Penn's Commitment to the Legacy:

2012 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Symposium on Social Change

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The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Symposium is coordinated by the African-American Resource Center. Questions and comments about the symposium can be directed to AARC @ 215-898-0104. Please check the website for the most current information on event dates, times and locations.

www.upenn.edu/aarc/mlk
January 2012

Dear Friend,

At the start of each New Year, we all hope for an ever brighter future. And with each new Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., University of Pennsylvania Commemorative Symposium on Social Change, we transform our hope into action by strengthening ties with our neighbors and sharing our dreams as one great West Philadelphia community. On behalf of the University, I thank you for your passionate commitment to this transformational unity and for your participation in this Symposium.

Dr. King described the journey toward freedom and social justice as a flight – a flight that can enjoy success only through the efforts and sacrifices of its entire crew. Our crew is a community of diverse voices and talents laboring together, creating together, and growing together. Along the way, something new and wonderful takes wing, lofting us all higher than before.

As you lend your efforts to our community for the Day of Service, engage your mind with compelling lectures and panels, and find yourself inspired by this year’s arts and cultural events. Let us take time both to celebrate Dr. King’s vision and achievements, and to rededicate ourselves to the unfinished work at hand.

We share Dr. King’s belief that people everywhere should have enough food for their bodies, access to education and culture for their minds, and equal freedom and dignity for their spirits. These goals can be reached only if we remain open to one another, cherish our common humanity, and use our diversity to fuel positive change. In 2012, let us continue Dr. King’s noble work and combine our passion with purpose on behalf of all those who long to soar high and free.

With faith and hope,

Amy Gutmann

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2012 Symposium Events Summary

Friday, January 13 - Sunday, January 15

Theater of the Oppressed Workshop

Monday, January 16

Day of Service Breakfast
Decoration of the Social Justice Chair
Children’s Banner Painting
Helping Hands at Houston Hall
Philadelphia Reads: Literacy Project
Community Beautification Projects
Mentoring Project with Upward Bound
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Candlelight Vigil

Tuesday, January 17

Nurturers Un-nurtured: Supporting and Mentoring the African American Single Mother
PSOM - Career Narrative/Scientific Autobiography: Dr. Jerry C. Johnson
PSOM 2012 “Valuing Diversity in Academic Medicine” Networking Reception
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Lecture in Social Justice: Ms. Donna Brazile

Wednesday, January 18

Social Activism, Open Expression and Public Safety: A FORMULA FOR SOCIAL CHANGE Panel
Screening: “Box Out”: Criminal Records & the ‘Ban the Box’ Movement in Philadelphia
“Looking Like a Language, Sounding like a Race: Making Latina/o Identities and Managing American Anxieties” Discussion
Penn International Experiences Festival 2012

Thursday, January 19

Brothers Keep Dreaming...and Fighting: Intergenerational Reflections on the Man King and the Civil Rights Legacy
Women of Color at Penn Tea
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Interfaith Program and Awards Commemoration

Friday, January 20

Performance Art for Social Change: PLP TheUnity Fatimah Lorén

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Practice Power for Peace - A Community Power Yoga Session
Documentary Screening & Discussion: P-Star Rising

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Navigating a Life/Career After a Ph.D.
CEASEFIRE: Ending the Wars in Somalia and the Sudan
What Colleges and Universities Can Do to Impact College Access and Career Readiness
**Wednesday, January 25**
The School of Nursing Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Lecture
Occupy and the Civil Rights Movement
Cold World Music Video-Screening and Discussion

**Thursday, January 26**
The Rich Loves The Poor: To Exploit - Film Screening & Discussion
Poverty and Homelessness in Regard to Veterans in the Penn Community

**Friday, January 27**
Honoring Our Ancestral Mothers: A Discussion around Reproductive Choices and Cultural Considerations
Jazz for King

**Monday, January 30**
Documentary Screening: El Sol Sale Para Todo

**Tuesday, January 31**
Ascension Dialogue

**Wednesday, February 1**
“Black Educational Choice: Assessing the Private and Public Alternatives to Traditional K–12 Public Schools” Book Discussion
Chicano Rights Movement

**Thursday, February 2**
Brothers Keep Dreaming...and Fighting: Intergenerational Reflections on the Man King and the Civil Rights Legacy

**Friday, February 3**
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Symposium Signature Program - Culture and Consciousness: Arts and Social Justice
2012 Symposium Events

Unless otherwise indicated, all events are free and open to the public.

