



A CALL TO ACTION, INCLUSION, & EMPOWERMENT

DR. KING COMMEMORATION
NOV. 6-8TH, 2021

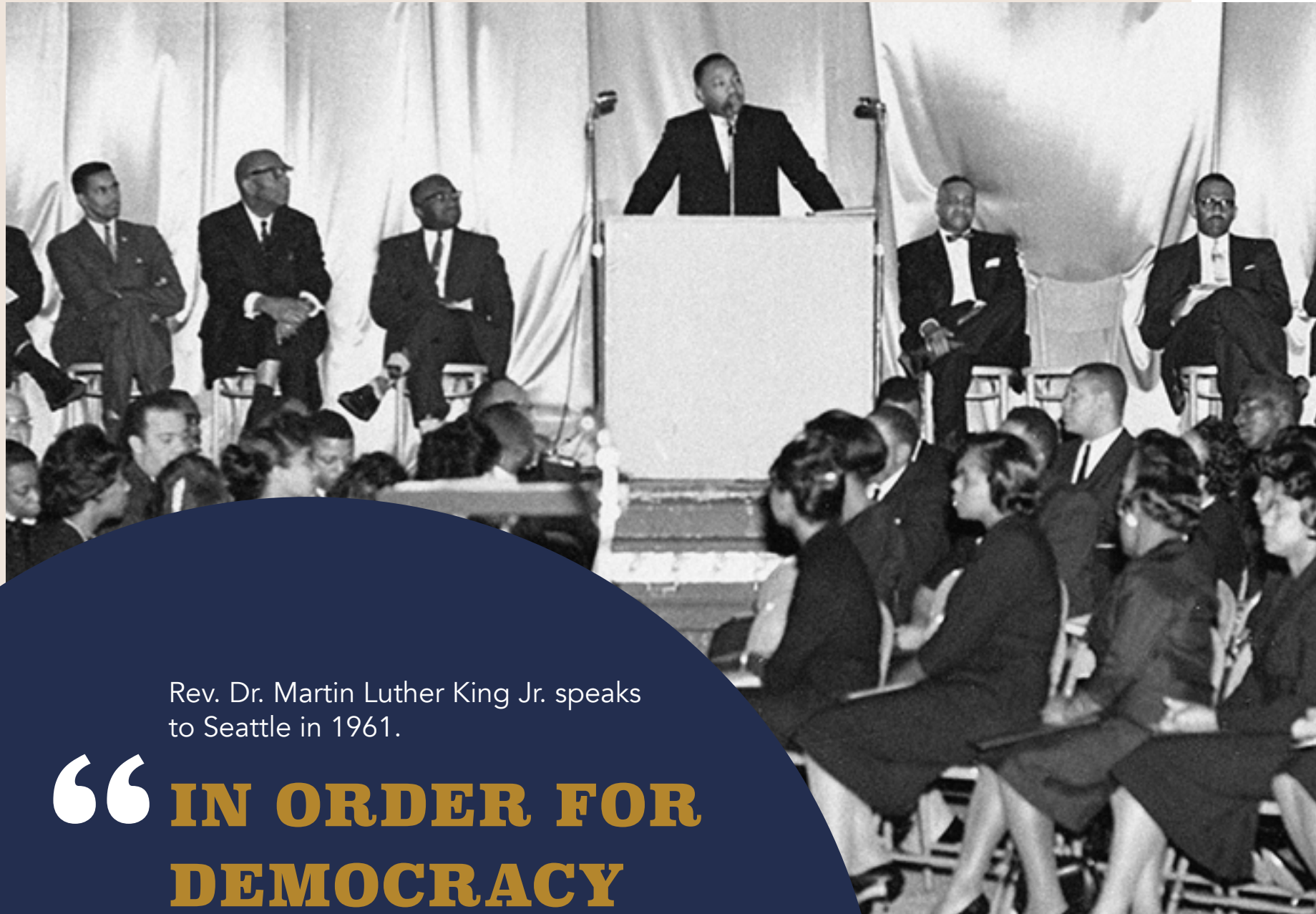
The 60TH Anniversary of the
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s
1961 Visit to Seattle



KEYNOTE

MARTIN
LUTHER
KING, III





Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. speaks to Seattle in 1961.

“IN ORDER FOR DEMOCRACY TO LIVE, SEGREGATION MUST DIE,”

King tells the crowd.
Washington State Archives



DR. KING'S 1961 VISIT TO SEATTLE

On November 8, 1961, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (1929–1968), the great civil rights leader, came to Seattle for his only visit. He was invited by the Rev. Dr. Samuel B. McKinney, then a young pastor at Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Seattle's Central District, who had been a classmate of Dr. King's at Morehouse College and an Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity brother.

