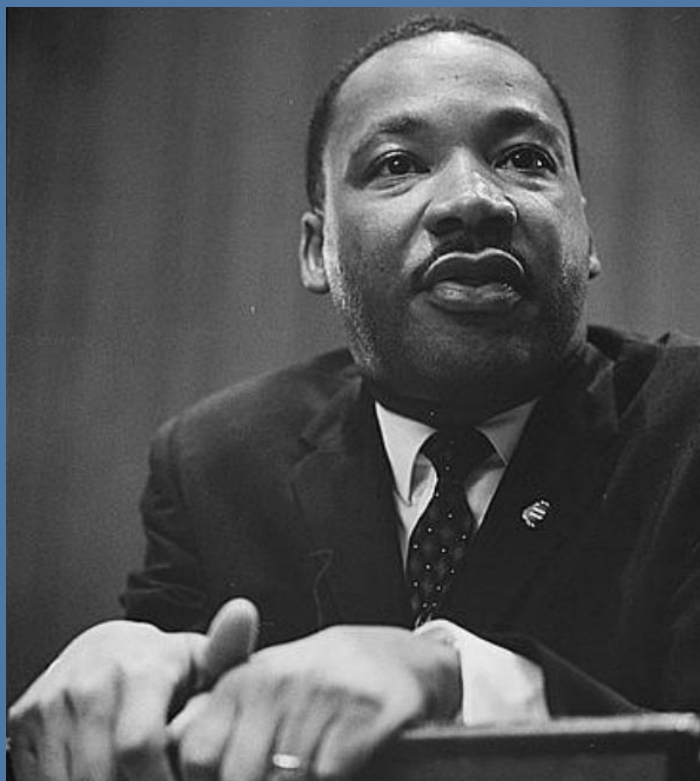

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Westside Coalition presents:

35th Annual Celebration of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



2020 THEME:

**“Now is the time to make real
the promises of democracy”**

Monday, January 20, 2020

SGI-USA World Peace Ikeda Auditorium
525 Wilshire Boulevard, Santa Monica, Calif.,

PROGRAM OF THE DAY

CALL TO THE AUDITORIUM

Chosen Gospel Recovery Singers

INVOCATION

Reverend L. Mack Mossett III, Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church

WELCOME

Kevin McKeown, Mayor, City of Santa Monica and Darlene Evans, Chair, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Westside Coalition

PERFORMANCE

Mar Vista Gardens Boys and Girls Club Dance Squad

PRESENTATION OF EDUCATION AWARDS

Bernice Brown, Ph D., Member Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Westside Coalition

PERFORMANCE

Chosen Gospel Recovery Singers

COMMUNITY LIGHT AWARD PRESENTATION

Becky Lantry, Member, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Westside Coalition to Chosen Gospel Recovery, Ruby Houses

PERFORMANCE

Mar Vista Gardens Boys and Girls Club Dance Squad

INTRODUCTION OF KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Luthern Williams, Head of New Roads School

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Amanda Gorman, National Youth Poet Laureate of the United States

PERFORMANCE

Chosen Gospel Recovery Singers

LITURGY

Bishop Willis Tait Sr., Emmanuel Community Church (Ret.)

BENEDICTION

Elder Fredrick Sutton, Assistant Pastor of Emmanuel Community Church, Santa Monica

*Please join hands as we sing "We Shall Overcome"
led by the Chosen Gospel Recovery Singers*

Please continue the celebration at the Community Involvement Fair located at the Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows, 101 Wilshire Boulevard, , Santa Monica, approximately 3 1/2 blocks away. For those who want to walk, the SGI parking structure will be open until 12:30 pm for you to pick up your car.

ABOUT US

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Westside Coalition was founded in 1986, as a community partnership with the City of Santa Monica, Santa Monica College, Westside Interfaith Council, NAACP Santa Monica Venice Branch, Neighborhood Resource Development Corporation, Temple Beth Shir Shalom, NCCJ (which became the Human Relations Council of Santa Monica Bay Area) and others.

Today the coalition is a nonprofit organization comprised of a diverse group of volunteers including individual community members, churches, institutions, community organizations, and businesses.

MISSION STATEMENT

To educate adults and youth,
To inspire community participation, and
To promote the ideals of
the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
for understanding, knowledge and healing

VISION

To remind the community of
Dr. King's challenge to bring
peace, hope, love and dignity
to all peoples of the earth, and

Dr. King's vision of a worldwide community
that respects and values all people,
presses for social and economic justice,
and counters racism, sexism and intolerance
through nonviolent action.

