

## **Martin Luther King Day, January 18, 2021**

To celebrate MLK Day during a particularly unique and challenging time for our nation: The events that have taken place last year and into 2021 have served as a difficult reminder that divisions within our society across racial and ethnic lines are deep and persistent. It is vital that we all play a part in building a more open, inclusive dialogue in our swimming communities and beyond. The Eastern Zone and CSI's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committees encourage everyone to look into the resources provided below and consider how we can use this day, and every day, to continue building on the work and legacy of Dr. King.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was one of the most prominent civil rights activists of our time. One might wonder, "What would Dr. King say about 2020?" The past year has tested each and every one of us in ways that we likely never anticipated. Dr. King was a strong proponent of service and said, "Everyone can be great because everybody can serve." The challenges encountered in 2020 justify a celebration of 2021, but also are reason to make Monday, January 18th a "day on" and not just a day off. Below are a few suggestions to recognize Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Enjoy the holiday!

### **[The King Center's Virtual Holiday Observance and Community Global Summit](#)**

Each year, The King Center in Atlanta leads the nationwide observance of the national holiday commemorating the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The theme and call to action for the 2021 Observance is the "The Urgency of Creating the Beloved Community!"

### **[Sweet, Honey In the Rock virtual concert](#)**

BamsFest.org brings you three-time Grammy-Award nominated African American a cappella ensemble, Sweet, Honey in the Rock on January 17th for a celebration of hope and resilience.

Local Events:

**The MLK Heritage Organization of Greater Branford**, will host the 36th annual Branford MLK Day Breakfast on Monday, Jan. 18, at 8 a.m., featuring a Zoon conversation with anti-racism educator Jane Elliott, creator of the Blue Eyes/Brown Eyes Exercise, tickets are \$15. For details, [visitfacebook.com/MLKBreakfastCommittee](https://www.facebook.com/MLKBreakfastCommittee).

### **Log into Facebook**

Log into Facebook to start sharing and connecting with your friends, family, and people you know.

**The Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art** presents its Martin Luther King Jr. Community Day: Messages of Hope at 600 Main Street, Hartford on Jan. 18. People can pick up a free art pack with supplies to design a mixed-media collage from home, noon to 5 p.m. A museum highlights tour is at 11 and a family tour at 11:15 a.m. Reserve your timed ticket at [my.thewadsworth.org](https://www.my.thewadsworth.org). Tour capacity is limited and pre-registration required. Virtual activities include a reading by children's book author Abdul-Razak Zachariah, a dance performance and a poetry discussion.

**The Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History** is offering a digital festival experience with a free series that runs Jan. 14-18. Programs will focus on the future of social and environmental justice with opportunities to engage in critical dialogue, storytelling, music, dance, and spoken word performances. Details at [peabody.yale.edu](http://peabody.yale.edu).

**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Legacy of Environmental and Social Justice**

The New Haven Museum offers storytelling and special dance performances as part of the Yale Peabody Museum's 25th annual "Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Legacy of Environmental and Social Justice," via Zoom, Jan. 18 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The program will feature storyteller Clifton Graves, Joy Donaldson and Waltrina Kirkland-Mullins. Dr. Robbie Thomas will read her children's book, "Mommy, Why Am I Different?" During "Recollection Connections," The Artsucation Academy Network will present an international celebration of the past, present, and future legacies of our social-justice warriors, featuring New Haven's Neighborhood Music School's Premiere Dance Company and Keepers of the Culture Performing Arts Company and the M'Bosse Dance Company of Senegal. Admission is free, register at [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com).

**MLK Day Celebration at the New Haven Museum**

Join the New Haven Museum in celebrating the legacy of Dr Martin Luther King Jr on Monday January 18th 2021 from...

**Ambler Farm in Wilton** will host a Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Giving on Jan. 18, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., in the White Carriage Barn, 257 Hurlbutt Street, where all are encouraged to drop off paper goods, cleaning supplies, personal care items, non-perishable food items, and gift cards for its annual food drive benefiting Wilton Social Services.

**The Stamford Museum & Nature Center**, 39 Scofieldtown Road, hosts MLK Science Workshops for children Jan. 16-18, 11 a.m. to noon, 1 to 2, or 2:30-3:30 p.m. Programs are in the Farmhouse classroom to allow for distancing and limited to 10 kids per session. Masks required. Members: \$12/class/child, Non-members: \$15/class/child. [info@stamfordmuseum.org](mailto:info@stamfordmuseum.org).