Friday, January 13 – Sunday, January 15

Theater of the Oppressed Workshop

Friday, January 13 6:00pm; Saturday, January 14 10:00am- 4:00pm;
Sunday, January 15 10:00am- 4:00pm
Greenfield Intercultural Center (3708 Chestnut Street)

For over forty years, the Theater of the Oppressed has served communities worldwide as a powerful tool for building community and organizing for direct democracy. As part of the 2012 MLK Symposium, the Greenfield Intercultural Center will bring a Theater of the Oppressed facilitator to Penn who will train students to use Boal’s theater activities to analyze dynamics of power/oppression, communication, and conflict between groups. This program will offer highly engaging ways to explore the world through critical lenses. The workshop will inspire students from various cultural communities at Penn to assume the roles of active learners and agents of social change. Following the training, students will put on several presentations and theater-based dialogues for the wider Penn student community.

An application is required to participate in this event and can be accessed at http://www.vpul.upenn.edu/gic/form-Theater_of_the_29.php


Contact: James Bridge @ 410-428-5781/bridge@gse.upenn.edu

Monday, January 16

Day of Service Breakfast

8:30am - 9:45am
Hall of Flags, Houston Hall (3417 Spruce Street)

The Day of Service events will kick off with this annual breakfast. The breakfast will include performers and special guest speaker, Bishop Audrey Bronson, D. Min. Complimentary parking for volunteers will be provided at the following locations: Lot #19 (Northeast corner of 34th and Chestnut Sts) and Penn Park (31st and Walnut Sts. Lower Level).

Sponsored by: Black Graduate and Professional Student Assembly, the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Symposium Day of Service Committee

Contact: Robert Carter @ 215-898-0105
Decoration of the Social Justice Chair
9:30am - 12:30pm
Class of 1949 Auditorium, Houston Hall (3417 Spruce Street)

Volunteers will apply a collage of images and decoupage a chair representing the life and work of Dr. King. “The Seat of Justice” will be placed in a local school for students to reflect on the life and contributions of Dr. King. Complimentary parking for volunteers will be provided at the following locations: Lot #19 (Northeast corner of 34th and Chestnut Sts) and Penn Park (31st and Walnut Sts. Lower Level).

Sponsored by: The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Symposium Day of Service Committee
Contact: Pamela Robinson @ 215-898-0104

Children's Banner Painting
9:30am - 12:30pm
Class of 1949 Auditorium, Houston Hall (3417 Spruce Street)

Children of all ages will paint commemorative Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. banners and posters that reflect Dr. King’s legacy while listening to stories about Dr. King’s life. Adult supervision of children is required. Complimentary parking for volunteers will be provided at the following locations: Lot #19 (Northeast corner of 34th and Chestnut Sts) and Penn Park (31st and Walnut Sts. Lower Level).

Sponsored by: The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Symposium Day of Service Committee
Contact: Pamela Robinson @ 215-898-0104

Helping Hands at Houston Hall
9:30am - 12:30pm
Reading Room and Bodek Lounge, Houston Hall (3417 Spruce Street)

Volunteers will create personal gifts that will be donated to West Philadelphia area shelters, nursing homes, hospitals, and other charities. Complimentary parking for volunteers will be provided at the following locations: Lot #19 (Northeast corner of 34th and Chestnut Sts) and Penn Park (31st and Walnut Sts. Lower Level).

Sponsored by: The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Symposium Day of Service Committee
Contact: Pamela Robinson @ 215-898-0104

Philadelphia Reads: Literacy Project
9:30am - 12:30pm
Benjamin Franklin Room, Houston Hall (3417 Spruce Street)

Create books on tape to promote literacy for Philadelphia youth. Participants are asked to bring and donate children’s books that discuss multi-cultural issues relating to children. Complimentary parking for volunteers will be
provided at the following locations: Lot #19 (Northeast corner of 34th and Chestnut Sts) and Penn Park (31st and Walnut Sts. Lower Level).

_Sponsored by: The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Symposium Day of Service Committee_

**Contact:** Pamela Robinson @ 215-898-0104

**Community Beautification Projects**

9:30am - 2:00pm  
Meet at Hall of Flags, Houston Hall (3417 Spruce Street)

Volunteers will work on service projects at Comegy’s Elementary School, Huey School, Sayre/Morris Recreation Center, and the Community Education Center in West Philadelphia. Reflections on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service will be solicited from volunteers. Light refreshments will be provided. Come dressed for cleaning and painting. Complimentary parking for volunteers will be provided at the following locations: Lot #19 (Northeast corner of 34th and Chestnut Sts) and Penn Park (31st and Walnut Sts. Lower Level). Transportation will be provided to and from Houston Hall (3417 Spruce St) to the sites or you may go directly to the sites.

_Sponsored by: The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Symposium Day of Service Committee_

**Contact:** Isabel Mapp @ 215-898-2020

**Mentoring Project with Upward Bound**

9:30am - 12:30pm  
Houston Hall and Beautification Project Locations

The University of Pennsylvania’s chapter of the National Association of Black Social Workers (NABSW), the Black Graduate and Professional Student Association (BGAPSA), and interns from the Christian Association spend the day mentoring students from the University’s Upward Bound Program. Upward Bound students will spend the day of service working alongside their mentors while exploring the benefits of a college education.