HISTORY

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Westside Coalition appreciates your participation in the 35th reflection on Dr. King's message that "Now is the time to make real the promises of democracy."

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1986 Norma Gonzales, The Gas Co.
"We Have A Dream "</p> <p>1987 Nathaniel Trives, Former Mayor,
City of Santa Monica
"Celebrate The Dream"</p> <p>1988 Rev. Clarence Jefferson Davis, Jr.,
Calvary Baptist Church
"Living The Dream
Let Freedom Ring"</p> <p>1989 Pastor Lydia Waters, Compton
Methodist Church
"Living The Dream
Let Freedom Ring"</p> <p>1990 Dr. Richard Moore,
Superintendent/President,
Santa Monica College
" We Still Have A Dream"</p> <p>1991 Rev. Bernice King, CEO,
The King Center
"Sharing Our Dreams:
On the Road to the Mountaintop"</p> <p>1992 John E. Jacob, President/CEO,
National Urban League
"Education:The Road to Freedom"</p> <p>1993 Rev. Dr. James M. Lawson, Holman
United Methodist Church
"Fulfill The Dream Now: Education,
Equality and Justice for All "</p> <p>1994 Dr. Paul Cummins, Crossroads
School, Dr. Sylvia Rousseau,
SMMUSD and Cheryl Miller, USC
Basketball and TNT Sportscaster
"From Dreams to Reality:
Undoing Racism"</p> | <p>1995 Hugh B. Price, President/CEO,
National Urban League
"Commitment to The Dream:
Community & World Unity "</p> <p>1996 Walter J. Leonard, President (Ret.),
Fisk University
"Sleeping through the Revolution"</p> <p>1997 John Bryant, President/CEO,
Operation Hope
"Passing the Torch: Are you Ready?"</p> <p>1998 Joe R. Hicks, Executive Director,
Los Angeles City Human Relations
Commission
"His Dream, His Hope: Our
Challenge"</p> <p>1999 Angela E. Oh, President Clinton's
Initiative on Race
"Why We Won't Wait:
Education, Jobs, Justice, Peace,
Community Now!"</p> <p>2000 Donzaleigh Abernathy, Actress/
Activist
"Hate Against Hate Has Not
Worked: Give a Hug, Give Love"</p> <p>2001 Dr. Carolyn Jefferson-Jenkins,
National League of Women Voters
"Unity and Diversity"</p> <p>2002 Father Michael D. Gutierrez, Pastor,
Saint Anne's Catholic Church
"A Man and His Impact on
Contemporary Society"</p> <p>2003 Dr. Sylvia Rousseau, District 1 Area
Superintendent, LAUSD
"Soul and Spirit of the Man"</p> |
|---|---|



2004	The Honorable Judge Dorothy Nelson, United States Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit “Marching Backwards: Trampling Our Civil Rights”	2012	Connected KCET LA “Democracy is Not a Spectator Sport: We Must Act Now!”
2005	Paul Cummins, Founding Headmaster, Crossroads School “State of the Union: A Time For Love Not Hate For Understanding Not Anger A Time for Peace Not War”	2013	Congresswoman Janice Hahn, 36th California District “Peace Begins with Me”
2006	Yolanda King, Founder, Higher Ground Productions “Remember, Celebrate, Act: A Day On, Not A Day Off”	2014	Nathaniel Trives, Former Mayor, City of Santa Monica “Redeem The Dream”
2007	Dr. Lawrence Edward Carter, Sr., Morehouse College “Peace is not absence of violence It is the presence of justice”	2015	Gerald C. Rivers, Entertainer “Unity in Community”
2008	Dr. Firuz Kazemzadeh, Yale University Emeritus and Dr. Wilma M. Ellis, Chair, Women on the Move “We have flown the air like birds and swum the sea like fishes but have yet to learn the simple act of walking the earth like brothers”	2016	Gabriela Rosco, Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice—Los Angeles “The Fierce Urgency of Now”
2009	The Honorable Anwarul K. Chowdhury, Former Under-Secretary-General And High Representative of the United Nations “Be the Change You Want to See In the World”	2017	Sheila James Kuehl, Los Angeles County Supervisor, 3rd District “Peace Requires Justice”
2010	Dr. Adena Williams Loston, President, St. Phillip’s College “For Hope to Become Reality: We Must All Do Our Share”	2018	Dr. Kathryn E. Jeffery, Superintendent/ President, Santa Monica College “Stand Against Injustice”
2011	Val Zavala, Vice President, SoCal	2019	Dr. Tommie C. Smith, 2000 Olympic Gold Medalist, XIX Olympiad, 1968 “Never Lose Hope: Unity Wins”
		2020	Derric Johnson, Founding Director of the Equity & Justice Institute “Injustice Anywhere Is a Threat to Justice Everywhere”
			Amanda Gorman, National Youth Poet Laureate of the United States “Now is the Time to Make Real the Promises of Democracy”

