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MIGHTY STREAM.”

---

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR  
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HONORING DR. KING'S LEGACY TOGETHER  
WELCOME TO THE 52ND ANNUAL REVEREND  
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CELEBRATION

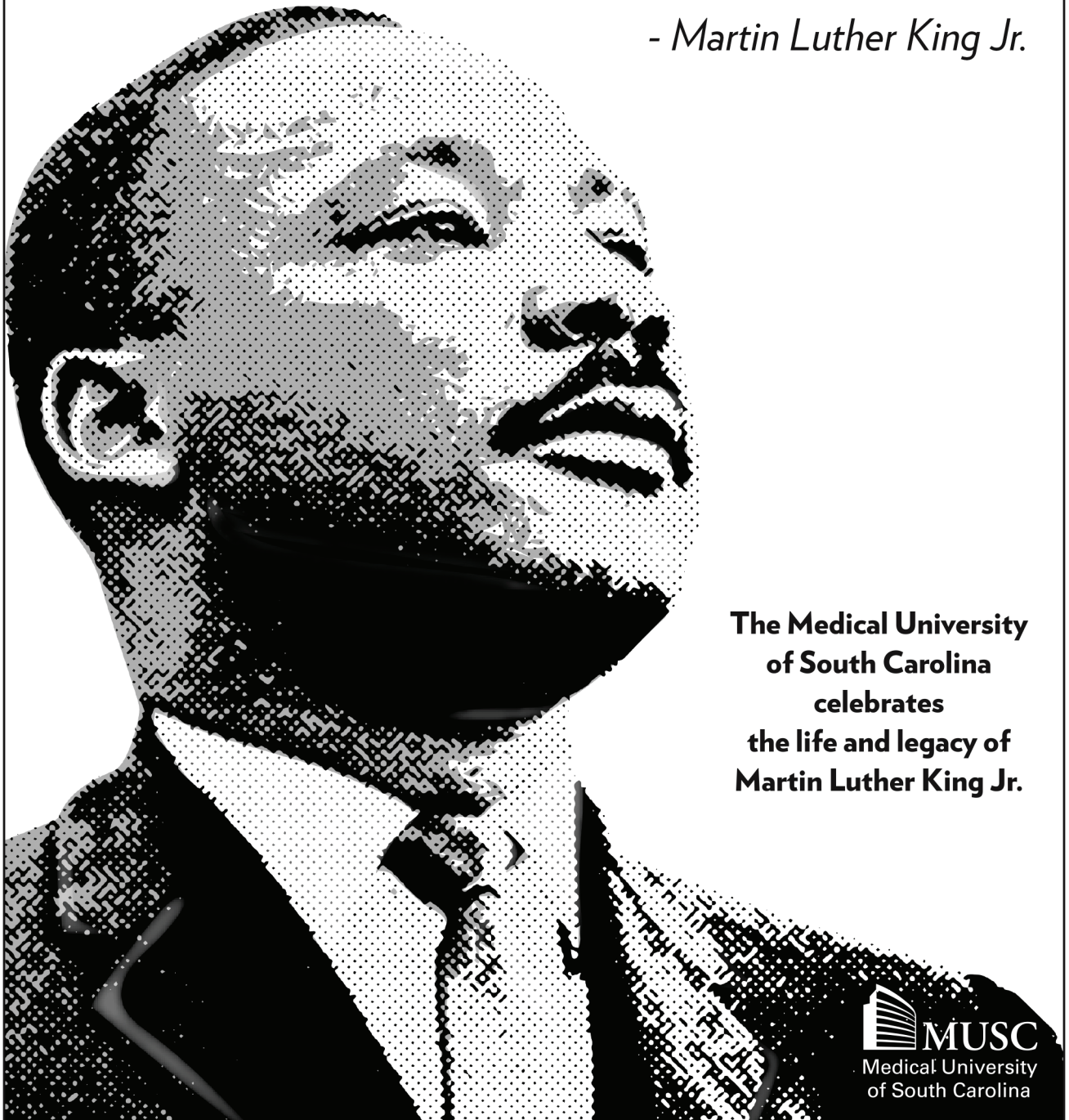


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*- Martin Luther King Jr.*



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celebrates  
the life and legacy of  
Martin Luther King Jr.**





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# EQUALITY

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—DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

---

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## City of Charleston

William S. Cogswell, Jr.

Mayor

January 11, 2024

Dear Friends:

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, considered South Carolina's largest tribute to the enduring legacy of Dr. King.

Over the course of 10 days every January, our community enjoys such events as the MLK Tri-County Ecumenical Service, the MLK Holiday Parade, the MLK Business and Professional Summit, and more.

I wish to thank Mr. Darrin Goss, President & CEO of Coastal Community Foundation, for serving as our keynote speaker, and Mr. Herbert L. Drayton III, Managing Partner of HI Mark Capital, for serving as the MLK Summit Chair. This event is considered the premier event of the MLK Celebration and is the largest annual fundraiser for the YWCA Greater Charleston, sponsor of the MLK Celebration.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. achieved unequalled moral stature and commanded worldwide respect as he led our nation in its quest for civil and human rights with remarkable eloquence and courage. So, as we celebrate the anniversary of his birth, let us reaffirm our commitment to the honorable principles for which Dr. King lived and, ultimately, gave his life.

Once again, welcome, and thank you for joining us.

Most sincerely yours,

William S. Cogswell, Jr.  
Mayor, City of Charleston



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**Natalie Zeigler**  
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GOOSE CREEK, SC 29445-1768  
TEL (843) 797-6220  
FAX (843) 863-5208

December 6, 2023

YWCA Greater Charleston  
Post Office Box 80935  
Charleston, SC 29416

Dear Friends,

As I look with genuine optimism to a new year, I wish my very best to your organization and its 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual MLK Celebration.

The City of Goose Creek is honored by the YWCA. I cannot think of an organization that has done more to bring Dr. King's vision of our country to fruition. Your importance to Goose Creek and indeed the entire Lowcountry cannot be overstated.