_Sponsored by: The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Symposium Day of Service Committee_

**Contact:** Isabel Mapp @ 215-898-2020

**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Candlelight Vigil**

7:00pm  
Begins at Du Bois College House (3900 Walnut Street) ending at the College Green

Please join The Distinguished Gentlemen of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Mighty Psi Chapter and The Lovely Ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Gamma Epsilon Philadelphia City Chapter for our candlelight vigil to celebrate the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The vigil will start in front of W.E.B. Du Bois College House - 3900 Walnut Street - and end at the Compass - 37th & Locust Walk.
Tuesday, January 17

Nurturers Un-nurtured: Supporting and Mentoring the African American Single Mother
12:00noon – 1:00pm
ARCH Building, Fireside Room – 2nd Floor (3601 Locust Walk)

The African American single mother is of great import to the community, but while she is supporting her children, who is supporting her? Join us as we review current research on the power of single parent networks and support groups and look at the statistics on single-parent households. We will also exchange information on how to support, inform, and mentor African American single parents in your community. Moderated by Jacqueline Harris.

Sponsored by: Bethany Baptist Church, Single Parents Group
Contact: Jacqueline Harris @ jharris@bethanysingleparents.com

PSOM - Career Narrative/Scientific Autobiography:
Dr. Jerry C. Johnson, Professor of Medicine and Chief, Division of Geriatric Medicine
12:00noon – 1:30pm
14th Floor Biomedical Research Building II/III
PSOM faculty, staff and students welcome to attend

Penn Medicine values diversity in academic medicine. Our continued success is based on excellence in each of the diverse parts of our institutional mission – research, teaching, patient care, and service. In keeping with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s vision of a more diverse society, PSOM presents the scientific autobiography of Dr. Jerry C. Johnson.

Sponsored by: Perelman School of Medicine Faculty Affairs and Professional Development (FAPD) & Minority Faculty Development (MFD) Program

PSOM 2012 “Valuing Diversity in Academic Medicine” Networking Reception with remarks by Dr. Lynn Hollen Lees, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs & Dean J. Larry Jameson
5:00pm – 7:00pm
Lobby of the Biomedical Research Building II/III
PSOM faculty, staff and students welcome to attend
FAPD hosts a networking reception to enable diverse faculty, medical students, residents, fellows, and postdoctoral fellows to meet, greet, interact, and connect. Diversity comes in many forms – race, gender, orientation, national or ethnic origin, disability, and others. Penn Medicine recognizes that capitalizing on the varied experience, knowledge, and insight of its faculty and graduate trainees enriches our institution. We encourage you to attend this reception so that you may meet a new colleague, collaborator, or mentor, or to renew existing professional relationships. We strengthen Penn Medicine by creating ties that bind across our differences.

*Sponsored by: Perelman School of Medicine Faculty Affairs and Professional Development (FAPD) & Minority Faculty Development (MFD) Program*

**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Lecture in Social Justice: Ms. Donna Brazile**

*5:00pm*
Zellerbach Theater, Annenberg Center (3680 Walnut Street)

Inaugurated in 2002, the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Lecture in Social Justice is an annual event typically held in January during the University’s celebration of the life and legacy of Dr. King. This lecture honors individuals and scholars of African descent who have committed themselves to social justice. Previous MLK program participants include Ambassador Charles Stith; Julian Bond; Randall Robinson and Carlos Rosero, Dr. Angela Davis, Dr. Mary Frances Berry; Harry Belafonte, Danny Glover, and Benjamin Todd Jealous, Chairman and CEO of the NAACP.

*Sponsored by: The Center for Africana Studies*

Contact: Michelle Houston @ mhoust@sas.upenn.edu

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**Wednesday, January 18**

**Social Activism, Open Expression and Public Safety: A FORMULA FOR SOCIAL CHANGE Panel**

*12:00noon*
Penn Hillel - 2nd Floor Library (215 S. 39th Street)

A panel discussion consisting of members of Public Safety, VPUL, the Chaplain’s Office and Penn Students followed by Q&A.

*Sponsored by: Penn Public Safety, VPUL & The Chaplain’s Office*

Contact: Stef Karp @ 215-898-7515/skarp@publicsafety.upenn.edu
Screening: “Box Out”: Criminal Records & the ‘Ban the Box’ Movement in Philadelphia

6:30pm - 8:30pm
Penn Law School, 34th and Chestnut Streets

Employment discrimination against formerly convicted persons is a civil rights issue. Join hosts for a screening of the video “Box Out: Criminal Records & the ‘Ban the Box’ Movement in Philadelphia”, directed by Megan Rok, Katherine Andrews, and Abel Rodriguez - 2011 graduates of the Law School. Following the screening, Everett Gillison, Chief of Staff to Mayor Nutter and former Deputy Mayor for Public Safety, will speak about Philadelphia’s recently enacted Ban the Box law. A reception will precede the screening. Seating is limited.

