

Learn and Serve America 2008 MLK Day Activities

Martin Luther King Day of Service 2008

Learn and Serve America

Elson Nash, Associate Director, served with Benedict College students in South Carolina and, later in the day served with and keynoted an event with City Year Young Heroes in South Carolina.

Amy Cohen, Director, served at the Martin Luther King, Jr Memorial Library in the District of Columbia with Serve DC participants, Corporation staff and family members, the President and Mrs. Bush, and Mayor Fenty

We have information about the following Learn and Serve programs for Martin Luther King Day of Service

AZ

Arizona State Education Agency

In Phoenix, AZ, teachers, staff, students and community partners marched together in the MLK day parade and went to the celebration after. Learn and Serve America participants also contributed to a service project supported by the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism. Two Learn and Serve America-funded schools received additional funding through the Governor's MLK Day fund.

Mesa Community College, Mesa, AZ:

MCC students got together yesterday to celebrate MLK by viewing films about MLK, going to the food bank and putting together packages to help 350-400 families then they returned to campus to reflect on the issues of hunger, homelessness and civic responsibility. They made the connection between the messages MLK had for people as well as what they had observed at the food bank.

FL

Randall Middle School

The Randall SLC coordinated a clean-up of a section of the Alafia River near Tampa, FL. The council of 18 students will be preparing lessons about recycling and water quality for our science teachers. After the lessons are presented, the council will recruit students to volunteer on January 21 to help clean-up the river banks and recycle the trash recovered.

GA

Morehouse School of Medicine

Morehouse School of Medicine hosted an outreach event targeting local high school youth interested in careers in healthcare. Morehouse students presented information on their experiences in health-focused degree programs and answered questions about their career ambitions.

HI

University of Hawaii

Students from the University of Hawaii participated in a beach clean-up near the Keehi Lagoon. This clean-up is for the Disabled Veterans of America which is located near the Lagoon.

IL

Chicago Public School System

The MLK Day Celebration of Service will take place on Saturday, January 13, 2006. Over 600 CPS high school students and staff will spend the day volunteering at sites throughout the Chicago to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. All teachers must register themselves and their students by December 15. Students must be registered to participate. The event is co-sponsored by the Chicago Public Schools Service-Learning Initiative and Chicago Cares, Inc.

LA-

Delgado Community College

Delgado's Service Learning initiative along with Delgado Television students have decided to create a 30 minute video on non-violence. Students from every campus will be invited to submit a concept for a three to five minute video on the topic of non-violence. Students will fill out an application and description of what their video will be and those that are selected will be produced by the DTV students. Only eight

Learn and Serve America 2008 MLK Day Activities

concepts will be produced. The students chosen will have the opportunity to be on set to produce the video.

Xavier University

The Martin Luther King Week for Peace is presented by Xavier, Tulane, Loyola and Dillard Universities. The theme for 2008 is "Are You Engaged, where do you stand?"

In addition to the featured Tuesday lecture – at which Lifetime Achievement and Student Community Service awards will be presented – other MLK week activities include an interfaith service, a community service day, a candlelight march and an Expressions of Unity celebration. The service activities, which took place on Saturday, January 19th, included multiple projects including neighborhood cleanups, playground builds, and wildlife habitat restoration. Through the weather was cold and rainy, around 500 students participated in

MI

University of Michigan Dearborn

On the Birthday of Martin Luther King Jr. National Holiday, volunteers from UM-Dearborn and the surrounding community spent the day helping others in honor of the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Community Service Day, which commemorates the achievements of the late civil rights leader. The campus is collaborating on the event with United Way for Southeastern Michigan, Henry Ford Community College and Madonna University. Volunteers were disbursed throughout the metropolitan Detroit area to support local community agencies.

Hannahville Indian Community, Wilson, Michigan

In celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Make a Difference Day and the Civil Rights Movements, students at the Hannahville Indian School attempted to give fellow classmates the experience of what it was like to live under Jim Crow Laws.

Water fountains, entrances, lunch lines, restrooms, and who you could socialize with were limited by the color of clothing students were wearing. Examples included water fountains labeled "ONLY People wearing Red may use this fountain" "Only people wearing green may use this entrance" Images from the internet were retrieved to help students understand what life was like before the Civil Rights Movement.

At the end of the day students wrote about how they felt about being restricted by the color clothing they were. Some of the students expressed their anger and how they refuse to take part. Participation was on a volunteer bases, some of the staff at the school also struggled with following the restrictions.

NV

Fort McDermitt Paiute Shoshone Tribe

Fort McDermitt Paiute Shoshone Tribe hosted a MLK Walk and rally in which 36 people (students and adults) participated in the walk and then participated in a oral reading of Dr. King's biography, shared stories by participants, cake/punch, followed by a reflection.

MO

Heartland Foundation, Missouri Western State University, St. Joseph Youth Alliance

The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day "Call to Action" was a successful event. Throughout the day students were invited to learn about the work of Dr. King through the living history museum and a panel discussion. Attendees had an opportunity to create quilt squares about Dr. Martin Luther King, peace, or any thought or feeling that moved them. This quilt will be created and displayed in the local mall and at future MLK Day events. Later in the evening, they had a large crowd attend an open mic event featuring dramatic dancing, original poetry, and singing focused on peace and the legacy of Dr. King.

