

Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service Events

St Andrew’s Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration

On Sunday, Jan. 17, the St. Andrew community will celebrate the life and legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at the 9:30 mass, live-streamed on Facebook and YouTube. At that mass, Marilyn Keller will give the reflection, and two people will be honored with the 2021 service awards that the parish gives annually in the name of Dr. King.



Guest Speaker - Marilyn Keller (photo courtesy of Marilyn Keller)

Guest speaker Marilyn Keller has enjoyed a 39-year career performing jazz, gospel, and blues, nationally and internationally. She has sung throughout the Pacific Northwest with various artists, including Darrell Grant, with whom she has enjoyed a long and fruitful collaboration. In 2019, she traveled to Washington, DC to perform with Grant his “Step by Step: The Ruby Bridges Suite” at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History and Culture.

She has also performed widely abroad as the featured artist at concerts, festivals and clubs in Britain, Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway, Russia, Spain, Sweden and Australia. Her work can be heard on multiple recordings, movie soundtracks, and documentaries.

Keller currently serves on the board of directors for the Portland Symphonic Choir, as well as the Port-

land Jazz Composers’ Ensemble, a 12-piece jazz chamber orchestra which commissions and performs original jazz works. She also works alongside the Albina Ministerial Alliance for Justice and Police Reform to work for peace, human rights and to end gun violence.

A three-decade member of Augustana Lutheran Church, Marilyn is the vocal instrument in the Augustana Jazz Quartet (George Mitchell, piano; Kevin Deitz, bass; Ron Steen, drums), whose unique repertoire is utilized in weaving the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ with jazz, gospel, hymns and inspirational music.

A committed ambassador for ecumenism, Keller enjoys any opportunity for friendship with other congregations, within and beyond Christianity. In January 2019, she sang at Temple Beth Israel during the Shabbat for Bryan Stevenson, Esq., founder of the Equal Justice Initiative and author of Just Mercy. She believes that as we learn about each other, we come to recognize our shared connections. “I want to be that bridge,” she says. It is a creed by which she lives.

Celebrate MLK Day with Service - SOLVE CleanUp, Monday, Jan 18

Celebrate the 26th anniversary of the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service with SOLVE on Monday, January 18. This is the only federally recognized national day of service and is often referred to as a “day on, not a day off.” SOLVE invites you to celebrate Dr. King by joining its monthly Downtown Portland Volunteer Litter Cleanup Day.

Engage in service work this Martin Luther King Jr. Day by cleaning up Portland. Register for a check-in location, receive cleanup supplies and feel good knowing you are giving back to the city we all call home! Instruction and disposal will also be provided. This event is held in partnership with Portland Business Alliance and Portland Lodging Alliance.

This volunteer opportunity is a chance to make Portland a cleaner, safer and more welcoming city. All volunteers must adhere to COVID-19 safety guidelines, including wearing a mask at all

times and maintaining six feet of distance from anyone outside your household.

“MLK and the Fierce Urgency of Now!” Special Radio Edition of WNYC’s 15th Annual MLK Celebration

The Takeaway airs 3-4pm ET on WNYC 93.9 FM; Presented with a simulcast on WNYC and Apollo Theater Facebook Live pages

As New York City’s performance spaces remain dark, WNYC and the Apollo Theater are bringing the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. event to the national airwaves and digitally on Facebook Live.

This year’s presentation, “MLK and the Fierce Urgency of Now!” will air on The Takeaway — the national news program from WNYC and PRX — on Monday, January 18, 3-4pm ET on WNYC 93.9 FM and on 270 additional radio stations across the country (check local listings). The special broadcast will be co-hosted by the event’s signature hosts — WNYC’s public affairs host Brian Lehrer and Senior Editor of WNYC’s Race and Justice Unit Jami Floyd — who will be joined by Tanzina Vega, host of The Takeaway.

“MLK and the Fierce Urgency of Now!” convenes an impressive roster of civil rights leaders, elected officials, activists, journalists, and artists to engage with Dr. King’s teachings and philosophies, and incorporate them into present-day social justice movements. Guests will discuss the pressing priorities facing the incoming Biden/Harris administration, strategies to remove barriers to health equity for Black Americans, and what comes next in our nation’s ongoing fight against systemic racism.

“MLK and the Fierce Urgency of Now!” will also be shared as a video simulcast on Facebook Live at 3pm ET on the WNYC and Apollo Theater Facebook pages. The video version of the program will include introductions from Goli Sheikholeslami, President and CEO of New York Public Radio; Jonelle Procope, President and CEO of the Apollo Theater; and Isisara Bey, Artistic Director of the March on Washington Film Festival.

See EVENTS on page 17



“Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable... Every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle; the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals.”

— MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

We all must be those tireless fighters for racial and economic justice — today and always.



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“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.”

Martin Luther King Jr.

The Portland Trail Blazers are committed to fighting for racial justice and police reform. We honor Martin Luther King Jr.’s legacy by amplifying the voices of those who have not been heard. For more information visit Trailblazers.com/commitment.