Sponsored by: The Penn Program on Documentaries & the Law, X-Offenders for Community Empowerment, & the Philadelphia Commission on Human Relations
Contact: RSVP Anna Gavin, Law School events coordinator, @ agavin@law.upenn.edu or 215-898-9496

“Looking Like a Language, Sounding like a Race: Making Latina/o Identities and Managing American Anxieties” Discussion

6:00pm – 8:00pm
Claudia Cohen Hall, The Terrace Room (249 South 36th Street)

Presentation/Dialogue with Dr. Jonathan Rosa, Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology Fronteras Fellow, Center for Latin American, Caribbean, and Latino Studies at UMass at Amherst. The event will be interactive, multi-media, and engage the audience in exploring topics on race and identity formation as these impact and relate to Latinas/os in the US. The event will be of interest to a racially and ethnically diverse audience since it will explore how race and identity formation in Latinas/os is impacted and impacts race and identity in the United States across all racial and ethnic groups.

Sponsored by: La Casa Latina, Latino Dialogue Institute & Latino Coalition
Contact: Johnny Irizarry @ 215-746-6044, johnnyi@upenn.edu

Penn International Experiences Festival 2012

6:30pm
Weigle Commons, Van Pelt Library (3420 Walnut Street)

This annual fair will expose Penn students to the possibilities of international travel and service. Interactive presentations by students who have studied, volunteered, interned, worked, and are from abroad will be featured.

Sponsored by: Penn Abroad, the Cultural Resource Centers, Van Pelt, Weigle Information Commons, Career Services, Center for East Asian Studies, and the College of Arts & Sciences
Contact: Jonathan Hakim @ jhakim@upenn.edu
Thursday, January 19

Brothers Keep Dreaming...and Fighting: Intergenerational Reflections on the Man King and the Civil Rights Legacy
12:00noon – 2:00pm
LIFE Center (4508 Chestnut Street)

This two part activity consists of a cohort of young men, including students at the University of Pennsylvania, visiting the LIFE Center (UPENN’s elder center) on the afternoon of Thurs, January 19th to engage in cooperative and “competitive” activities tournament between the elders and the youngsters (chess, pool, cards, etc.) and to discuss the evolving role and voice of Black Manhood in the 21st Century and the Civil Rights Era - what it meant as a Black man to live through it and what it means to young men to “benefit” from it. The second part of this interaction will occur on February 2nd from 12 - 2 pm (See below).

Sponsored by: LIFE UPENN, Brotherhood@UPENN
Contact: Brother Robb Carter @ 215-898-0105

Women of Color at Penn Tea
2:00pm – 3:30pm
The LGBT Center, Gathering Room (3907 Spruce Street)

Join the Women of Color at Penn for a gathering acknowledging WOC Award recipients and participants. These extraordinary community members at Penn have helped shaped Penn’s future as it regards access, educational, and vocational opportunities. Convener: Dr. Valarie Swain-Cade McCoullum.

Sponsored by: VPUL
Contact: Eva Davis @ 215-898-6081

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Interfaith Program and Awards Commemoration
6:00pm
Bodek Lounge, Houston Hall (3417 Spruce Street)

Includes poetry and musical performances from the Penn community, guest speaker, Eboo Patel (Founder and President of Interfaith Youth Core), and the presentation of the MLK community awards. A reception will follow.

Sponsored by: The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Symposium Executive Planning Committee, Office of the Chaplain, and Office of the President
Contact: Mary LeCates @ 215-898-8456/mora@pobox.upenn.edu
Friday, January 20

Performance Art for Social Change: PLP TheUnity

7:00pm
The Rotunda (4014 Walnut Street)

This event will feature PLP TheUnity Performance Art Ensemble lead by Brother Robb Carter, Associate Director of the African-American Resource Center; Kitsi Watterson, professor within Penn’s English department; and Dominic Cartwright. PLP TheUnity honors the human spirit with improvisational, meditative, soulful, spiritual, political, and jazzy musical magic utilizing African rhythms, drums, percussion, wind, and native instruments, spoken word, and storytelling. It will also feature Fatimah Muhammad, Associate Director of the Greenfield Intercultural Center, performing excerpts of “wRestling: a blues geneology, a root system lullaby.” Through an eclectic blend of music, poetry, and storytelling, Fatimah shares stories of her family roots as slaves and sharecroppers in Alabama.