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Westside Coalition presents the

2020
COMMUNITY LIGHT
AWARD
to

CHOSEN-MINISTRY.ORG

for enacting the spirit of Dr. King
January 20, 2020



Chosen Gospel Recovery Inc. is a non-profit 501(c)3 public benefits corporation founded in 2002. Darlene's mission is to promote the wellbeing and economic self-sufficiency of chronically homeless families and individuals through supportive housing, drug abuse recovery, life skills building, creative community outreach and an array of collaborative services. Which are Transitional Programs for Single Women and Families, Recovering Addicts, Those Recovering from Mental and Physical Abuse.

The Chosen Gospel Singing and Recovery Ministry consists of a team of men and women delivered and set free from the bondage of drug and alcohol abuse. Chosen has been inspired to reach out to all communities to provide coordinated special events, share pertinent information, education and resources regarding social and spiritual support for people in active addiction.

Chosen was formed in early 2002 by Darlene Watley with the assistance of Regina Christian. Former members of S.A.D.A.A. (Sistah's Against Drugs and Alcohol Abuse), Darlene and Regina have an extensive background and a broad range of experience.

Some of their major accomplishments and past performances include:

The 1998 Mac Donald's Gospel fest winners, The Bobby Jones Gospel fest at Disneyland, the Glory awards at West Angeles, and the inspiration of women award. They have performed at the Black business expo, the African market place, the shrine auditorium, the Ebel Theater, the Dorothy Chandler pavilion, for Fox television and numerous Churches, spiritual retreats, recovery homes, domestic violence programs, and group homes though out Los Angeles County.

Darlene, Cookie, Lindsay, Briana, Tami and Debra are inspired to take the message back to the community, our desire is to coordinate special events thus allowing us to engage with drug addicted individuals planting new seeds of hope that they too are children of GOD, and can recover.

Darlene Watley is the Pastor of Faithful Zion First Fruits Ministry located in Los Angeles CA where she is also the Director of Street Ministry.

EDUCATION AWARDS



2020 MLK AWARD

Lavay Cole —Dr. King's principles of non violence inspired him to write this song. Lavay, wanting to change his community with peace, got the idea of touching the souls of people through music and challenge himself with greater conviction knowing he can make a difference as he reaches the right demographics. Attending classes at Santa Monica College, Lavay is learning to express himself through words rather than using what he learned in order to protect himself and those around him.



2020 SAUL MORRISON AWARD

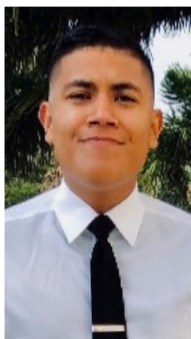
Cassadi Davis is attending New Roads School. Poetry has always been the healthier way to express herself. Working toward a goal of 100 poems before the end of the year while also keeping a daily account of her ever changing emotions and the obstacles she faces daily to overcome. Daily struggles and challenges including adversities. Cassadi has dreams and goals in the future as she work towards becoming a Psychotherapist to help others with eating disorders.



2020 MLK AWARD

Jasper Eliot is a senior at New Roads School. He is 17 years old and wishes to pursue a career as a theater director. Social justice has always been important to him in his work and that passion was initiated by his mother reading every children's book to him about Dr. Martin Luther King she could find. He has always wanted to empower people and wishes to do so through the power of art.

EDUCATION AWARDS



2020 CLYDE SMITH AWARD

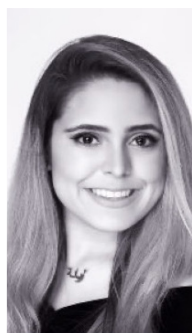
Aldair Fructuoso Vargas

At a young age Aldair's educational journey supported a clear direction to graduate high school and pursue education at Santa Monica College. He found his passion to help future generations by focusing on a degree in early childhood education and a minor in psychology toward a goal for a bachelors degree. Currently working in the career of Law enforcement, with aspirations to be a school resource officer, Aldair feels he can best serve the next generation in the future.