MS

Quitman County School District,

Youth Opportunities Unlimited- 240 students and 30 adult volunteers participated in an Annual MLK march in Marks, Mississippi, ending in a church where Dr. King spoke and formulated the historical poor man's march on Washington. Each year, the program partners with local historians and other community based organizations to reenact the march and teach younger generations about the struggle for civil rights they now enjoy liberally.

Learn and Serve America 2008 MLK Day Activities

Youth participants were also taken to the Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, along with their mentor. This visit helped to really add validity to the information provided during the service following the march.

MT

MT State Department of Education

Each of the eight schools and school districts receiving Learn and Serve America sub-grants through the MT OPI participated in MLK Jr. Day service-learning activities. For example, in Libby, Montana high school and elementary students watched the "I have a Dream" speech and participated in the "Building the Beloved Community" project, together they built community bulletin boards. A cross-generational group of senior citizens, high school and middle school students from Livingston, Montana spent the afternoon putting together fleece blankets for two local charities the Tri-County Network Against Domestic & Sexual Violence and the Community Health Partners.

NC

North Carolina Central University

HMCUC supported several projects including a Durham event featuring the African American Leaders program. About 150 students in grades 3 to 11 volunteered at the Durham Center for Senior Life, presenting stories, plays, and dance performances focused on the life of Martin Luther King, JR and written by the students themselves. The day also featured a mural painting that used artwork selected from a student poster contest.

NE

University of Nebraska- Omaha

The life and legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. has been celebrated at UNO for many years. Again this year, UNO Student Organizations and Leadership Programs (SOLP) and the Service Learning Academy are coordinating the activities that the volunteers will participate in on January 21.

NY

Wagner College

Wagner hosted a week of activities including a talent showcase, a social justice gathering, a day of service and a conversation with civil rights leaders that worked with Dr. King.

Kingsborough Community College, Brooklyn, NY

Kingsborough hosted an MLK film and activity day at the New York City Housing Authority with children between the ages of 10 -14. The KBCC Mental Health students will show animated films of MLK, conduct relevant MLK activities with the kids and serve as mentors to the children.

OR

Western Oregon University

MLK WEEK: Jan. 21st - 28, 2008. There are several community needs being addressed by this week-long project; awareness and education surrounding social justice, and service to the local food bank, Ella Curran Food Bank, to assist in restocking the food supply after the holidays. Volunteers will assist the food bank by going into the community asking for donations. These donated food items will be used to stock the local food bank. Simultaneously, educational events will be provided in an effort to raise awareness about social justice and poverty in the United States

Oregon Department of Education

Students from the Fir Ridge Alternative Campus Service Learning Team and Camp Fire Club participated in events with Hands On Greater Portland on Monday, January 21 in honor of Dr Martin Luther King, Jr. The students spent the day covering books that will be placed in elementary school libraries in the David Douglas School District. Fir Ridge continues to work through Camp Fire USA and Hands On Greater Portland to be involved with projects that help to build community within our neighborhoods as well as projects throughout the city of Portland, giving students a bigger picture of how they can be engaged in Martin Luther King Jr's vision.

UT

Utah State Department of Education

Learn and Serve America 2008 MLK Day Activities

Students from the Cache School District, in Logan Utah, kicked off their project to design quilts for patients at Primary Children's Hospital.

Willow Valley Middle School students participated in "Random Acts of Kindness" and wrote about their experiences.

Morgan Middle School emphasized Black History as part of their "Freedom Activities" with a Quiz Bowl and guest speakers.

Students at Canyon Rim Academy wrote or did artwork on the theme "I Have a Dream and I Have a Voice." These will be used to generate community unifying activities.

Students at Mountain View High School will participate in a special assembly about Martin Luther King and the Civil Rights movement to selected elementary and junior high schools.

WA

Everett Community College and Edmonds Community College

64 total volunteers completed household chores and yard maintenance for Interfaith Homeless Shelter, Bakerview Apts (Everett Housing Authority), 6 in-home senior residents, and painted classrooms for Greater Trinity's Latch Key program.

Washington State University

MLK Day SLO Food Drive: 1/21 - 1/25 Think QUALITY not QUANTITY: students apply the principles of SLO to the food drive concept. In choosing foods to donate, they consider nutrition, environmental impact, and special dietary needs as they help to supplement food bank shelves with quality items. Collection for the Pullman Food Bank are available at the front desks in several campus buildings. Students receive a reusable grocery bag for every bag of canned goods.

NW Indian College-

Spanaway School- All classrooms K-6th Grade sponsored a service-learning project during the day. The day ended with a school wide assembly sharing what every class had done, reading quotes of Dr. Kings, and sharing part of his speech. This week there will be a Family Fun Night with the families. They will be sharing a slide show from the days service projects, and asking their families to pick a project they can do in their neighborhoods and beyond.