Sponsored by: The African-American Resource Center, Greenfield Intercultural Center, and Office of Government and Community Affairs
Contact: Robb Carter @ 215-898-0105

Monday, January 23

Practice Power for Peace - A Community Power Yoga Session

12noon – 1:00pm
Claudia Cohen Hall, The Terrace Room (249 South 36th Street)

Practice Power for Peace - A Community Power Yoga Session; Come and bring your lunch time hunger to a yoga practice designed to bring you and the community into a state of peace and serenity for the rest of your day. Mats will not be provided, please bring your yoga mat.

Sponsored by: Lt. John Wylie, Power Yoga Instructor RYT, Umoja
Contact: Daina Troy @ Makuu@dolphin.upenn.edu

Documentary Screening & Discussion: P-Star Rising

6:00pm – 8:00pm
Greenfield Intercultural Center (3708 Chestnut Street)

P-Star Rising (2009) is a moving documentary that follows a former rapper and single father from Harlem who is doing everything he can to make his 9 year old daughter Priscilla a rap star. Over a four year period, we see Priscilla and her family’s accomplishments and setbacks in the music industry and their personal lives. Priscilla is an extremely talented prodigy and a precocious young woman wise beyond her years. Join us for a screening of this superb documentary followed by a discussion.

Sponsored by: The Greenfield Intercultural Center
Contact: GIC @ 215-898-3357
Tuesday, January 24

Navigating a Life/Career After a Ph.D.

12:00noon – 1:30pm
Biomedical Research Building II/III, 14th floor (421 Curie Blvd)

A diverse panel highlighting professional options post-Ph.D. Panel scientists from different backgrounds will be featured in a discussion centered around sharing their stories of progression from a traditional post-doc to a professional position. This program will also highlight funding opportunities and programs for underrepresented minorities.

Sponsored by: The Biomedical Postdoctoral Council Diversity Committee
Contact: LaShauna M. Connell @ 215-573-4332/lashauna@mail.med.upenn.edu

CEASEFIRE: Ending the Wars in Somalia and the Sudan

5:00pm – 7:00pm
The Multipurpose Room, W.E.B. Du Bois College House (3900 Walnut Street)

Join the African Studies Center for a faculty and student roundtable on the continuing wars. “...one other challenge that we face is simply that we must find an alternative to war and bloodshed. Anyone who feels, and there are still a lot of people who feel that way, that war can solve the social problems facing mankind is sleeping through a great revolution...”--Martin Luther King, Jr., Remaining Awake Through A Great Revolution. www.africa.upenn.edu

Sponsored by: Penn African Studies Center (PASA)
Contact: Ali Dinar @ 215-898-6610/aadinar@sas.upenn.edu

What Colleges and Universities Can Do to Impact College Access and Career Readiness

5:00pm – 7:30pm
ARCH Building, Fireside Room – 2nd Floor (3601 Locust Walk)

Panel discussion critically examining the role and responsibility of colleges and universities responsibility in impacting college/university access for the surrounding community. Panel members will include both university and community members.

Sponsored by: The Netter Center & the School of Social Policy and Practice
Contact: Isabel Mapp, Ashley Mapp, and Jennifer J. Jones@ 215-898-2020
Wednesday, January 25

The School of Nursing Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Lecture
3:00pm – 4:00pm; Reception 4:00pm – 5:00pm
Claire M. Fagin Hall, School of Nursing, Room 218/Mezzanine (418 Curie Blvd)

“The Health of Our Nation: The Unfulfilled Dream” – Speaker: Dorothy L. Powell EdD, RN, FAAN

*Sponsored by: The School of Nursing*
Contact: Nancy C. Tkacs @215-573-3045/tkacs@nursing.upenn.edu

Occupy and the Civil Rights Movement
5:30pm – 7:30pm
Christian Association House – The Great Room (118 South 37th St.)

The role of the Occupy Movement often times appears unclear in the media. Join us for an open discussion where people who have been involved with Occupy Philly and Occupy Penn help demystify the ideals of the movement. We also plan to draw comparisons between this time in history and the Civil Rights era, which we hope will encourage a broader understanding of the Occupy Movement. Dinner will be served.

*Sponsored by: The Christian Association*
Contact: RSVP Danielle Heitmann @ 215-746-6350/ heitmann@pobox.upenn.edu

Cold World Music Video-Screening and Discussion
6:00pm
ARCH Building, Fireside Room – 2nd Floor (3601 Locust Walk)

This music video explores the struggles of the homeless population in Philadelphia. The song “Cold World” by Mai Spann is 1 of 12 free tracks on his album/mixtape “Freedom Papers”. Screening to be followed by a discussion on the dynamics of impoverished existence shown in the video. www.maispann.bandcamp.com.

*Sponsored by: Mai Spann*
Contact: Mai Spann-Wilson @ 301-605-5027/maimusic5@gmail.com
Thursday, January 26

The Rich Loves The Poor: To Exploit - Film Screening & Discussion

12:00pm – 2:00pm
ARCH Building, Fireside Room – 2nd Floor (3601 Locust Walk)

Join Men of Color at Penn to view and discuss the documentary film “The End of Poverty.” As a group we will explore societal systems designed to disenfranchise African-Americans, people of color, and the poor. Participants are encouraged to come with concrete examples of economic exploitation.