Dr. King reminded us that "the time is always right to do what is right." When I hear those words, I think of the YWCA, its spirit, and its commitment to service.

Thank you for this Celebration, for your good works, for all you have done, and for all you will do.

With warmest regards,

Gregory S. Habib  
Mayor





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JEFF CHANDLER  
MIKE DYSON  
KEVIN HEDGPETH  
ADAM SPURLOCK

January 2023

YWCA Greater Charleston  
1064 Gardener Rd, Ste 113  
Charleston, SC 29403

Dear Friend,

Welcome to the 51<sup>st</sup> Annual MLK celebration! We are thrilled that you have joined in the festivities. One thing I love about celebrations is how they bring people together. In my years as Mayor, I have also learned that work brings people together, too. When there is a vision that people believe in, they want to be a part of accomplishing it. They want to be a part of the team to see it through. Another thing that I have learned is that there is always still more work to be done.

Today, as you celebrate, think about all that has been accomplished, but don't leave with that thought alone. Continue to think of how you can be a part of the work that is still to be done. Sometimes we have an opportunity to do big work. However, I find true success is often found in the small acts that we do consistently over time. It's choosing to do the work even when it seems easy to push off for another day.

May today inspire you to be a part of the work that will lead to future celebrations. May you take small steps, consistently over time, that will add up to big things.

Warm regards,

Mayor Christie Rainwater  
Hanahan, SC

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*Town of Hollywood, SC*

**MAYOR CHARDALE MURRAY**

January 15, 2024

Dear Neighbors and Friends,

On behalf of the Town of Hollywood, we are delighted to participate in the 52nd Annual Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration.

The lessons taught by Dr. Martin Luther King are needed now more than ever. As we fight for equity, inclusion, and greater opportunities across our region, we ask that you remember to consider the strengths and needs of our rural towns. The Town of Hollywood is growing with a commitment to affordable housing, family-centered community services, and workforce development. Visit our website to learn more, or better yet, pay us a visit during any one of our town celebrations.

Congratulations to and sincere appreciation for the staff and Board of Directors of the YWCA of Greater Charleston. This event continues to motivate the tricounty's greatest assets – its people. May we all continue to do our best by living with love and raising our voices in support of those who need us most. As Dr. King said, "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."

Respectfully,  
*Mayor Chardale Murray*  
Town of Hollywood

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Katie Miars  
Kevin Popson  
Rusty Streetman  
Jimmy Ward

December 8, 2023

YWCA Greater Charleston  
1064 Garner Rd., Suite 113  
Charleston, SC 29414

Dear Friends,

It is an honor to extend warm greetings to the benefactors of the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration commemorating the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Civil Rights Movement.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. commanded worldwide respect as he led our nation in the quest for civil rights for African-Americans and others through his personal courage and non-violent philosophy.

The YWCA of Greater Charleston carries on Dr. King's lifelong ambitions with their programs fostering peace, justice, human rights, women's health and sustainable communities for everyone regardless of race or creed. We are proud to support the commemoration of Dr. King and his legacy this January and throughout the year.

Congratulations to the staff and board of the YWCA for their contributions to our Lowcountry community and best wishes for future success in your endeavors.

Sincerely,

  
Phillip Pounds

Mayor, City of Isle of Palms

# Town of James Island

*Brook Lyon*  
Mayor



Council Members

*Daniel C. Boles*

*Lewis Dodson*

*Dr. Cynthia Mignone*

*Garren "Troy" Mullinax*

January 15, 2024

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration. This event is certainly a tribute to the legacy of Dr. King and the Town of James Island is honored to participate in this memorable event.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. has achieved one of the highest moral stature and commanded worldwide respect as he led our nation in the quest for civil and human rights with remarkable eloquence and courage. As we celebrate the anniversary of his birth, we are reminded of his commitment and principles for which he lived and for which he ultimately gave his life.

Over the course of this celebration, please enjoy the various community events, religious services as well as the annual holiday parade.

Thank you to Keynote Speaker, Darrin Goss Sr., President and CEO of the Coastal Community Foundation. The Coastal Community Foundation has long standing values in the community with a mission dedicated to creating communities rich in equity, opportunity and well-being by uniting and investing resources so that all people will have a pathway to achieve their goals.

Congratulations to the staff and Board of Directors of the YWCA of Greater Charleston for their many years of service to the low country and for sponsoring this vitally important event.

Once again, welcome and thank you for joining us.

Sincerely yours,

Brook Lyon  
Mayor, Town of James Island

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**Will Haynie**  
**Mayor**

January 7, 2024

YWCA Greater Charleston  
1064 Gardner Road, Suite 113  
Charleston, SC 29414

Dear Friends:

It is an honor and a privilege to extend warm greetings to all the benefactors of the 52nd Annual tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration commemorating the 69th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Movement. I look forward to celebrating with you at the Annual Breakfast with the theme of **“Step Up: Advance the Movement.”**

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. achieved unequalled moral stature and commanded world-wide respect as he led our nation in the quest for civil rights for African-Americans and all people through his eloquence, personal courage and non-violent philosophy.

The YWCA and local members of the Greater Charleston Region exemplify Dr. King's life long ambitions with continuous work of peace and justice, human rights activism, women's health and sustainable development for everyone regardless of color or creed. We are humbled and proud to be involved in the commemoration of the life and works of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Civil Rights Movement.

Congratulations to the Staff and Board Members of the YWCA for their accomplishments of the past and best wishes for a bright and successful future.

Sincerely,

Will Haynie  
Mayor  
TOWN OF MOUNT PLEASANT



# *City of North Charleston, SC*

---

January 11, 2023

Dear YWCA supporters,

It is with great honor and privilege that I extend warm greetings to each of you as we come together to celebrate the 52nd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, commemorating the pivotal Anniversary of the Civil Rights Movement.