While in Seattle, Dr. King spoke at numerous sites, including Garfield High School, Temple de Hirsch Sinai, Eagles Auditorium (now ACT Theater), University of Washington, and attended a reception in his honor at Plymouth Church. He lodged at Seattle's Fairmont Olympic Hotel and he dined in the Central District's Home of Good Barbeque restaurant.

This year marks the 60th anniversary of that visit. Dr. King's social impact reverberated across the area. Today, our community faces another crucial moment in civil rights. The events of the last year are an evocative demonstration of the continued need for healing and unity. This commemoration of Dr. King's visit is an important opportunity to both honor his legacy and foster the action, inclusion, and empowerment he stood for that will drive our community forward in harmony.

OVERVIEW OF EVENTS

The Northwest African American Museum (NAAM), in collaboration with a 40-person community planning committee, hosts MLK60, a three-day commemoration event in recognition of the 60th anniversary of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s historic visit to Seattle. As part of its MLK60 celebrations, NAAM announces the first cohort of eight inductees into its Elders Circle. The Elders Circle consists of exceptional Black community leaders over the age of 75 who have led and won victories in the struggle for civil rights, social equity, and opportunity in Seattle's Central District and the greater Pacific Northwest.

The MLK60 commemoration programming includes:

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6th

10 AM - 12 PM | Garfield High School Commons | Opening Ceremony & Hygiene for Humanity Supply Drive

The opening ceremony was held at the Garfield High School Commons, one of the sites at which Dr. King visited and spoke exactly 60 years ago. The ceremony included a Hygiene for Humanity Supply Drive, a children's book giveaway, and Smile Patrol photo booth. In the spirit of public health and uplifting our community, NAAM partnered with King County Public Health to provide \$50 gift cards for those who received a COVID vaccine and boosters at the event.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7th

2 PM - 3 PM | Parking Lot Across from Mt. Zion Baptist Church | Community Prayer Vigil

In homage to Dr. King's legacy of spiritual leadership, on day 2 of the commemoration, we honored the 60th anniversary of his visit to Seattle with a community prayer vigil featuring local clergy. An auditory history from longtime community members immersed audiences in the historic Seattle sites Dr. King visited in 1961, such as R&L Home of Good Barbecue, Plymouth Church, and Temple de Hirsch Sinai. The event also featured beautiful performances from NAAM's African American Cultural Ensemble (ACE)—the first African American choir organized and permanently hosted by an African American museum.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8th

6 PM - 8 PM | UW HUB Lyceum | Keynote Program

NAAM is deeply honored to host Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s eldest son, Martin Luther King, III, during the final commemorative event of the 60th Anniversary of Dr. King's historic visit to Seattle at the University of Washington, the same campus at which Dr. King spoke 60 years ago. Mr. King's keynote conversation will be moderated by Eddie Rye Jr., a Seattle-area journalist and leading voice in honoring Dr. King for the last 40 years in King County. Emceed by KIRO 7 journalist Deborah Horne, this event will also feature musical performances of Dr. King's favorite songs, the Elders Circle video tribute, and remarks from regional community leaders.

KEYNOTE PROGRAM NOVEMBER 8, 2021

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Live Piano Musical Prelude | Kent Stevenson |
| Welcome & Occasion | Deborah Horne, KIRO 7 |
| Opening Remarks | LaNesha DeBardelaben, Northwest African American Museum President & CEO |
| Greetings | Dr. Ana Mari Cauce, University of Washington President |
| Greetings | Senator Maria Cantwell, U.S. Senator |
| Greetings | Dow Constantine, King County Executive |
| Greetings | Leanne Kunze, Washington Federation of State Employees Executive Director |
| Musical Performance | Josephine Howell, Vocalist |
| Elders Circle Video | On Screen |
| Boeing Greetings and Introduction to Martin Luther King, III | Howard McKenzie, Vice President and Chief Engineer, Boeing Global Services |
| Keynote Remarks | Martin Luther King, III, Global Humanitarian |
| Moderated Conversation with Mr. King | Eddie Rye, Jr., Community Leader |
| Musical Performance | Josephine Howell, Vocalist |
| Introduction to Mayor Jenny Durkan and Lenny Wilkens | Deborah Horne, KIRO 7 |
| Greetings | Mayor Jenny Durkan, City of Seattle |
| Closing Remarks | Lenny Wilkens, MLK60 Honorary Chair |
| Acknowledgements | Deborah Horne, KIRO 7 |

MARTIN LUTHER KING, III

Civil Rights Activist and Global Humanitarian

As the oldest son of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Mrs. Coretta Scott King, Martin Luther King III serves as an ambassador of his parent's legacy of nonviolent social change.

