

INTO THE

Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

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Man of peace celebrated during week

As global conflict mounts and the possibility of war becomes more real, this week should be a time to join the University and local community in celebrating the life of a man who advocated peace, harmony and diversity.

Beginning today, the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. will be honored with a week of activities centering on King's life and teachings.

King stressed acceptance of racial equality, non-violence and civil rights to his followers during his career as a minister. His efforts to create a more comfortable, diverse world are mirrored by the diversity of events scheduled throughout the week.

The celebration begins on King's birthday, starting at noon with a traditional birthday cake, beverages and music in the EMU Main Lobby.

There are calendars of events posted in the EMU Main Lobby, by the stairs leading up to the Ballroom. Calendars lists the events for Eugene and Springfield as well.

Alongside the calendars are bins set up for a food drive for the homeless. The food drive will last until the

end of the celebration and is sponsored by Food for Lane County.

"Dr. King fought for the homeless and hungry during his life," said Frank Geltner, chairman of MLKCC and associate director of the EMU.



Courtesy Photo
Bruce Smith from the Northwest Afrikan Ballet Company will honor Martin Luther King, Jr. as part of the University's seven-day schedule of events.

"The food drive is community wide...but it is limited to the University community for the celebration."

The week of celebration is scattered with an assortment of plays, workshops, speeches and marches. Several films and videos will serve as main features or add to the agenda of another event.

"There is a wide variety of events for the week," Geltner said. "But, when you consider the diversity of activities on the campus for any one week, this is not much."

Some of the activities include a candlelight vigil on Tuesday by the Black Student Union. The vigil will start at Johnson Hall and lead around the corner to Gerlinger Hall where two folk guitars will entertain the crowd.

Sister, Can I Speak For You, a play depicting black women's history, will be shown on Thursday in the EMU Ballroom. The African American Drama Company of San Francisco, Calif. will present the production. A panel discussion and forum will follow, entitled "Speak for Yourself: Racism in the Northwest."

For those who like to get physically involved in their celebrating, an African Dance Class and Demonstration will be held on Saturday, taught by

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Labors launch King's holiday

On May 10, 1990, President Myles Brand declared Martin Luther King, Jr. Day a University holiday and a "recess from regular activities."

At the same time, Brand appointed Frank Geltner as chairman of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Committee.

The committee worked for the next eight months planning dozens of activities for the week-long celebration from Jan. 15 (King's actual birthday) to the Jan. 21 holiday.

"It's caught people off guard," says Geltner referring to how students and faculty reacted to the decision. "The whole celebration hinges on the holiday."

The MLKCC has focused on the University community and what students would like to be involved with.

The committee, consisting of Geltner, an associate director of the EMU, Karen Cheong and student volunteers, followed a theme in their work. They would like "to rededicate commitment to civil rights, cultural diversity, racial equality

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UO MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CELEBRATION HIGHLIGHTS*



AFRICAN MOTHER
"SISTER,
CAN I SPEAK FOR YOU"
Followed by forum
"Speak for yourself:
Racism in the Northwest"
7:30 p.m. EMU Ballroom
Thursday, Jan. 17, FREE



BALAFON MARIMBA
ENSEMBLE
EMU Ballroom
Saturday, Jan. 19
Tickets at EMU Main Desk



ATTALLAH SHABAZZ
KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Martin Luther King, Jr.
Conference
Monday, Jan. 21
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
FREE AND OPEN TO ALL
(\$6.00 lunch optional)

"No lie can live forever.
Let us not despair.
The universe is with us. Work together, children.
Don't get weary."



*(Pick up a brochure, which includes a registration form for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Conference, in the Student Activities Resource Office, EMU Suite 2, 346-4000.)