In this momentous occasion, I find immense pride in acknowledging the dedication and tireless efforts of the YWCA and its local members in the Greater Charleston Region. Their unwavering commitment serves as a living testament to Dr. King's enduring aspirations, manifested through their continuous work in promoting peace with justice, advocating for human rights, fostering women's health, and championing sustainable development for all, transcending the boundaries of color or creed.

May this celebration serve as a poignant reminder of the progress achieved and a catalyst for continued dedication to the ideals that Dr. King so passionately championed. I am grateful for the opportunity to stand alongside such esteemed individuals and organizations in honoring the indelible mark left by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Sincerely,



Reginald L. Burgess  
Mayor




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WRITTEN BY MRS. CHRISTINE O. JACKSON, YWCA GREATER CHARLESTON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 1966-2004

## WHY WE CELEBRATE

The civil rights movement that spanned 1955 through 1968 was led by Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., challenging and compelling Congress to dismantle the laws of segregation, discrimination, and racism against African Americans. This pivotal period of history is why we gather in the Charleston tri-county area for the annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration.

We encourage you to always remember those 13 years of Dr. King's leadership, which shaped public policy and changed the course of American history forever. Due to the sacrifices of those who endured physical abuse while sitting-in at lunch counters, boycotting buses and businesses, and marching down highways and byways across the South, today all Americans have been freed to accomplish their goals, living out the American dream.

Make it your personal challenge to never forget:

- The Montgomery Bus Boycott of 1956, which led to the desegregation of public transportation
- The March on Washington in August 1963, which led to the passage of the Civil Rights Act dismantling institutional racism
- Bloody Sunday on the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, AL and the Selma-to-Montgomery March in 1965, which forged passage of the Voting Rights Act
- Passage of the Fair Housing Act of 1968
- Passage of the MLK federal holiday

Make it your personal commitment, each time you celebrate the holiday, to vote in every election, to encourage other citizens to register and vote, and to make voting a priority for people you know and love. Lest we forget, it took generations of men and women to link heritage to hope and action through sacrifice, vision, and personal commitment, leading to passage of the King federal holiday.

# MAKING HISTORY

YWCA Greater Charleston, an affiliate of YWCA USA, was founded in 1907. We have been eliminating racism and empowering women across the Charleston region ever since.

YWCA.GC played an important role during the civil rights movement in Charleston with Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s wife, Coretta Scott King, participating with our members and board in the historic 1969 MUSC hospital strike. By happenstance, our executive director at that time was Mrs. Christine O. Jackson: Coretta Scott King's first cousin.

In 1972, Mrs. Jackson founded one of the first MLK tributes in America. She was sitting in an evening YWCA meeting in 1968 when she received word of Dr. King's assassination, shaking her badly. She had last seen him in 1967 when he came to Charleston to speak.

In its first year the tribute consisted of a ball, suggested to her by a YWCA volunteer, Mrs. Margaret Thomas; Mrs. Jackson added a worship service. The pastor of an Alabama church served as the keynote speaker at her invitation. In its second year, the keynote speaker was Dr. King's father, Martin Luther King, Sr. "I remember Mayor Joe Riley being at that celebration," she says.

The MLK Business & Professional Breakfast Summit became a fixture in 2000, after Mrs. Jackson walked into Mayor Riley's office unannounced. Atlee Prince and Spencer Pryor had come up with the idea, and with the mayor's support, the breakfast was born. Cecelia Roger was its first chair. Mayor Joe Riley is still honored at the event, where the Joseph P. Riley, Jr. Vision Award is presented each year.

YWCA Greater Charleston continues to make history as



MRS. CHRISTINE JACKSON BY THE CHARLESTON CHRONICLE

it strives to eliminate racism and empower women—not only with its annual MLK Celebration, but with programs like:

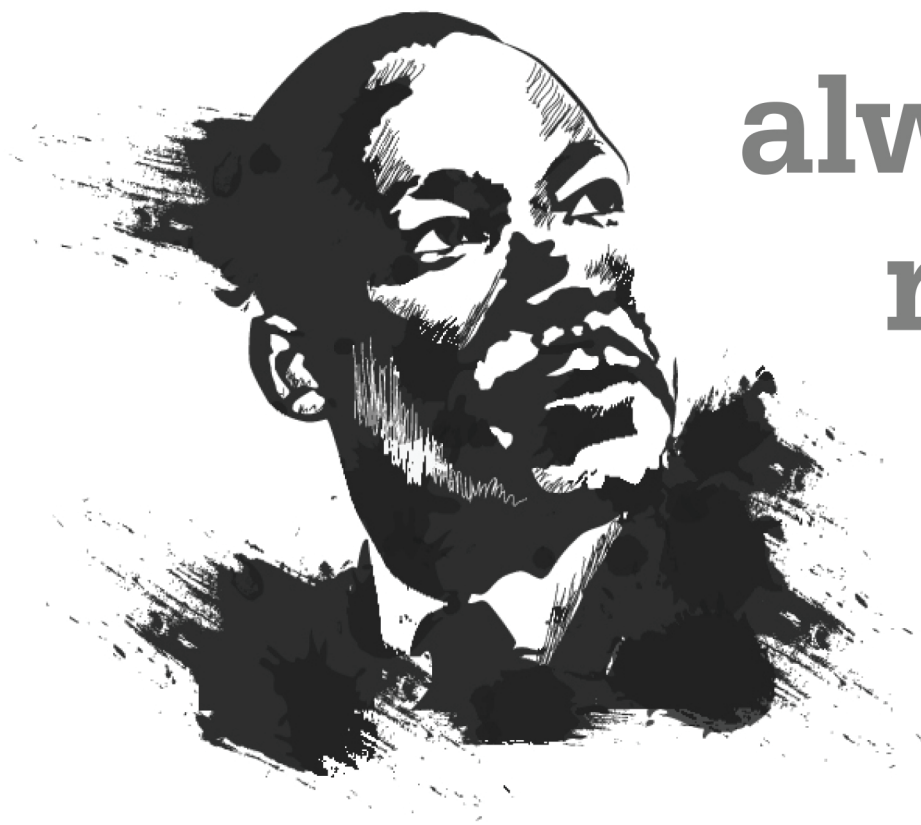
- RACIAL EQUITY & INCLUSION workshops led by experts nationally renowned for helping communities address institutional racism
- WE 360°, a workshop series designed to help women entrepreneurs of color overcome barriers specific to them in business
- Y GIRLS CODE clubs, financially empowering girls of color by preparing them to enter the high-paying, male-dominated technology field
- WHAT WOMEN BRING, an annual event celebrating women's leadership in business, community, and culture across South Carolina



