has always been more than a hobby to Mrs. Grant. How young people grow and develop attitudes about the world seems more like a duty and responsibility. Therefore, she has played a major role in student activities in the community. She is currently a cheer and gymnastics instructor and conducts private lessons and works with teams throughout the community. She is also a certified cheer judge for the state through the West Virginia Secondary Schools Activities Commission. Mrs. Grant is an active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated and serves as President of Beta Beta Omega Chapter of Charleston WV. In this capacity, she continues to provide service to the community by improving the quality of citizens in the community.

Mrs. Grant received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Marshall University with a minor in Criminal Justice. She also received her Masters of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Marshall Graduate College with a minor in Sociology. She resides in Charleston, West Virginia with her partner, Derrick Grant and three children, Savannah, Victor and Kenleigh.

2022 Martin Luther King, Jr. Living the Dream Awards



Governor's Living the Dream Award Reverend James Patterson

This award is presented to a person who best exemplifies all of the characteristics of justice, scholarship, sharing of self, human and civil rights, and advocacy of peace, with a recognizable sense of civic awareness and public service.

This award is presented to a person who best exemplifies all of the characteristics of justice, scholarship, sharing of self, human and civil rights, and advocacy of peace, with a recognizable sense of civic awareness and public service.

Reverend James Patterson has spent more than two decades serving the beloved community through his ministry, addiction treatment centers, radio broadcast and federally qualified health center (FQHC). Since being selected to serve on the state's COVID-19 Commission on African American Disparities in early 2020, he has shifted into overdrive, spearheading a statewide "Communities of Color" vaccination project and advocating for increased access to healthcare services for West Virginia's most vulnerable citizens.

Reverend Patterson has led the Partnership of African American Churches (PAAC) as its Founder and President/CEO. PAAC is a 501(c)(3) collaborative, nonprofit, faith-based community development corporation, based in Charleston, WV. While the organization serves all communities, it intentionally targets African American communities throughout West Virginia. Through his work with PAAC, Reverend Patterson has attention on improving individual and community well-being by empowering individuals and congregational communities to achieve positive policy change.

In addition to his experience as a nonprofit leader and community change agenda, he has been a pastor for more than 32 years. He received his BA in Sociology from WV University of Technology, an MA in Sociology from Marshall University, and a Master's of Arts in Applied Community Change and Conservation. Reverend Patterson is an ordained Elder of the Church of Nazarene and serves as a director on many community-based boards including Habitat for Humanity.

As the chief administrator for PAAC, he serves on the Governor's Minority Task Force for COVID-19 and has formed a partnership with the state which assisted with funding and training resources. Under his leadership PAAC's COVID-19 effort is expanding with teams in Cabell, Kanawha, Raleigh, and Monongalia Counties. Reverend Patterson explains his involvement in this manner: "The Black church is still the focal point and the center of the community. Black churches carry a legacy of trust that cannot be denied, even today."

Click here for
2023 Living the Dream Award
Nomination Form



Martin Luther King, Jr. State Holiday Commission

Commissioners

The Honorable Jill Upson

Chair, MLK, Jr. State Holiday Commission
Executive Director
Herbert Henderson Office of Minority Affairs

Rev. Micah Blanks

Pastor, Highland Avenue United Methodist Church,
Fairmont & Warren United Methodist Church, Grafton

Tammy Crockett

Manager, Bookstore Operations
Hagerstown Community College

Derrick Grant

Allegheny Regional Manager
Sizewise World Wide Medical Manufacturing

Charles Ledbetter, Ph.D.

Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army, Retired

Julie Palas, J.D.

Executive Director, Catastrophic Illness Commission
and WV Women's Commission

Jacqueline A. Proctor

Deputy Commissioner
WV Bureau of Senior Services

Randall Reid-Smith

Curator, WV Department of Arts, Culture, and History

Simone Thomas

Webmaster, Congressional Budget Office

Patricia Wilson

Chair of Education Department
West Virginia State University

Anthony T. Woart, MBA, MA, Ph.D.

Chair of Department of Public Health
Marshall University

We thank the following for their support and participation:

Asbury United Methodist Church
Blenko Glass Company
Capital High School VIP Choir
Christian Love Ministries
Congregation B'nai Jacob
Congressional Budget Office
Hagerstown Community College
Herbert Henderson Office of Minority Affairs
Highland Avenue United Methodist Church
Islamic Association of West Virginia
James "Tiger" Morton Catastrophic Illness Commission
Marshall University
Martin Luther King Jr. Male Chorus

Rotary Club of Charleston, WV
Storer College National Alumni Association
Warren United Methodist Church
West Virginia Army National Guard Joint Color Guard
West Virginia Bureau of Senior Services
West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History
West Virginia Department of Commerce
Office of Marketing & Communications
West Virginia Office of the Governor
West Virginia Public Broadcasting
West Virginia State University
West Virginia Women's Commission

Thank you for viewing the

2022

Commemoration and Celebration
of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The virtual event will also be available for future viewing
on our Facebook page and YouTube channel.



Herbert Henderson
Office *of* Minority Affairs



It Starts With Me: Shifting Priorities
to Create the Beloved Community