Sponsored by: Men of Color at Penn - African-American Resource Center
Contact: Robb Carter @ 215-898-0105

Poverty and Homelessness in Regard to Veterans in the Penn Community

4:00pm – 5:30pm
Penn Bookstore, 2nd floor Café (3601 Walnut Street)

A panel discussion on U.S. Veterans facing homelessness and poverty in our community.
Moderator: Dennis Culhane, School of Social Policy and Practice

Sponsored by: The Office of Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Programs and VPUL: TRIO Veterans Upward Bound.
Contact: Office of Affirmative Action @ 215-898-6993

Friday, January 27

Honoring Our Ancestral Mothers: A Discussion around Reproductive Choices and Cultural Considerations

12noon – 2:00pm
Penn Women’s Center (3643 Locust Walk)

Join us for a discussion about the ways in which our cultural backgrounds influence reproductive choices and the impact that these decisions have for families and communities. In this session, we will explore a variety of topics, including the role of our ancestral mothers in guiding birthing options, the influence of family in reproductive choices, and the ways in which social justice practitioners can better support communities by honoring cultural differences. Speakers will include women’s health practitioners and students who recently conducted research in Guatemala around traditional birth attendants and the reproductive choices that women make in that community.

Sponsored by: Penn Women’s Center
Contact: Shaina Adams-El Guabli @ 215-898-8611/ashaina@upenn.edu
Jazz for King
6:00pm – 8:00pm
Annenberg Public Policy Center, 1st floor, Agora Room (202 S. 36th Street)

Join us for our annual jazz and poetry reading. Enjoy the sweet sounds of Reference Point featuring Penn’s own Glenn Bryan, poetry reading by MOUTH, and hosted 97.5’s Mt. Airy Phil. Delectable refreshments will be served.

Sponsored by: The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Symposium Executive Planning Committee & the African-American Resource Center
Contact: Robb Carter @ 215-898-0105

Monday, January 30

Documentary Screening: El Sol Sale Para Todo
6:00pm – 8:00pm
Claudia Cohen Hall, Auditorium/G17 (249 South 36th Street)

Learn about the growth of the Mexidelphian community. How the community formed, challenges faced, small victories along the way, and the need for immigration reform. There will also be a presentation from Blue Corn Allianza, a group doing transnational organizing work with a town in Mexico to promote organic blue corn products from their hometown.

Sponsored by: Hispanic/Latino Alliance for Change and Equity - The School of Policy and Practice
Contact: Miguel Huerta @ huerta0m@gmail.com

Tuesday, January 31

Ascension Dialogue
5:30pm – 7:30pm
ARCH Building, Fireside Room – 2nd Floor (3601 Locust Walk)

Annual presentation that turns an analytical lens on the civil rights legacy of Dr. King and how it has been (mis)appropriated in contemporary society, often in ways unintended by King and other civil rights activists.

Sponsored by: African-American Resource Center
Contact: Robb Carter @ 215-898-0105
Wednesday, February 1

“Black Educational Choice: Assessing the Private and Public Alternatives to Traditional K–12 Public Schools”  
Book Discussion  
12:00noon – 2:00pm  
Penn Bookstore, 2nd Floor (3601 Walnut Street)  
Editors Diana Slaughter-Defoe, Howard Stevenson, Edith Arrington, and Deborah Johnson will discuss the achievement gap and strategies to improve school choice in the black community.  

Sponsored by: Graduate School of Education  
Contact: Robb Carter @ 215-898-0105

Chicano Rights Movement  
6:00pm – 8:00pm  
ARCH Building, Fireside Room – 2nd Floor (3601 Locust Walk)  
Explore and discuss the actions and leaders in the Chicano Rights Movement, El Movimiento, that paralleled the Black Civil Rights Movement. Join us in an open discussion of the push for Mexican-American voter registration, rights to a bilingual education, and the actors involved in these historic events.  

Sponsored by: Hispanic/Latino Alliance for Change and Equity - The School of Policy and Practice  
Contact: Miguel Huerta @ huerta0m@gmail.com

Thursday, February 2

Brothers Keep Dreaming…and Fighting: Intergenerational Reflections on the Man King and the Civil Rights Legacy  
12:00noon – 2:00pm  
LIFE Center (4508 Chestnut Street)  
The elders will show and discuss snippets from their documentary about Civil Rights and King’s Legacy for Today’s Generation. Refreshments will be served.  