2020 LILLIE BELL BLAKLEY AWARD

Dayshanae Johnson has her goals set on social justice, inequality and issues in computer science. From personal experience, with abuse and neglect, she strives for inner beauty and strength to challenge social disparities while working at the Watts Youth Source Center. Going to school at New Roads and having a job training program guides her path and goal of studying coding in computer science, Dayshanae is determined to use AI (Artificial Intelligence) programs as a transformational resource for other youth.



2020 MLK AWARD

Ariana Torres' own experience found that helping others helped her create a Beloved Community. As a former Rosie's Girl Liaison on the Commission of Status of Women, she believes wholeheartedly that violence is the core of destroying the human values in the world. She volunteers to prevent violent behavior by supporting women who are battered when she formed a club, 'The Riveters' and is a wellness ambassador focusing on providing health education to students by holding workshops on the college campus. Ariana continues with big dreams as she strives to focus on the world ahead.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Amanda Gorman

National Youth Poet Laureate of the United States



Heralded as “the next great figure in American poetry,” Amanda Gorman made history in 2017 by being named the first ever National Youth Poet Laureate in the United States of America.

In this role she has spoken at the Library of Congress, the United Nations x Mashable Social Good Summit, WE Day, and venues across the country. As a native of Los Angeles, prior to her national position she served as the inaugural Youth Poet Laureate of L.A. and later the West. In these capacities she met Michelle Obama at the White House, conducted a library tour, and published *The One for Whom Food Is Not Enough*.

She is Founder and Executive Director of One Pen One Page, which promotes literacy through free creative writing programming for underserved youth. She has been a HERlead Fellow in Washington, D.C, and London, and a UN Youth Delegate in NYC. She’s performed alongside Jennifer Aniston, Morgan Freeman, and Lin-Manuel Miranda to advocate for youth leadership and arts education, and spoken alongside Al Gore and Secretary Hillary Clinton for environmentalism and women’s rights. Featured in *The New York Times*, *The Today Show*, MTV, *Teen Vogue*, *Seventeen Magazine*, TIDAL, *Essence’s* Woke 100 list, *Time for Kids*, *Yahoo Style*, the Google Assistant, and more, her work has appeared or is forthcoming in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, *Glamour Magazine*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Huffington Post*, and *Elle UK*. A model on the side, she’s been a face in two national campaigns for Eileen Fisher and Helmut Lang. She is a recipient of the Making a Difference Award from Black Girls Rock and BET, recognition from the Scholastic Inc. and YoungArts, a Genius Grant from OZY Media, and a College Women of the Year Award from Glamour Magazine. This fall she was selected from a competitive 20,000+ applicant pool to be one of the newest contributors to the New York Times newsletter *The Edit*, tailored to college students and recent graduates.

Currently a Harvard junior in the top of her class, she studies Sociology and Spanish. She is running for president in 2036.

Believer's Hymn for the Republic

By Amanda Gorman

12 score and 3 years ago, to be exact,
Our founders dared to declare
The world's most revolutionary act:
A pact sworn for liberty and equality.
Out of many, was born one people;
A teeming nation made of nations,
At its very foundation a dream
For life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Today, we gather so our Founders' words do not go
diminished.
But we also gather so that their work does not go
unfinished.

It is not just a declaration of independence
But the everyday declarations of its descendants
That make a people equal.

It is our right and our role
To remember these words scratched on a scroll,
And to live them in order to heal our nation whole.
We roll up our sleeves, we believe in the dream,
In our many American stories, in the glory of this
struggle,

Because from our nation's struggle comes our strength,
Because the lengths we fight for what is right
Is the fullest measure of our country's might.