A graduate of his father's alma mater, Morehouse College, Mr. King has devoted his life to working in the non-profit sector to promote civil rights and global human rights and to eradicate the "triple evils" of racism, militarism and poverty his father identified as the scourges of humankind. As a high school student, he served as a Page to Senator Edward Kennedy, and continued his public service, supporting social change movements through speaking engagements, appearances and his writing. He was later elected as a member of the Fulton County, GA Board of commissioners, representing over 700,000 residents.

As the elected president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), the organization co-founded by his father, Mr. King re-invigorated SCLC by stabilizing the governance, program and development components. As founder and president of Realizing the Dream, Inc., he took his father's message to a global audience, spearheading nonviolence training in Bosnia Herzegovina, India, Israel & Palestine, Kenya, Sri Lanka and the United States.

A former President and CEO of the Atlanta-based King Center, Mr. King remains a member of its Board of Directors. In addition, he serves as a board member of: Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Drum Major Institute, a New York based Think-Tank and the Metropolitan West Management Asset Corporation.

Mr. King has also served as an election monitor and observer in South Africa, Nigeria and Kenya. In addition, Mr. King has conducted nearly 40 Poverty Study Tours in a groundbreaking initiative, which has sparked public debate and law enforcement advocacy on the issue of poverty.

In conjunction with Ambassador Andrew Young and other partners, Mr. King co-founded Bounce TV, the first independently owned and operated TV network featuring African Americans.

The recipient of numerous awards and honorary degrees, Mr. King is married to Arndrea Waters King and the father of a daughter, Yolanda Rene, named in honor of his late sister Yolanda Denise King.



LENNY WILKENS

MLK60 Honorary Chair

**"Show people how to succeed and they will push their own expectations to new heights."
- Lenny Wilkens**



A Hall of Fame player and coach, Mr. Wilkens currently ranks second in all-time wins as an NBA Coach and first in all-time games coached. Among his many accomplishments over his career, Mr. Wilkens coached the Seattle Supersonics to their only NBA title in 1979. Mr. Wilkens was also the only NBA legend listed among both the all-time top-50 NBA players and the top-10 NBA Coaches during the "NBA at 50" celebration.

As a Head Coach, Mr. Wilkens went on to lead five different NBA teams to the playoffs. Utilizing a team-oriented philosophy, Mr. Wilkens had the unique talent of crafting championship contending clubs out of competent but unspectacular units. In 1994, he was named the NBA Coach of the Year with the Atlanta Hawks. Additionally, Mr. Wilkens made his country proud as the Head Coach of USA Basketball's Gold Medal winning Dream Team II at the 1996 Summer Olympics, as well as playing a key role as an Assistant Coach on the fabled 1992 Gold Medal winning Dream Team I. Mr. Wilkens also served as the President of the NBA Coaches Association for a record 17 years. Under his leadership, the only Coaches union in professional sports made great strides for all NBA Head and Assistant Coaches.

He is the only person inducted to the Basketball Hall of Fame on three separate occasions as a player (1989), coach (1998) and as a member of the 1992 Dream Team (2010).

Beyond his many successes on the court, Mr. Wilkens has received Honorary Doctorate degrees from Providence College, St. Francis College, and Seattle University. He served as vice chairman of the Seattle SuperSonics ownership group in 2007.

With his commitment to community, Mr. Wilkens founded the Lenny Wilkens Foundation, which supports children's healthcare and education. The Wilkens family and foundation have raised well over \$8 million dollars supporting their mission, healthcare and education for all children. A street was recently named in his honor in Seattle.

Lenny and Marilyn Wilkens are proud of their family's involvement in the Lenny Wilkens Foundation and steadfast commitment to their community. With an active year-round schedule, any given day might find Lenny hosting a corporate team-building workshop, lending his presence to a charity fundraiser, advising NBA and Olympics colleagues, and focusing on his family. On rare occasions, he enjoys a round of golf.

