

ML KING, PORTLAND

Last year Jamila Taylor, fifth grade teacher at Martin Luther King School in Portland, developed an Afrocentric curriculum in the areas of social studies and language arts. Taylor used \$2,000 in grant money she was awarded by the Teacher Incentive Program (TIP). TIP is supported by Portland Public Schools and allows teachers up to \$2,000 dollars to develop innovative, replicable programs in their classrooms.

Taylor developed the year-long curriculum to teach the district's existing goals and objectives by using African-American culture and history instead of the traditional European.

"For example," says Taylor, "when we talked about the Emancipation Proclamation we talked about what the document meant in the lives of African-Americans. We learned about longitude and latitude using Africa."

The language arts program she developed used selected works from minority authors and illustrators. Again Taylor used the selected works to teach existing district goals.

Taylor even taught math using the Afrocentric approach. Says Taylor, "I taught borrowing and carrying by the Egyptian and Mayan number systems. It was a great way to show graphically what carrying and borrowing means."

Joint Multnomah County-City Of Portland Events To Commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr

The City of Portland and Multnomah County Affirmative Action Office will sponsor day-long events in recognition of Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday. All events are free and open to the public.

The City-County Affirmative Action Office invites the community to attend various activities on Tuesday, January 21, 1992 in the Portland Building auditorium which is located at 1120 SW 5th. Ave.

Starting at 10 A.M. there will be a showing of three films which highlight the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The films will be shown until 3:30 P.M. At noon Gladys McCoy, Multnomah County Chair; Mike Lindberg, Portland City Commissioner; Carolyn Leonard, Metropolitan Human Relations Chair; Robert Phillips, King Holiday commission; and Rev. Phillip Nelson, Allen Temple C.M.E. Church will provide words of remembrance, and Charlotte Easley will share inspirational sounds.

Beginning at 4 P.M., the nationally recognized Dr. Martin Luther King School Choir will sing selections performed during their national tours. The Choir, directed by Kathryn Giffert, has performed for President Bush in Washington, D.C. and at the Martin Luther King Memorial while in Atlanta, Georgia.

The Portland Trailblazers salute Martin Luther King Jr's Birthday Holiday

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"When I speak of Love I am not speaking of some sentimental and weak response. I am speaking of that force which all of the great religions have seen as the supreme unifying principle of life."

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: A Legacy to Remember

BY REVEREND RODERICK C. LIGHTNER

In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., we as a race of people have a lot to be thankful to his contributions, sacrifice and life-giving commitment.

Through the Civil Right Movement in the early 1960s, roads were paved for our present generation to be able to reap the benefits and comforts that our Black forefathers and parents were not able to receive.

We are enjoying the comforts and reaping the benefits of our labor through business, labor industry, government, entertainment, sports, education, and our churches.

As black people, "we have come this far by faith, leaning on the Lord, trusting in His Holy Word, knowing that he hasn't failed us yet."

Through Dr. King's life, sacrifice and commitment and also through the commitment and sacrifices of others who follow in his footsteps, black people have gained tremendous strides of achievements and success.

Presently in our new year of 1991, we are observing the leadership skills of black mayors of our nation's leading cities, graduating competent black

college students in the professional career fields of law, medicine, engineering, business, journalism and the clergy.

We now assume positions as supervisors, high ranking military officers, attorneys, doctors, political leaders, professors, business executives, etc.

We enjoy the comforts and luxuries of residing in beautiful homes, staying in the best of hotels and eating in the most exclusive restaurants within our cities.

Yes, we have been blessed as a race of people, but we must never, never forget from whence we came!

For many of us, the rural deep south will always be a part of our family roots. Our children of our present generation should always be taught and reminded of their black heritage and history. Our heritage is rich and carries within it a value system of integrity, pride and faith in God.

The dream of Dr. Martin Luther King must live within each of our hearts and minds each day of our lives. As we remember Dr. King on this special day in his honor, let us focus clearly on the legacy in which he left us, an example of genuine conviction, equal justice for all people and a life of peace in which all of God's people can live.

King, on speaking: " Unfortunately, when hope diminishes, the hate is often turned most bitterly toward those who originally built up the hope...the only time that I have been booed...I went home that night with an ugly feeling...I finally came to myself, and I could not for the life of me have less than patience and understanding for those young people...their hopes had soared. They were now booing because they felt that we were unable to deliver on our promises [of equality]. "

"The dream is one of equality of opportunity, of privilege and property widely distributed; a dream of land where man will not take necessities from the many to give luxuries to the few; a dream of a land where men do not agree that the color of a man's skin determines the content of his character; a dream of a place where all our gifts and resources are held not for ourselves alone but as instruments of service for the rest of humanity; the dream of a country where every man will respect the dignity and worth of all human personality, and men will dare to live together as brothers..."

Martin Luther King, Jr. 1960

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