---

# 2024 SCHEDULE

- 1**     **MLK Breakfast Summit**  
7 AM Thursday, January 11, 2024  
Charleston Gaillard Center
- 2**     **MLK Beloved Community Dinner**  
7 PM Friday, January 12, 2024  
International African American Museum
- 3**     **MLK Youth Open Mic**  
6 PM Saturday, January 13, 2024  
The Avery Institute of African American History & Culture
- 4**     **MLK Ecumenical Service**  
4 PM Sunday, January 14, 2024  
Charity Missionary Baptist Church
- 5**     **MLK Parade**  
10:30 AM Monday, January 15, 2024  
Downtown Charleston; televised live by NBC WCBD News 2
- 6**     **MLK Racial Equity Executive Session**  
March 2024



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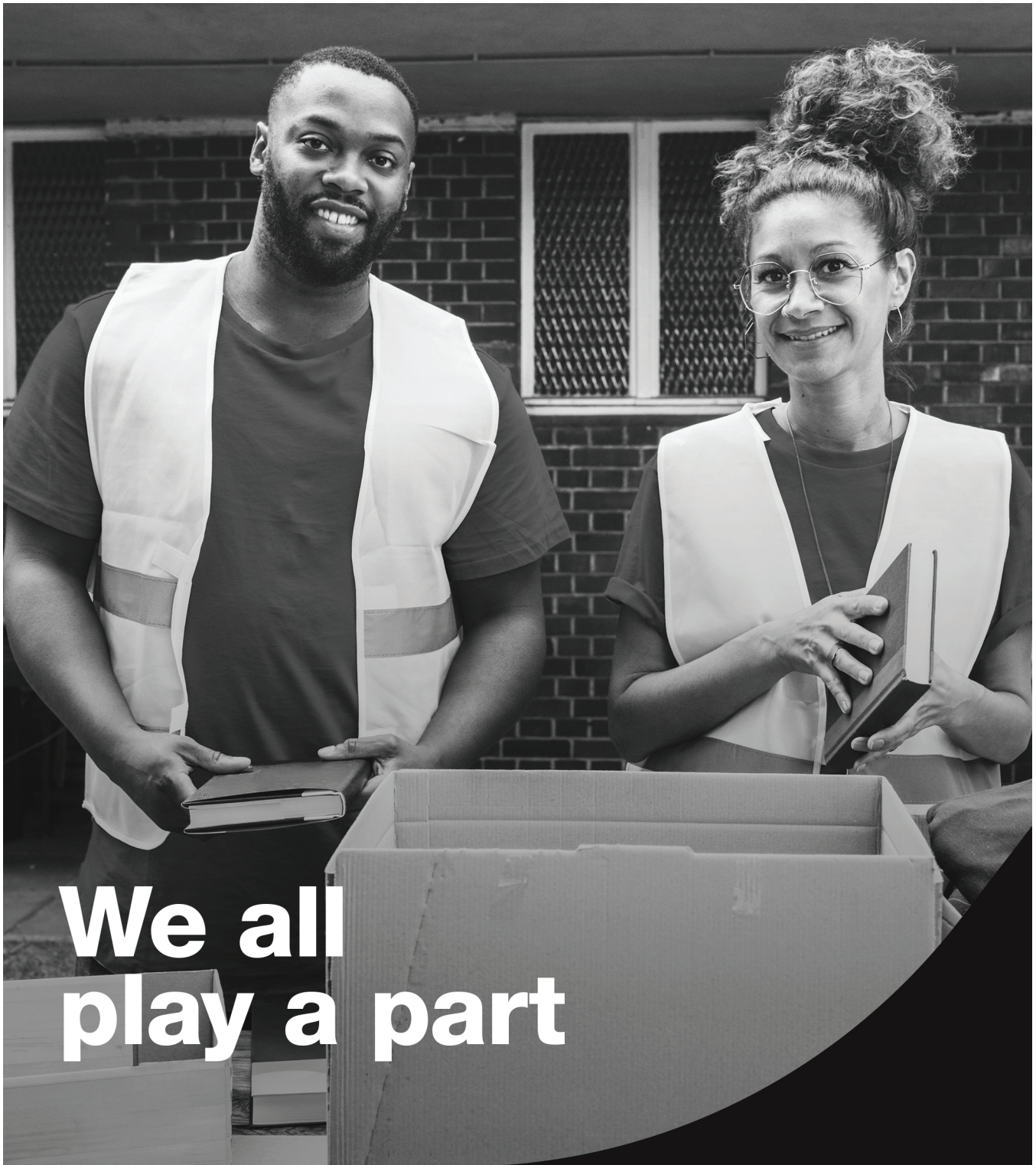
— Martin Luther King, Jr.