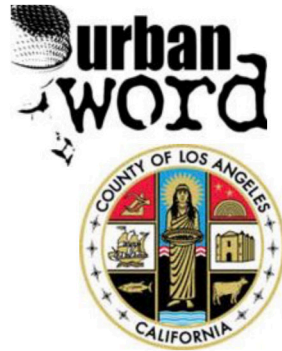
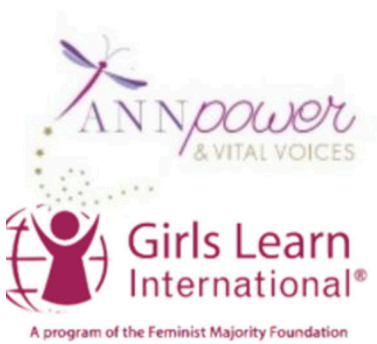
And while we cannot shake or cast aside our past,
Every day we write the future. Together we sign it,
Together we bare it, we declare it, we share it,
For this truth marches on inside each of us:

Americans know one another by our love of liberty.
But in fact, we are liberated by our love for one another.
We understand that a house divided cannot stand.
So let us make a pact to be the country that acts
As compassionate as we are courageous.
In the declaration's pages, we write a new order for
the ages,

Where out of many, we are one,
Bright as a sun, bold as an eagle,
A nation of all people, by all people,
for all people.

Let this fourth of July
Move forth our cry to redeem the dream.
Let us live up to the words forever ignited
That we the people have so long heard and recited.
Today we dare to declare we are right to stand
But we are revolutionary when we stand united.





ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

DONORS & SPONSORS

FRIENDS

Lizbeth M. and Dale Bell
Rabbi Neil Comess-Daniels
Joseph E. Deering, Jr.
Darlene Evans
Carol Meckler
Sue Schuerman
Bishop Willis Tait, Sr.

PATRONS

Bahai Community
Beth Guynn
Erin Mills
Corliss Reed
Michele and Curt Wittig

BENEFACTORS

Santa Monica Bay Area Human
Relations Council
Santa Monica Travel and Tourism

FOUNDERS CIRCLE

Rand Corporation

EDUCATION AWARDS

Lillie Bell Blakley Endowment

Benjamin P. Blakley
Nathaniel Trives
Michele and Curt Wittig

MLK Education Scholarship

Commission on the Status of
Women
Michele and Curt Wittig

Saul Morrison Award

Michele and Curt Wittig

Clyde Smith Award

Michele and Curt Wittig

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Linda Alvarez
Gary Avrech
Carolyn Baugh
Dr. Bernice Brown
William Brown
Stacey Caver
Darlene Evans
Darrell Goode
Beth Guynn
Eddie Guerboian
Patty Hager
Howard Harrison
Becky Lantry
Gil Leib
Ericka Lesley
Rosemary Martinez
Ian McIlraith
Ann Miks
Erin Mills
Patrina Miller-Sutton
John Moore
Zelda Pollock
Carol Powell
Jeffrey Prince
Michele Prince

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

PLANNING COMMITTEE

(continued)

LaVerne Ross
Sue Schuerman
Dr. Beverly Scott
Frederick Sutton
Bishop Willis Tait, Sr.
Bowman Thomas
Nat Trives
Monika White
Debra Williams
Leticia Williams
Michele Wittig
Christie Woo-Thibodeaux
Parand Youssefi

INVOLVEMENT FAIR ORGANIZATIONS

Spiritual Assembly of the
Bahais of Santa Monica
Meals on Wheels
League of Women Voters
City of Santa Monica
City TV Santa Monica
Mt. Olive Lutheran Church
Philomathean Charity Club Inc.
Quinn Research Center
Santa Monica College
Santa Monica College
Associates
Santa Monica Sister City
Association
SGI-USA
Unitarian Universalist Community
Church Faith in Action
Commission

Brady United
Family Services of Santa Monica

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

City of Santa Monica
Fairmont Miramar Hotel
& Bungalows
Fisotec Security
Go Graphics
International Printing and
Typesetting

Mary Pat Cooney, Stage Manager-
Patrina Miller-Sutton
Reny Amaya and Jan Williamson,
18th Street Arts Center
Santa Monica Symphony
Santa Monica Travel and Tourism
SGI-USA Stage Crew and
volunteers
Stacey Caver, Marketing
Stephanie Rick, We Search
Research



As a registered charity, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Westside Coalition is available for donations when making purchases on Amazon. To register, go to Smile.Amazon.com, register, and specify "Martin Luther King Jr. Westside Coalition" (without punctuation or quotes) as your charity of choice, and Amazon will donate a percentage of your eligible purchases to us.

Thank you for your support.



*“Intelligence plus
character—that is the goal
of true education.”*

—Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Contact us 818-207-3934

www.mlkjrwestside.org



mlkwestsidecoalition



mlkwestside



Westsidemlk