Sponsored by: UPenn’s LIFECenter, Brotherhood@UPENN  
Contact: Robb Carter @ 215-898-0105
Friday, February 3

**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Symposium Signature Program**

- *Culture and Consciousness: Arts and Social Justice*

5:30pm – 8:00pm
Huntsman Hall, Dhirubhai Ambani Auditorium (3700 Walnut Street)

This program, featuring information and performances will illuminate issues surrounding incarceration and social justice. 5:30pm – 6:30pm will be a panel discussion on the history and impact of arts in culture and social justice followed by performances from 6:30pm – 8:00pm.

*Sponsored by: The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Symposium Executive Planning Committee, African-American Resource Center, Makuu Black Cultural Center*

*Contact: Robb Carter @ 215-898-0105*

Check the website @ http://www.upenn.edu/aarc for updated programming.
In honor of the late Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s recognition that community service is essential to the struggle for equality, the University of Pennsylvania’s Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Symposium on Social Change Executive Committee presents these awards which honor members of the Philadelphia community whose active service to others best exemplifies the ideals Dr. King espoused.

This year’s community involvement awards are given to the following:

**Community**

**Malik Aziz**

As an ex-offender turned community activist, Malik Aziz has worked tirelessly as a role model for formerly incarcerated people. As founder and Chairman of the National Exodus Council Malik has worked to identify alternatives to incarceration and recidivism within a system that has rendered people and their families into an under caste of society that has no regards for rights or justice. He has marched against violence, drugs, racial hatred, and children/senior citizen abuse on streets throughout America as a volunteer and master level 4 gang expert. Malik is also a certified Conflict Resolution and Peer Mediation Trainer and a member of the National Gang Research Center. For his years of dedicated work he has received immense gratitude from former offenders who have successfully reintegrated into society with Aziz’s assistance.

**Monica Allison**

Peacemaker, advocate for the voiceless, logical, achiever, socially conscious, tolerant, tactful, unselfish, and adept are a few adjectives that describe Monica Allison. These are the qualities that have made it possible for Monica to change spaces, places, and lives in the West Philadelphia area. Currently she serves as President of Cedar Park Neighbors (CPN), a community association which serves the West Philadelphia neighborhood of Cedar Park. While a member of CPN’s Park Improvement Committee, Cedar Park was transformed into a warm and welcoming space that currently is home to the annual Cedar Park Jazz Series. Monica has been pivotal in making this annual event the much anticipated event it is known for today. She has demonstrated
extraordinary commitment to youth, anti-violence and addressing the needs of those returning to the community from the penal system. As a mother of a high school student and a college student herself, Monica takes great interest in the education of our youth. She runs her own tutoring and mentoring program for middle and high school students who are participating in cyber charter schools and is constantly involved in the ongoing work around the West Philadelphia High School.

Student

**Jorell Brooks**

As a senior at the University of Pennsylvania, Jorell has been a consistent and reliable mentor in the Ase Saturday Academy since his freshman year. By being an attentive listener and validating the everyday experiences of Ase’s students he has come to a point where he truly understands his students and their walk in life. As a mentor he has taught math, reading, political science, and media studies to the youth. He most recently immersed himself in the arts education component, showing students how they can find their voice, develop as leaders, and become critical thinkers, readers and scholars through dramatic arts. Jorell’s commitment to young people is not about a professional pursuit or to pad his resume, but to engage students and change lives directly and he has invested his time and energies into his work with the Ase Saturday Academy.

**Brooke Hinton**

As an undergraduate and a leader of the largest service organization on Penn’s campus, (Community School Student Partnerships—CSSP), Brooke has demonstrated incredible management and critical thinking skills and has demonstrated a unique ability to work through the various challenges that staff members face when working with children. Brooke emerged as a leader in 2008 with her work as a mentor/tutor leader at Lea Elementary School’s “after school program” where she volunteered for 10 hours each week. As a result of her outstanding level of commitment and skill, Brooke was selected as the Lea site coordinator for CSSP for the fall of 2009. In 2010 she was elected as CSSP’s student director with direct oversight for the development of student organizations and the supervision of eight site coordinators and eight executive board members. To improve student behavior and classroom management across programs, she designed trainings for tutors to provide them with the proper tools to address students’ needs. Also to lower barriers to undergraduate participation in West Philadelphia, Brooke has worked across multiple layers of university administration to improve transportation, the administration of community service work-study, and several other practical solutions to problems. Her leadership, integrity, intelligence, and passion for issues around poverty, race, and education are awe inspiring. These qualities and her work within the West Philadelphia community have inspired the enthusiastic participation of parents, community members, local youth, and Penn students and faculty.
Staff

Eric K. Grimes (Brother Shomari)
When it comes to issues of social justice and improving the lives, conditions, and consciousness of Black people, in particular Black youth, you will find Eric Grimes at the forefront. With a MS in Management and Urban Policy and a BA in Economics, he could easily have a job on Wall Street but he rejected this life for the passionate preference he has for involving himself in grass root projects. Brother Shomari believes, however, that for the good of our people, we have to work where we live and give back to those who supported our development. Born and raised in West Philadelphia, Brother Shomari is one who walks the talk. His company, Action Advocacy Knowledge and Training (AAKT) Concepts, offers an array of services and supports to enhance program conception, design, implementation, and evaluation which enable agencies to provide high quality programs that respect and empower others.

