

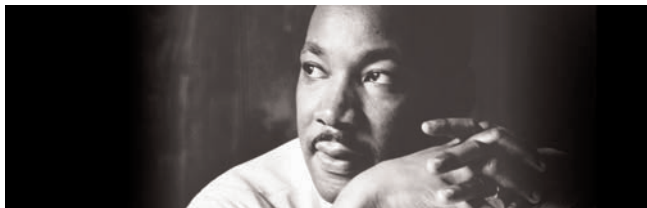
NJ IN SOLIDARITY

By Mabel Pais

NJPAC: STANDING IN SOLIDARITY

"Listening. Learning. Sharing. Taking action. Advancing ideas and solutions to accelerate social justice demands that all of us take these simple, powerful steps. Everyone at NJPAC stands in solidarity with those fighting against structural racism, societal inequity, and police brutality, and for civil rights, multiculturalism and authentic inclusion. Changing the world requires the efforts of everyone. Now, more than ever, each of us has an indispensable part to play." - John Schreiber, President & CEO, NJPAC

NJPAC AWARDS: SALUTING & ESPOUSING MLK IDEALS



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. - Photo / Courtesy, NJPAC.

JANUARY 15, 2021, 6 PM

NJPAC and the Newark Branch of the NAACP salute the spirit of the nation's most beloved civil rights leader at the Arts Center's 24th annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards' on Friday, January 15, 2021 at 6PM. The event will be streamed live on NJPAC's Facebook page - facebook.com/NJPAC

Every year at this ceremony, two individuals from Newark who have made substantial contributions to the African American community are recognized for their service and their devotion to the ideals of social justice embraced by Dr. King.

This year, A'Dorian Murray-Thomas will receive the Visionary of the Dream Award for her service on the Newark Public School Board (to which she was elected 2019 when she was only 23 years old) and for her work in founding SHE Wins Inc., a leadership and social action organization for middle and high school girls in Newark.

Senator Ronald L. Rice will receive the Steward of the Dream Award, in recognition of his decades of service as a member of the New Jersey State Senate, where he represents Newark and surrounding towns.

In addition, Khalil Gibran Muhammad, professor of History, Race and Public Policy at Harvard Kennedy School, and the Suzanne Young Murray Professor at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Studies, will give the ceremony's keynote address. Professor Muhammad directs the Institutional Antiracism and Accountability Project and is the former Director of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, a division of the New York Public Library and the world's leading library and archive of global black history.

Rick Thigpen, Senior Vice President, Corporate Citizenship at PSEG and the chair of the PSEG Foundation, will provide opening remarks, and

students in NJPAC's 'Wells Fargo Jazz For Teens' and other arts education programs will perform during the celebration.

Get Social! Follow NJPAC Online:

Website: www.njpac.org/

Twitter: @NJPAC

Hashtag: #NJPAC

Facebook: [facebook.com/NJPAC](https://www.facebook.com/NJPAC)

YouTube: NJPACtv

WIPA-PMP MLK Celebration Concert

VIRTUAL CONCERT, SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 4-5 P.M.

In the face of deep national divisions and a pandemic that has illuminated the inequality in our country, it is more important now than ever to remember the teachings and legacy of Dr. King. PMP students have thoughtfully curated this one-hour presentation in honor of Dr. King through music, pictures, and poetry. Our students have demonstrated tremendous leadership and thoughtfulness in putting together this concert in a relevant, honest, and hopeful way. Our students' hard work and insight shows us that our future is bright and in good hands." - Elizabeth Moulthrop, PMP Director

The Paterson Music Project (PMP), a program of the Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts (WIPA), hosts a MLK Celebration Virtual Concert on Saturday, January 16 from 4:00-5:00 p.m. EST to commemorate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

PMP students will lead the celebration as emcees, share poetry, and perform music. Performances include William Grant Still's arrangement of "Lift Every Voice" with guest performances from the wider Paterson and Wharton Arts community. Students will also premiere two original arrangements created during the fall 2020 semester based on the songs "This Little Light of Mine" and "We Shall Overcome." The MLK Celebration will be available streaming on WhartonArts.tv

For more information, visit

PatersonMusicProject.org

About PMP & WIPA

The Paterson Music Project (PMP) empowers children to achieve their full potential through the joyful pursuit of musical excellence. Inspired by the global El Sistema movement, PMP uses music education as a vehicle for social change in its home city of Paterson.

PMP provides tuition-free musical training to students throughout Paterson after school. Students study a primary instrument and participate in ensemble practice and instrumental sectionals. They receive an average of 6 hours of instruction per week and in addition, may participate in an optional private lesson program. Students perform frequently for the community and perform an average of 30 events annually.

Paterson Music Project (PMP) is a program of the Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts (WIPA). Wharton is New Jersey's largest non-profit performing arts education organization serving over 1,200 students of all ages and abilities through a range of classes and ensembles including the 15 ensembles of the New Jersey Youth Symphony which serve 500 students in grades 3 - 12. Beginning with early childhood music classes for toddlers, the Performing Arts School offers 500 private lessons and group classes each week, ensuring there is something for everyone of all ages and abilities.

NEWARK ARTS: HEALS & BRIDGES DIVISIONS

Jeremy Johnson, Exec.Dir. Newark Arts, speaks

These first eight days of 2021 started with excited anticipation and have concluded with disillusionment. The call for creatives and artists to express the fundamentals of freedom, equality, and equity have never been greater.

Like many of you, I watched in disbelief as insurrectionists flew the Flag of the Confederacy proudly in the nation's Capitol. As the descendant of enslaved African Americans, I recoiled at the sight. But I remain undaunted.

My brothers, uncles, and cousins served in the armed forces to defend this country's freedom for all of its people. And every day I have the privilege of working with the vibrant arts community of the great city of Newark. Our creatives have repeatedly demonstrated their resilience, ingenuity and perseverance. They have used art to build up neighborhoods, fight for social justice, educate our youth and beautify our communities.

Newark Arts will continue to work in partnership with the creative community and our public and private partners to 'power the arts to transform lives.' We will not be silent. We will lift our voices, wield our brushes, move our feet, play our instruments, and enact our dramas to express the ongoing struggle for justice.

Be encouraged. Be creative. Be involved."

**Sincerely,
Jeremy V. Johnson
Executive Director**



MLK Celebration, Student photo - Photo / Courtesy, WIPA.

NEWARK ARTS START

Zoom ArtStart 2021-22

Info Session

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 2021, 11 AM

Join Newark Arts for a Zoom Info Session on ArtStart 2021-22!

Attendance at this orientation is mandatory for first time applicants.

Artists, organizations and



Newark Arts Exec. Dir. Jeremy Johnson.

Photo / Courtesy Newark Arts.

CONTD ON PAGE 29