# 2024 BREAKFAST SUMMIT

Honorary Chair: City of Charleston Mayor William S. Cogswell | Charleston Gaillard Center

---

<b>PRE-EVENT MUSIC</b>	Myles Owen-Walker, Cellist
<b>OPENING REMARKS</b>	The Honorable William S. Cogswell, Mayor, City of Charleston
<b>OPENING PRAYER</b>	Bishop H. Eugene Gathers, The Open Door Harvestry Fellowship
<b>REMARKS</b>	LaVanda Brown, Executive Director, YWCA Greater Charleston
<b>MUSIC SELECTION</b>	Vee Goss
<b>YOUTH SPEAKER</b>	Zacora Scott, Berkeley County School District Home School
<b>AWARD PRESENTATION</b>	Sydney Hamer, Associate, Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough
<b>HONOREE REMARKS</b>	Harriet Wilder, Joseph P. Riley, Jr. Vision Award Recipient
<b>SPOKEN WORD</b>	Asiah Mae, Poet Laureate, City of Charleston
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	Herbert L. Drayton, III, Managing Partner, HI Mark Capital
<b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS</b>	Darrin Goss, Sr., President & CEO, Coastal Community Foundation
<b>REMARKS</b>	Courtney Johnson, Chair, YWCA Greater Charleston Board of Directors
<b>CLOSING REMARKS</b>	The Honorable William S. Cogswell, Mayor, City of Charleston
<b>CLOSING PRAYER</b>	Rev. Rebecca Hinds, Minister, Unitarian Church in Charleston
<b>MUSIC SELECTION</b>	Rev. Randolph Miller, Pastor, Greater Unity AME Church



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# 2024 ECUMENICAL SERVICE

Presiding: Rev. Nelson B. Rivers, III, Pastor, Charity Missionary Baptist Church

---

<b>CALL TO WORSHIP</b>	Rev. Nelson B. Rivers, III, Charity Missionary Baptist Church
<b>OPENING SELECTION</b>	“Lift Every Voice” by MLK Community Choir
<b>INVOCATION</b>	Elder Donna Williams, Life Center Cathedral
<b>WELCOME</b>	Rev. Clinton McPherson, Greater Goodwill AME Church
<b>SCRIPTURE</b>	Rev. Edward Simmons, Central Missionary Baptist Church
<b>REMARKS</b>	The Honorable Reginald Burgess, Mayor, City of North Charleston
<b>MUSIC SELECTION</b>	MLK Community Choir
<b>REMARKS</b>	LaVanda Brown, Executive Director, YWCA Greater Charleston
<b>YOUTH SPEAKER</b>	Cadence Brown, College of Charleston Class of 2027
<b>OCCASION</b>	Danielle Hardee, Chair, MLK Ecumenical Service Committee
<b>PRESENTATION OF HONOR</b>	Carolyn Murray, News Anchor, NBC WCBD News 2
<b>HONOREE REMARKS</b>	Christine O. Jackson, Executive Director Emeritus, YWCA.GC
<b>OFFERTORY APPEAL</b>	Monique Brown, YWCA.GC Board of Directors; Kimberly Mills, Sweet J’s Clubhouse
<b>AWARD PRESENTATION</b>	Thetyka Robinson, Co-Chair, Harvey Gantt Triumph Award Committee
<b>HONOREE REMARKS</b>	Herbert L. Drayton, III, HI Mark Capital
<b>MINISTRY OF DANCE</b>	New Bethel Sounds of Praise Dance Ministry
<b>AWARD PRESENTATION</b>	Rev. Aurelio D. Givens, IAAM, Abundant Life Fellowship
<b>HONOREE REMARKS</b>	Mrs. Jennifer Pinckney on behalf of Rev. Clementa Pinckney, Mother Emanuel AME
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	Brandon Fish, Community Relations, Charleston Jewish Federation; KKBE Member
<b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS</b>	Rabbi Stephanie Alexander, Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim (KKBE)
<b>CLOSING REMARKS</b>	Courtney Johnson, Chair, YWCA.GC Board of Directors
<b>BENEDICTION</b>	Rev. Nelson B. Rivers, III, Charity Missionary Baptist Church

# 2024 SPONSORS

We thank all who made our 52nd Annual Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration possible

---

## DREAM GUARANTORS



*"I have the audacity to believe that peoples everywhere can have three meals a day for their bodies, education, and culture for their minds, and dignity, equality, and freedom for their spirits."*

Martin Luther King, Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech, 1964

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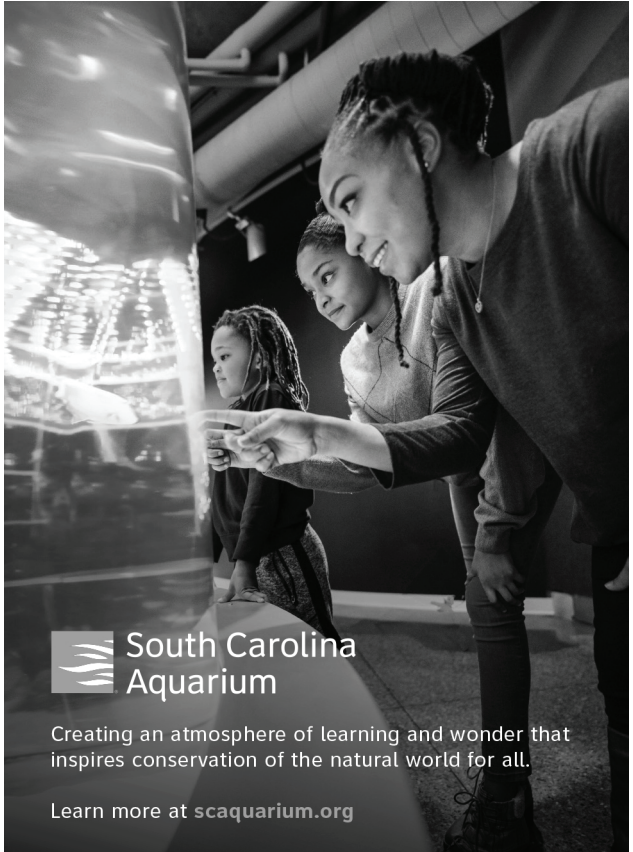
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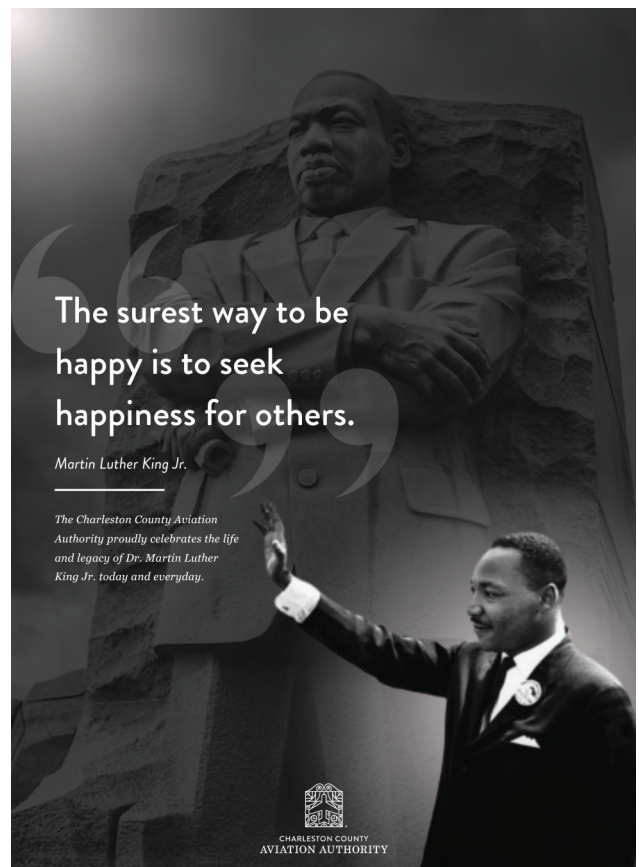
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# 2024 MLK COMMITTEES

