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**MLK Commemorates 46th MLK Day in Cincinnati with**

***We Will Never Be Satisfied Until Justice Rolls Down Like Water***

CINCINNATI, OH – December 26, 2020 – The Martin Luther King Jr. Coalition announces our 46th annual events in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on Monday, January 18, 2021. The MLK Coalition provides programing to honor Dr. King and amplify the voices of our community demanding justice and an end to racism. These voices carry the same messages that Dr. King called for: an end to police violence against People of Color; voting rights for all people; and economic and racial justice.

The coronavirus pandemic has challenged us to be creative and change how we safely bring our traditional march and program to the Cincinnati community. This year, in addition to marchers on foot, the MLK Commemorative March will include a Motorcade and will begin at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center at 10:30 AM, with participants’ cars following marchers along a designated route in downtown Cincinnati. Metro’s Rosa Parks Buses will provide limited seating. After the March, our virtual 46th annual program, filmed at Music Hall, will premiere at 12:00 noon on the MLK Coalition website, www.mlkcoalition.org. Our 2021 keynote speaker, Rev. Nelson J. Pierce, Jr., will be joined by vocalists Lois Shegog, Steve Milloy, the Nouveau Chamber Players, and area student vocalists and spoken word artists.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Coalition is dedicated to keeping Dr. King’s legacy vibrant in Cincinnati. In that spirit, the Coalition offers the following free public events:

* 10:30 a.m. Commemorative March and Motorcade begins at the Freedom Center (All recommended COVID-19 protocols will be in place):
  + Participants planning to march should arrive at the Freedom Center by 10:15.
  + Participating via car
    - The MLK Motorcade will begin at 10:30 am promptly. To participate via car, people must register by going to Eventbrite at https://drivemlkday.eventbrite.com
    - Print the registration form
    - Display the printed registration form on the dashboard.
    - Eventbrite will provide all the details for the Motorcade.
  + Participating via Rosa Parks Buses
    - Limited seating on the Rosa Parks Buses provided by Metro.
    - Register on Eventbrite at https://ridemlkday.eventbrite.com or by calling 513-491-3448
* 12 p.m. MLK Commemorative Program premieres at [www.mlkcoalition.org](http://www.mlkcoalition.org)

Rev. Nelson Jerome Pierce, Jr. is the senior pastor of Beloved Community Church, and is the Faith and Race Program Director in the Center for Faith and Justice at Xavier University. In 2014, Rev. Pierce played a critical role in organizing clergy and young people in the aftermath of the killing of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, for which he is recognized in the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture in Washington DC.

MLK Day events begin at 9:00 AM with the virtual 2021 King Legacy Celebration sponsored by Freedom Center and the MLK Coalition. Tickets are available at https://freedomcenter.org/voice/event/king-legacy-celebration-21/.

All events are free and open to the public except the King Legacy Celebration. For more information visit [www.mlkcoalition.org](http://www.mlkcoalition.org/) or contact Louise Lawarre at [MLKCcoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:MLKCcoordinator@gmail.com).

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