

Missoula's MLK Day Planning Committee

EmpowerMT – 2300 Regent St Suite 101, Missoula, MT 59801 | 406-541-6891



Press Advisory – For Immediate Release Missoula's Annual MLK Jr. Day Community Celebration & Read for Peace

When:

Monday, January 21st, 2019
1:00 PM: Film Screening and Discussion at the Roxy Theatre
5:00 PM: Rally at Caras Park
5:40 PM: March across Higgins Street Bridge
6:00 PM: Community Celebration at St. Anthony Parish (217 Tremont Street)
8:00 PM: Community Dinner at St. Anthony Parish

Contact: Jamar Galbreath 406-541-6891 or jamar@empowermt.org

Pre-event & event press availability: MLK Day Committee Members are available to be interviewed the week prior to the event. Press is also welcome at all MLK Day events. Please contact Jamar Galbreath to arrange interviews.

Missoula, MT - On Monday January 21st, 2019, hundreds of people from the Missoula area will gather together on this nation-wide day of commemoration to the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Each year this moving event brings over 500 people to reflect on how Dr. King's teachings informs issues we are facing right here in Missoula and across Montana. This year the Missoula MLK Day Committee consisting of: EmpowerMT, University of Montana's Black Student Union, Emmaus Campus Ministry, the YWCA of Missoula, Montana Campus Compact, several departments within the University of Montana as well as a number of invested members of the community have worked together to put on this program of justice and peace.

The theme of this year's MLK Jr. Day Community Celebration is based on Dr. King's quote, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'" Events include:

- **Montana Campus Compact's Read for Peace (all day Jan. 18th)** Volunteers will read to nearly 1,800 elementary age students in 14 schools and 60 classrooms all over Missoula!
- **Film Screening of 'King in the Wilderness' and Discussion (Viewing #1 Sunday, Jan. 20th in the UC Ballroom 1pm-4pm. Viewing #2 Monday, Jan. 21st at the Roxy Theatre 1pm-4pm)** a screening of a 2018 documentary on the life of Dr. King with a facilitated discussion led by Jason Forges and members of the Missoula MLK Day Committee.
- **Youth Led Community Rally at Caras Park: *We were made for these times* (5pm)** Young community leaders will highlight the power of youth leadership and community action to create systemic change by sharing their commitment to the Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women Movement, peer mentorship, preventing school violence, and transforming school culture.
- **March for Justice across the Higgins St. Bridge (5:40pm)**
- **Community Celebration at St. Anthony Parish (6pm)** featuring a keynote address from University of Montana alumni, current UM Grizzlies running back coach, and former NFL running back, Justin Green, the presentation of awards for winners of the MLK Youth Art & Essay contest, and performances by local musicians and artists: Shawn Whitegrass, Brittney Hunter, Andre Floyd, Eden Atwood, Simone Fielding, Makenna Alick, and a community choir directed by Dr. Christopher Hahn
- **Community Dinner & Social in the lower level of St. Paul's Lutheran Church (8:00pm)** catered meal (suggested donation \$5/person, \$10/family) that provides community members the opportunity for connection and conversation.