



MLK Service Week Events | January 18th-23rd 2021

All MLK events are free and some are open to the public

Monday, January 18, 2021

Virtual Storytime for Elementary Students (WPS Event)

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Celebrate the service and impact of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s life by joining us for a virtual storytime! This event features books written by African-American authors and read by John Handley High School students. The virtual book reading will help students understand the history of Dr. King's work, African American contributions to society and the importance of service to a healthy community. **This event is for Elementary Students Only. This event will be recorded for later viewing.**

[Join on Google Meet](#)

Balancing Survival & Freedom: The Experiences of Winchester's African Americans during the Civil War Era (Shenandoah University Event)

1:00 pm - 2:15 pm

Winchester Walking Tour

About this Event

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. frequently reflected on the past and specifically the Emancipation Proclamation. Join Jonathan Noyalas, director of Shenandoah University's McCormick Civil War Institute, for a specially designed walking tour which will focus on the experiences of African Americans in the era of emancipation in Winchester. The tour, making use of various sites in Winchester's historic district, will highlight the roles Winchester's African Americans, both enslaved and free blacks, played in making emancipation a reality and how those efforts inspired hope, not only in the 1860s, but a century later. Tour will gather in front of Shenandoah University's Feltner building on the downtown walking mall. **Contact Jonathan Noyalas at jnoyalas01@su.edu for more information.**

Registration required. Limited to 20 people.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Service of Remembrance (Shenandoah University Event)

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Virtual Event

About this Event

The Service of Remembrance is the heart of Shenandoah's Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day commemoration. As the longest-standing MLK Day event at the university, (held virtually this year due to the pandemic) it provides the entire Shenandoah community with the opportunity to join together and contemplate the life and work of Dr. King, whose nonviolent quest for civil rights, justice and equity was rooted in his Christian faith. Shenandoah's Service of Remembrance is ecumenical, featuring readings and prayers from a number of faith traditions, as well as music and the sharing of King's work, such as "Letters from a Birmingham Jail." This year's service will feature musical performances of "Strum" by Jonathan Toomer, Signe Mortensen, Jaylon Hayes-Keller, and John Keane and "Elegy for a King" by Jan Marie Leman. Shenandoah alumnus Carl Rush, MSED., MBA, was one of those Dr. King inspired. As part of the service, Rush, who serves as the equity coordinator for the City of Winchester Public Schools in Winchester, Virginia, will present "Uniting Under the Umbrella of Equity." Rush is dedicated to holistically binding organizational pursuits of excellence with diversity and inclusion efforts. Rush, who earned both of his graduate degrees from Shenandoah, is a member of both the university's alumni board and Black Alumni Network. **Contact DeLyn Celec at dcelec@su.edu for more information.**

[Join this virtual event on Zoom.](#) This event is free and open to the public.

The People's Holiday (National Museum of African American History & Culture Event)

4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Virtual Event

[About this Event](#)

"NMAAHC's annual community program entitled A People's Holiday features six-time Grammy award-winning bassist, composer, and educator Christian McBride in a digital performance inspired by his social justice-focused album entitled, The Movement Revisited: A Musical Portrait of Four Icons. The 45-minute concert of jazz and poetry will feature performances of students from The Julliard School and a poetry reading by award winning poet, Evie Shockley(link is external). Civil Rights activist, poet, and scholar Sonia Sanchez will bring greetings to honor the day. The concert will conclude with a conversation with Christian McBride moderated by Dwandalyn Reece, Associate Director of Curatorial Affairs. This concert honors Dr. Kings' commitment to racial quality, justice, and service. "

The People's Holiday has been generously supported by The William R. Kenan, Jr. Charitable Trust.

[Register Here.](#) This event is free and open to the public.

Wednesday, January 20, 2021

Artful Observations (National Museum of African American History & Culture Event)

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Virtual Event

[About this Event](#)

“Artful Observations” hopes to encourage critical thinking, careful observation, and perspective taking through guided close looking exercises. No formal art or art history training is required to participate.

Each session will focus on one work of art from NMAAHC’s visual arts or photography collection. Guided by an NMAAHC educator, participants will spend an hour examining the work in detail. Participants in the program will have the opportunity to share their inferences and interpretations based on visual observations.

Brief contextual information, supported by collection objects, will be provided to round out participants’ broader understanding of the selected piece.

[Register Here.](#) This event is free and open to the public.

Friday, January 22, 2021

Essential Words: Cards of Gratitude to WPS Teachers and Staff (WPS Event)

Few expressions of gratitude are more meaningful than a personalized letter. This event will give students an opportunity to express their gratitude to their teachers and staff for their acts of service and kindness by giving thanks and encouragement. Each school will adopt another school to send cards of gratitude. Cards will be delivered to each school on Friday, January 22, 2021. School assignments are as follows:

CAO: All Schools

John Handley HS: Virginia Avenue-Charlotte DeHart Elementary School & WPS School Board

Daniel Morgan Middle School: John Kerr Elementary School & Rhodes Center

Daniel Morgan Intermediate School: Frederick Douglas Elementary School

Garland Quarles Elementary School: John Handley High School

John Kerr Elementary: Garland Quarles Elementary School

Virginia Avenue-Charlotte DeHart Elementary School: Daniel Morgan Intermediate School

Frederick Douglas Elementary School: Daniel Morgan Middle School

This event is for WPS students only.

Saturday, January 23, 2021

“I Have a Dream” Virtual Race for Peace: 1 Mile, 5K, Or Do What You Can! (WPS Event)

Virtual Event

About Event

“I Have a Dream” Virtual Race for Peace can be completed anytime during MLK Service Week (January 18-23), even better if it's Saturday, January 23rd! This 2021 virtual race can be completed anytime from anywhere and at your own pace. Whether it is in your neighborhood, on a treadmill, or the newly opened [Trails at the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley](#), join us for our Virtual Race for Peace.

Post pictures on our WPS Equity and Community Engagement social media platforms with **# MLK5KWPS**.
Twitter: [@InclusiveWPS](#) or on [Facebook](#)

This event is free and open to the public.

