

NEWSLETTER — Winter 2021

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

As reflected by the MLK website, during the less than 13 years of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s leadership of the modern American Civil Rights Movement, from December, 1955 until April 4, 1968, African Americans achieved more genuine progress toward racial equality in America than the previous 350 years had produced. Dr. King is widely regarded as America's pre-eminent advocate of nonviolence and one of the greatest nonviolent leaders in world history.

Drawing inspiration from both his Christian faith and the peaceful teachings of Mahatma Gandhi, Dr. King led a nonviolent movement in the late 1950's and '60s to achieve legal equality for African-Americans in the United States. While others were advocating for freedom by "any means necessary," including violence, Martin Luther King, Jr. used the power of words and acts of nonviolent resistance, such as

Ways to Honor Dr. MLK, Jr!

Read a book

Read <u>books</u> by King, his family, and black authors and leaders to broaden your scope. Learn his views by reading his words.

Educate Yourself?

Pick a topic and research. Are there current policies that maintain racial injustice? Challenge your thoughts!

Watch a Video

Check out MLK Day Legacy Video's through MLKDAY.gov

Watch a Movie in Honor of Dr. King

The Long Walk Home (1990) Remember the Titans (2000) The Help (2011) The Butler (2013) 42 (2013) Selma (2014) Hidden Figures (2016) BlacKkKlansman (2018) I am MLK Jr. (2018) King in the Wilderness (2018) protests, grassroots organizing, and civil disobedience to achieve seemingly-impossible goals. He went on to lead similar campaigns against poverty and international conflict, always maintaining fidelity to his principles that men and women everywhere, regardless of color or creed, are equal members of the human family.

Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech, Nobel Peace Prize lecture and "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" are among the most revered orations and writings in the English language. His accomplishments are now taught to American children of all races, and his teachings are studied by scholars and students worldwide. He is the only non-president to have a national holiday dedicated in his honor, and is the only non-president memorialized on the Great Mall in the nation's capitol. He is memorialized in hundreds of statues, parks, streets, squares, churches and other public facilities around the world as a leader whose

teachings are increasinglyrelevant to the progress of humankind.

The King Center. (2020). *About Dr. King*. Retrieved November 30, 2020, from The King Center website: https://

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 $\underline{the king center.org/about-dr-king/}$







Multi-Faith Observances

1/01- New Years Day

1/07- Orthodox Christmas

1/18- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

2/12- Lunar New Year

2/15- President's Day

2/17- A h Wednesday

2/26- Purim

Quote of the Month

"Change does not roll in on the wheels of inevitability, but comes through continuous struggle."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Black History Month 2021

As explained by the ASALH, "When Carter G. Woodson established Negro History week in 1926, he realized the importance of providing a theme to focus the attention of the public." (ASALH-Black History Themes, 2020) **The Black Family: Representation, Identity, and Diversity** is 2021's theme of focus.

The black family has been a topic of study in many disciplines—history, literature, the visual arts and film studies, sociology, anthropology, and social policy. Its representation, identity, and diversity have been reverenced, stereotyped, and vilified from the days of slavery to our own time. The black family knows no single location, since family reunions and genetic-ancestry searches testify to the spread of family members across states, nations, and continents. Not only are individual black families diasporic, but Africa and the diaspora itself have been long portrayed as the black family at large. While the role of the black family has been described by some as a microcosm of the entire race, its complexity as the "foundation" of African American life and history can be seen in numerous debates over how to represent its meaning and typicality from a historical perspective. The family offers a rich tapestry of images for exploring the African American past and present.

ASALH. (2020). *Black History Themes*. *2021-The Black Family: Representation, Identity, and Diversity*. Retrieved December 2, 2020 from the ASALH website: https://asalh.org/black-history-themes/

To delve further on this theme topic or to participate in 2021 Black History Month Virtual Festival, see the <u>ASALH.org</u> website.

Washington's Birthday/ President's Day?

Washington's Birthday is a federal holiday celebrated on the third Monday of February (Feb. 15, 2021). At a state level, it may be called **President's Day**, with an apostrophe that moves about from state to state.

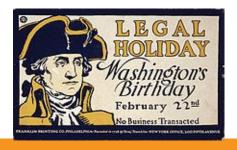
Though it may be technically incorrect, the federal holiday is often colloquially referred to as Presidents' Day. The Associated Press Stylebook, most newspapers and some magazines use the form "President's Day" as an alternate rendering of "Washington's Birthday". The name Presidents' Day is also the more common version of the name when used internationally.

This confusion as to the name is that despite its status as a federal holiday, **states are free to name this holiday as they wish** or even whether or not it is observed as a public holiday in that state.

In 1968, legislation (HR 15951) was enacted that affected several federal holidays. One of these was Washington's Birthday, the observation of which was shifted to the third Monday in February each year whether or not it fell on the 22nd. This act, which took effect in 1971, was designed to simplify the yearly calendar of holidays and give federal employees some standard three-day weekends in the process.

An early draft of the Uniform Monday Holiday Act suggested renaming the federal holiday as "Presidents' Day" to honor the birthdays of both Washington and Lincoln. This proposal failed in committee and on 28 June 1968, the bill was voted on and signed into law, keeping the name "Washington's Birthday".

Office Holidays Ltd. (2020). *Presidents Day in the USA in 2021*. Retrieved December 2, 2020 from Office Holidays: Your Home for the Holidays website: https://www.officeholidays.com/holidays/usa/presidents-day





Joi Odom Grant Ed.S.

3900 Broadway Everett, WA 98201 425-385-4000 www.everettsd.org The district shall provide equal educational opportunity and treatment for all students in all aspects of the academic and activities program without regard to race, color, national origin, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, veteran or military status, the presence of any physical, sensory, or mental disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a student with a disability.

Designated to handle inquiries about nondiscrimination policies are:

Affirmative Action Officer - Randi Seaberg, rseaberg@everettsd.org, 425-385-4104

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Section 504 Coordinator-Dave Peters, DPeters@everettsd.org, 425-385-4063