We thank all who made our 52nd Annual Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration possible

---

## MLK BELOVED COMMUNITY DINNER

Tina L. Singleton | Chair  
LaVanda Brown | Co-Chair  
Janet Hart  
Radia Heyward  
Taylor Ion  
Tiffany Jonas

## MLK DAY PARADE

Sgt. Herman Allen  
Sarah Castle  
Jeffrey Fielding  
Lorna Shelton-Beck

## MLK ECUMENICAL SERVICE

Danielle Hardee | Chair  
Cynthia Bell  
Monique Brown  
Rev. DeMett Jenkins  
Clinton McPherson  
Kim Mills

## MLK RECEPTION

LaToya Scott | Chair  
Jan Anderson  
Helen Hill  
Courtney Johnson  
Mary Smith

## MLK YOUTH OPEN MIC

Thomas Brown | Chair  
Brandi Blake  
Jennifer Brown  
CJ Gathers  
Zora Johnson  
Alfonso Riley  
Tawana Tolbert  
Christine Washington

## MLK YOUTH SPEAKERS

Cristina Turcu Lugmayer | Chair  
Andrea Clements  
Adrienne Grimes

# 2024 AWARD COMMITTEES

We thank all who made our 52nd Annual Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration possible

## HARVEY GANTT TRIUMPH AWARD

Selena Njoloma | Chair

Thetyka Robinson | Co-Chair

Cindy Brams

Corisa Carter

Rev. Thomas Dixon

Latasha Gandy

Carol Jackson

LaToya Scott

## JOSEPH P. RILEY, JR. VISION AWARD

Sydney Hamer | Chair

Kelly Barber

Caroline Byrd

Brianna Hill

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Daniel Martin


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In tribute to James A. Linen, III  
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### TRIBUTE

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## **BREAKFAST KEYNOTE**

**DARRIN GOSS, SR.**  
PRESIDENT & CEO, COASTAL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

As leader of the largest community foundation in South Carolina, Goss serves as a force for good, powerfully impacting the Charleston region in numerous ways. Among other initiatives, he has been instrumental in establishing the Foundation’s first advocacy initiative, the Policy Agenda, and its first Placed-Based Investing Program, which provides capital to emerging enterprises that address social needs. Under his leadership, the Foundation has experienced significant asset growth and community impact. He also serves on the Philanthropy Southeast board of trustees, Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce board of directors, Charleston Leadership Foundation board, Truist Bank Community Advisory Board, and as board chair of MDC, Inc., equipping Southern leaders, institutions, and communities to advance equity and economic mobility. He participated in The Riley Institute’s Diversity Leadership Institute of 2010 and is a Class of 2018 Liberty Fellow. He holds a master’s degree from North Greenville University and a bachelor’s degree from Wofford College.

**“True peace is not merely the absence of tension; it is the presence of justice.”**

- Martin Luther King, Jr.

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**Together, we honor  
Dr. Martin Luther King,  
Jr.’s lifetime of service  
and his heroic work  
to advance civil rights.**





## ECUMENICAL KEYNOTE

RABBI STEPHANIE ALEXANDER  
RABBI, KAHAL KADOSH BETH ELOHIM

According to The Times of Israel, Charleston is home to one of the oldest Jewish communities in the US, numbering 10,000 in a recent study. Founded in 1749, Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim (KKBE) is one of the oldest congregations in America, and its sanctuary is the oldest in continuous use for Jewish worship in America. Rabbi Alexander serves as one of two rabbis for the synagogue. Under her leadership, she and KKBE were founding members of Charleston Area Justice Ministry (CAJM), a faith-based social justice organization of 30 diverse congregations. She has also served on CAJM's board and as its co-president, and in 2016 became the first female and first Jewish recipient of the John H. Gillson Award for Racial Healing from the South Carolina Christian Action Council. Rabbi Alexander holds master's degrees in Hebrew Literature and Religious Education from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, and earned her bachelor's degree and ordination from Tulane University.

**FAITH IS  
TAKING THE  
FIRST STEP  
EVEN WHEN  
YOU DON'T SEE  
THE WHOLE  
STAIRCASE.**

**- MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.**

  
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## Empowering Minds, Transforming Lives

We're inspired by **Martin Luther King, Jr.** and the positive change he sparked.

We honor his spirit through our education work and **Meeting Street Schools**, which were founded on the premise that every child deserves an excellent education regardless of their socio-economic background.

We are grateful for his enduring legacy of love and leadership.