Rodin Education Award

Mary Claire Lomax
Mary Claire Lomax, C’84, is a Penn Trustee and member of the School of Social Policy and Practice (SP2) dedicated Board of Overseers. Ms. Lomax, in collaboration with the Lomax Family Foundation, has demonstrated significant contributions in community service and/or working for social justice efforts through the advancement of education and educational opportunities in Philadelphia via SP2’s Pipeline for Promise program (P4P). In 2007, Claire along with her family foundation provided three years of seed funding to launch the pilot program but a long-term investment was needed to continue the positive momentum of the program. Ms. Lomax provided additional support from the Foundation, matched by her own personal funding to provide one full scholarship for a Pipeline for Promise Student of merit to attend Penn’s School of Social Policy & Practice free of charge. Ms. Lomax is a dedicated member of the Penn community, serving in multiple lead volunteer roles. Earlier this year Ms. Lomax was elected as the Board Chairperson to the African American Museum in Philadelphia. Lomax became the first female chair in the museum’s 35-year history.
Previous Award Recipients

1996
Bonnie Ragsdale
Bridgette Rouson
Frances Walker
Elsie Wise
Salome Thomas-El

1997
James Gist
Evelyn Peterson
Bilal A. Qayyum
Blane F. Stoddart

1998
Thomas Henry
Ivan Juzang
Margaret C. Quern
John Skief

1999
Jeremy Brochin
Julia Chinn
C. B. Kimmins

2000
Brenda Cooper-Cutts
K. Rose Samuel Evans
Ira Harkavy
John Wylie
Charles Howard

2001
Robert Alsbrooks
Yael Kringman
Kamau McRae
Esaul Sanchez
Kevin E. Vaughn

2002
Zemoria Brandon
Glenn Bryan
Heather Lochridge
Reginald Mosley

2003
Gregorio Pac Cojulun
Steven Larson, MD
Aviva Moster
Joseph E. Purnell

2004
Peter Bloom
Marion Cooper
Ricardo Diaz
Kenneth Gamble
Winnie Smart-Mapp

2005
Lee Ann Draud
Dr. John Fantuzzo
Lindsey Powers
Lee Tolbert

2006
Vanessa Lowery Brown
Gloria Gay
William Gipson
Jonathan Ludmir
Gregory Lyles

2007
Dorothy Johnson-Speight
Isabel Mapp-Robinson
Sonia Sanchez
Jon Kole

2008
Rev. James S Allen
Chad Lassiter
Crystal Lucas
Lois Pharr

2009
Mark Harrell
Alfonso Rainey
Pamela Robinson
Nse Umoh

2010
Sam Adelsberg
Tara Hayden
G. Anthony Moore
Philadelphia
Collaborative Violence
Prevention Center

2011
Andrea Blount
Lois Fernandez
Nichole Nelson
Seth Williams

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Recognition Award
James Gray

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Education Award in Honor of Dr. Judith Rodin
2005 Cora Ingrum
2006 Walter Palmer
2007 Harold Haskins
2008 Brian Peterson
2009 Howard Stevenson
2010 Cory Bowman
2011 Sherilynn Kimble
and Dr. Andrew Binns
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Commemorative Symposium
Executive Planning Committee

Executive Co-Chairs
Robert Carter, Associate Director
Colleen Winn, Staff Assistant
African-American Resource Center

Signature Program Committee
Chair
Eric Grimes, Consultant to the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Executive Planning Committee & Co-Founder AAKT Concepts LLC

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Glenn Bryan, Assistant Vice President, Office of Government & Community Relations

Mary O’Rourke LeCates, Administrative Coordinator, Office of the Chaplain

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Daina Richie-Troy, Associate Director, Makuu
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Pamela Robinson, Associate Director, College Houses and Academic Services

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Valerie Allen, Director, African-American Resource Center
Shari Norton, Chair, Black Graduate and Professional Students Assembly
Katrina Clark, Associate Director, Wharton School Executive Education
Robert Gurnee, Director Christian Association
Charles Lawrence Moses, Program Coordinator Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life
Madeline Munitz, African-American Resource Center, MSW Intern
LaShauna Myers Connell, Recruitment and Diversity Coordinator, School of Medicine

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Matthew Waller, Director of External Affairs, Vice Provost for University Life

Stephen McCann, Office Coordinator, University Life
A. Clayton Roberson, AARC Undergraduate Intern
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