DEBORAH HORNE, EMCEE

Deborah Horne has been a reporter at KIRO 7 since 1991 and the executive producer of KIRO 7 InColor. Horne created InColor, a public affairs show about the diversity of the Pacific Northwest, in 1994. The show, which she also hosts, has been honored with four Emmy awards and received national recognition. In 2005, she also created KIRO Backstage, an Emmy-nominated show about women in the Northwest. Deborah has served on the boards of Seattle Emergency Housing and the Seattle City Council's Domestic Violence Committee, where she hosted forums looking at the issue of domestic violence across every population group. She also served on the boards of Big Sisters of Rhode Island and the Urban League of Rhode Island. In addition, she has volunteered at a battered women's shelter.

Ms. Horne is a graduate of Hampton University in Virginia and The Ohio State University.



EDDIE RYE, JR., MODERATOR



Eddie Rye, Jr. has been called an activist and his impact in support of civil and human rights has been felt throughout the region. Mr. Rye has had a role in renaming streets, renaming King County, and changing the logo of the county to reflect the image of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Mr. Rye has served the community in a number of capacities; he was a director of the Central Area Motivation Program (CAMP), Chair of the Central Seattle Community Council Federation Housing Committee, which released one of the first reports on redlining in the Central Area, and a Co-Founder of the Pacific Northwest Chapter National Black Chamber of Commerce. But he is primarily known for his activism throughout King County and the Pacific Northwest.

Mr. Rye was one of the leaders in changing Empire Way, the street through what was then the predominately African American Central Area neighborhood of Seattle, into Martin Luther King, Jr. Way. As a co-founder of the annual MLK Celebration at Garfield High School, Mr. Rye worked with Councilmember Larry Gossett in gathering support for officially changing the name of King County to Martin Luther King, Jr. County. He also joined the call to remove the crown logo that was the county's logo and replace it with the image of America's foremost civil rights leader. Mr. Rye helped occupy the old Beacon Hill School, which is now El Centro de La Raza. At one time he occupied the Seattle City Council Chamber, all to advance the cause of increased inclusion of African Americans—and all communities of color—in the political process.



MLK60 SPONSORS

Thank you to our generous sponsors for honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

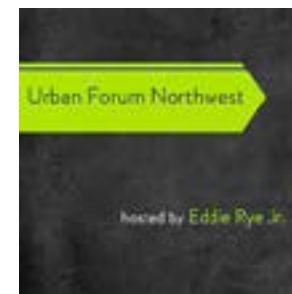


United Black Christian Clergy of Washington

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MEDIA PARTNERS



MLK60 COMMUNITY-WIDE PLANNING COMMITTEE

- Kevin Allen, State of Washington
- Rev. Dr. Phyllis Beaumonte, Mt. Zion Baptist Church
- Rev. Paul Benz, Faith Action Network
- Dr. Chelsia Berry, Seattle Central College
- Thomas Brown, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
- Cherika Carter, Puget Sound Chapter of Coalition of Black Trade Unionists
- Dr. Dwane Chappelle, City of Seattle
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- Simone Davis, Billups
- LaNesha DeBardelaben, Northwest African American Museum
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- Eddie Rye, Jr., MLK Jr. Planning Committee
- Rabbi Kate Speizer, Temple de Hirsch Sinai
- Dr. Ed Taylor, University of Washington
- Jason Turner, Northwest African American Museum
- Dr. Charlie Walker, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
- Rev. Lawrence R. Willis, United Black Christian Clergy of Washington



Northwest African American Museum

The Northwest African American Museum (NAAM) is on a mission to showcase Black history, arts & culture and to fuel equity, education & empowerment.

NAAM is a premier cultural institution in Seattle, Washington and one of the most significant voices for the Black experience in the Pacific Northwest. Our mission is to spread knowledge, understanding, and enjoyment of the histories, arts, and cultures of people of African descent for the enrichment of all. We offer accessible, impactful experiences that open minds and change lives.

NAAM produces exhibitions, public programs, and events that celebrate Black experiences by featuring visual arts, music, literature, and history of African Americans in the Northwest and the nation. NAAM is more than a museum. NAAM serves as a source of community, connection, understanding, and empowerment.

“**LIFE’S MOST PERSISTENT AND URGENT QUESTION IS, “WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR OTHERS?”**”

- Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

NAAM’s three guiding pillars are:

- 1.** Advancing justice & equity
- 2.** Cultivating educational empowerment
- 3.** Centering & celebrating Black history, arts, and culture

NAAM is committed to celebrating and uplifting Black voices 365 days of the year.

For more information about NAAM’s upcoming events, programs, and initiatives, or to join NAAM as a member, visit: www.naamnw.org