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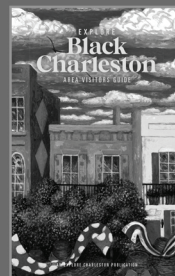
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**“Faith is taking the first step even when you don’t see the whole staircase.”** ~ Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



## EXPLORE AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY & CULTURE FIRSTHAND

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## YOUTH SPEAKER

ZACORA AYTIRE' SCOTT

MLK BREAKFAST SUMMIT YOUTH ESSAY

Zacora, a native of Shulerville, SC, was born at 26 weeks old. Even as a medically homebound student, this spirited junior has maintained a spot on the “A” honor roll at Timberland High School and intends to attend college to earn a degree in fine arts. She is also the owner of ZAS Co., LLC, an independent modeling company, and serves on the board of the Shawn Jenkins Children’s Hospital and as a member of the Youth Health Advisory Council, South Carolina Area Health Education Consortium, Talent Search, Trio Upward Bound Math and Science Programs at Trident Technical College, and Youth Volunteer Corps of Charleston with the Mayor’s Office for Children, Youth and Families. At Heart to Heart International Ministries of Moncks Corner, she serves as an associate of the church’s senior ministry, soup kitchen, and media and youth departments. She has also served as co-assistant to the chair of the Dr. Tonia Aiken Taylor Memorial Highway Project. Her aspirations include a career as a fashion designer and founder of EASS Foundation, a nonprofit resource center for youth and teens.



## YOUTH SPEAKER

CADENCE BROWN

MLK ECUMENICAL SERVICE YOUTH ESSAY

Cadence Brown, a theatre major at the College of Charleston, aspires to restore wonder in young people by teaching theatre to them—and to found her own future agricultural business. She has interned at Swiss Krono USA and been selected as a South Carolina Horatio Alger Association Scholar. She is also a recipient of CERRA’s Teaching Fellow Scholarship, awarded by one of the oldest and most established teacher recruitment program in the nation. Her selection, from among thousands of US essay applicants, as a member of the Disney Dreamers Academy class of 2022, made the news. At this mentoring program for 100 young Black leaders, famous Black actors, producers, and singers counseled the high-performing scholars. Cadence was one of only two students from South Carolina chosen.

A self-proclaimed drama queen, Cadence spends much of her free time to volunteering for local youth organizations and mentoring business-curious students.



## PARADE MARSHAL

DAVID WHITE, JR., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
REAL TALK, REAL ACTION, REAL RESULTS (R3)

The leader of R3, the 2020 organizational recipient of the Joseph P. Riley, Jr. Vision Award, David is most well known today as a culinary influencer. Promoting Black food along with diversity and inclusion in the food industry through his social media initiative The Dropping Pin, he has collaborated with major festivals and others, most recently partnering with Food Network Canada on a nationwide campaign. He also now leads media relations for The Black Food Truck Festival, in addition to his decade-long position with the Department of Social Services. Prior to this, he owned and operated Laundry Matters, a laundromat and community hub where he pioneered after-school programs, computer classes, and free laundry services for the homeless and others. A member of the Top 40 Under 40 inaugural class of South Carolina State University, where he earned his bachelor's degree and MBA, David also serves on the boards of Charleston Promise Neighborhood and Always Awkward Hospitality Group.



## DRUM MAJOR AWARD

REV. CLEMENTA PINCKNEY (POSTHUMOUS)  
MOTHER EMANUEL AME CHURCH

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drum Major Award is a special memorial award recognizing an individual who follows in the footsteps of Dr. King, serves as a champion of equal rights, seeks greatness in service and love, selflessly performs daily acts of service to make her or his community and our world a better place, and seeks social justice for all who are repressed, discriminated against, or under-represented.

Rev. Pinckney, an advocate for civil rights, exhibited these characteristics and more. A leader in the Christian faith who served his state and country as a South Carolina senator and SC House representative, he was the youngest African American elected to the SC General Assembly and fought for justice after the killing of Walter Scott. President Barack Obama delivered Rev. Pinckney's eulogy after he was killed in a hate shooting while leading a Bible study at the church he pastored, Mother Emanuel AME Church.



## VISION AWARD

HARRIET W. WILDER

JOSEPH P. RILEY, JR. VISION AWARD RECIPIENT

Harriet, a champion of Charleston's children, was a pioneer many times over in her 51 years in education. Over a period of 20 years, as she served as a teacher and curriculum consultant for Charleston County School District, she saw that many children were not socially or academically ready for first grade. She took action, founding the first Black privately owned and operated child care center in West Ashley. Nine years later, she opened a second location on James Island. Together, the two Hope's Treasure Chest locations have guided the development of 2,500 children over a span of 31 years. And yet Harriet wasn't finished. Deciding to better prepare children beyond preschool, she and a friend founded Charleston Progressive Academy, a Charleston County magnet school, in 1997. She also served as a senior steward and committee chair many times for Morris Brown AME Church. She holds a bachelor's degree in early education from St. Augustine's College and a Master of Education degree from South Carolina State University.



## TRIUMPH AWARD

HERBERT L. DRAYTON, III

HARVEY GANTT TRIUMPH AWARD RECIPIENT

Herbert, a US Air Force and Marine Corps Reserves veteran, is the managing partner of venture capital firm HI Mark Capital, which invests in technology-enabled businesses owned by women and Black, Indigenous, and other people of color across the Southeast. A passionate advocate for community service and civic leadership, he chairs the boards of directors for Coastal Community Foundation and Palmetto Goodwill. He also serves on the boards of the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce, SCbio, Roper St. Francis Foundation, Bright Focus Foundation, and the Association of Black Foundation Executives. He is an Advisory Board member of the Securities and Exchange Commission's Access to Capital Committee, a former board chair for One80 Place, and a founding member of the Charleston Deal Alliance. During his 20 years of experience establishing, buying, and managing businesses, he has counseled countless entrepreneurs, averaging 10-20 mentorship calls per week.

**BE THE REASON WHY...**

# HISTORY GETS SHARED.



Between foundation grantmaking and donor-advised funds, CCF contributed more than \$1 million to the creation of the International African American Museum. We are proud to Be the Reason Why these untold stories of American history are amplified and honored.

# JOIN US IN SONG

Lift Every Voice and Sing: 52nd Annual Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

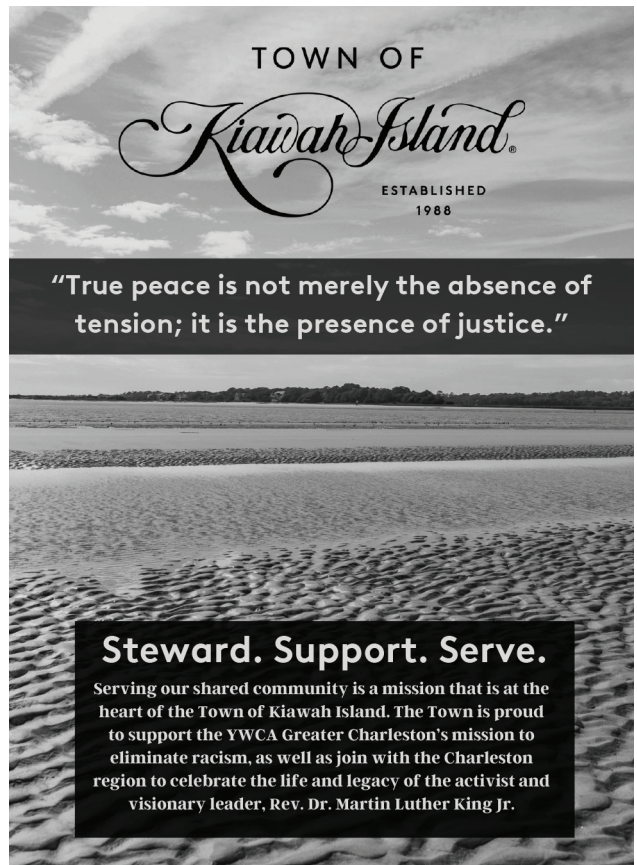
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Lift every voice and sing  
'Til Earth and heaven ring  
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty  
Let our rejoicing rise  
High as the list'ning skies  
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea  
Sing a song full of the faith  
That the dark past has taught us  
Sing a song full of the hope  
That the present has brought us  
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun  
Let us march on 'til victory is won

Stony the road we trod  
Bitter the chast'ning rod  
Felt in the days that hope unborn had died  
Yet with a steady beat  
Have not our weary feet

Come to the place  
on which our fathers sighed  
We have come over a way  
That with tears have been watered  
We have come, treading our path  
Through the blood of the slaughtered  
Out from the gloomy past  
'til now we stand at last  
Where the white gleam of our star is cast

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears  
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way  
Thou who has by Thy might led us into the light  
Keep us forever in the path, we pray  
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God  
Where we met Thee  
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world  
We forget Thee  
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,  
may we forever stand  
True to our God, true to our native land



# JOIN US IN SONG

We Shall Overcome: 52nd Annual Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

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According to the Library of Congress, this song has its roots in African American hymns dating from the early 20th century, and was first used as a protest song in 1945, when striking tobacco workers in Charleston, South Carolina sang it on their picket line.

We shall overcome  
We shall overcome  
We shall overcome some day

CHORUS:

Oh, deep in my heart  
I do believe  
We shall overcome some day

We'll walk hand in hand  
We'll walk hand in hand

We shall all be free some day

CHORUS

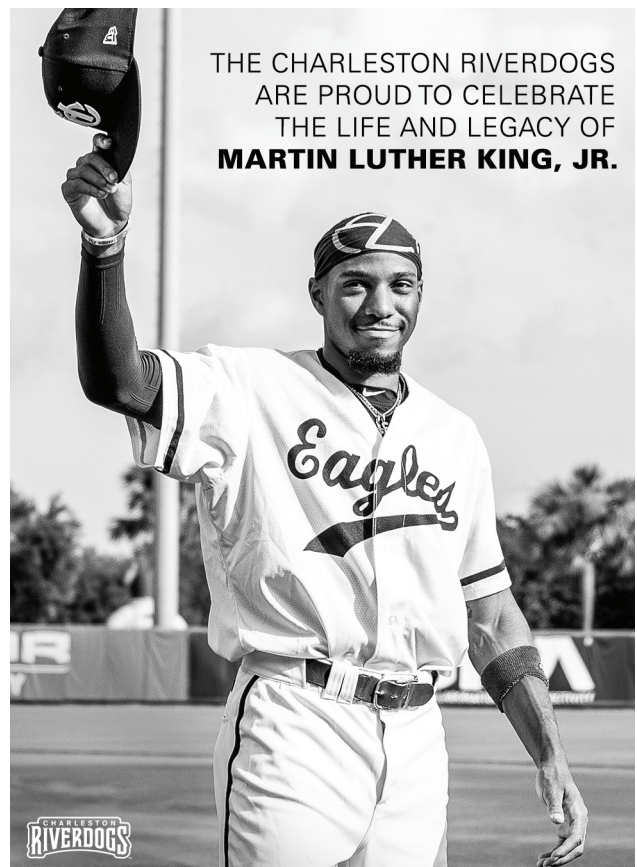
We shall all be free  
We shall all be free  
We shall all be free some day


CHORUS

We are not afraid  
We are not afraid  
We are not afraid today

CHORUS

We shall overcome  
We shall overcome  
We shall overcome some day





“The time is always right  
to do what is right.”

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

In the grand tapestry of humanity, the threads of our backgrounds, the hues of our skin, and the chapters of our stories may differ, but in the end, they weave together a narrative that resonates with one truth: it doesn't matter where you come from or what the color of your skin is, Every 1 Voice Matters.

Sherrika Myers • [every1voicematters.org](http://every1voicematters.org)





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