

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

MLK

CELEBRATION WEEK

JANUARY 9-15, 2024



THE IMPOSSIBLE DREAM:
ARISE AND PURSUE THE LEGACY

*42nd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Scholarship & Awards Gala*



Welcome

Welcome to the City of Dallas' 2024 MLK Gala presented by JBJ Management!

Tonight, we gather to commemorate the invaluable contributions of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. who dedicated his life to the pursuit of equality, justice, and peace. Through his courage, wisdom, and unwavering determination, Dr. King inspired generations to fight against discrimination and to promote social change. We are honored to have you join us in this celebration as we reflect on his teachings, honor his achievements, and reaffirm our commitment to building a more inclusive and harmonious world. Thank you for being a part of this meaningful event.

Prepare to immerse yourself for an inspiring atmosphere filled with music, recognition of scholarship recipients, community and corporate awards, our 2024 trailblazer recipient, and keynote speaker Rev. Dr. Frederick D. Haynes, III!

So, sit back, relax, and get ready to be inspired!

Sincerely,

The MLK Team

A Word from our Presenting Sponsor

Good evening distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen. On behalf of JBJ Management, it is an honor to welcome you to this prestigious gala as we gather to celebrate the remarkable legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and recognize the outstanding members of our community.

Tonight, we come together to uplift the values of equality, justice, and compassion that Dr. King exemplified. We are proud to support this event, acknowledging those who have made exceptional contributions to our community, and empowering future generations through scholarships. Together, we can continue Dr. King's dream of a more inclusive and equitable society.

Please join us in applauding these deserving honorees and celebrating the impact they have made in our community.

Thank you,

Willis Johnson
Chief Executive Officer
JBJ Management

Special Guests



Rev. Dr. Frederick D. Haynes, III
Keynote Speaker



Tashara Parker
Mistress of Ceremony



Commissioner
John Wiley Price 2024
Trailblazer Recipient



Order of Service

Mistress of Ceremony, Tashara Parker

POSTING OF COLORS

James Madison High School JROTC

UNITY PRAYER

**Kelly Drake
MLK Advisory Board Member
District - 9**

SELECTION

**"LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING"
Booker T. Washington School of
Performing Art Choir Ensemble**

GREETINGS

**The Honorable Tennell Atkins Dallas
Mayor Pro Tem
Dallas City Councilmember District - 8**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ELECTED OFFICIALS
MLK ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS & SPONSORS**

Tashara Parker

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

**Clara Brown - Trimble
MLK Advisory Board Chair
District - 10**

INTRODUCTION OF THE KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**Willis Johnson, CEO
JBJ Management**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Rev. Dr. Frederick D. Haynes III

PRESENTATION OF KEYNOTE SPEAKER AWARD

**Jessica Jolly
MLK Advisory Board
Member District - 7**

~DINNER IS SERVED~

Menu

STARTER

Salad

Farm greens, Deep Ellum blue cheese, roasted Asian pear, spiced pecans, & shaved carrots, with a jalapeno honey vinaigrette GF | V

ENTRÉES

Ancho Rubbed Chicken Breast & Braised Short Rib Grilled corn "succotash," confit potatoes, asparagus, tomatillo relish, paired with a bordelaise sauce

*Ancho rubbed tofu, grilled corn "succotash", asparagus, piquillo peppers, and a tomatillo relish | V

DESSERTS

New York Cheesecake or
Brown Butter Fudge Cake

*Vegan entrée upon request

Order of Service cont.

SELECTION

Timothy McCoy
Singer, Songwriter, Musician

PRESENTATION OF THE 4TH MLK ADVISORY BOARD TRAILBLAZER AWARD

Candace Wicks
MLK Advisory Board Vice-Chair
District - 3

PRESENTATION OF THE DR. KING ESSAY CONTEST SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The Honorable Carolyn King Arnold Dallas
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Dallas City
Councilmember District - 4

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

The purpose and goal of these awards are to acknowledge individuals and organizations that echo the City of Dallas' core values of Empathy, Ethics, Equity, Excellence, & Engagement as a reflection of the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The awards are:

The Honorable Adam Bazaldua
Dallas City Councilmember
District - 7

The Honorable Zarin Gracey
Dallas City Councilmember
District - 3

- ❖ Community Service Award
- ❖ Dallas Dream Forward Award
- ❖ Engagement Award
- ❖ Excellence Award
- ❖ Humanitarian (Empathy) Award
- ❖ Volunteer of the Year

Honorable Omar Narvaez
Dallas City Councilmember
District - 6

**Sheneice M. Hughes &
Vincent Lewis**
Assistant Directors
Dallas Aviation Department

SPECIAL RECOGNITION & ANNOUNCEMENT FROM COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Dionne Hilliard, Vice-President
LIRA Group

Rhea Clinton Baker, President/CEO
HELP (Hope.Encourage.Love.Protect)

BENEDICTION/CLOSING

Cannon Brown
MLK Advisory Board Member
District - 14

~THIS CONCLUDES OUR PROGRAM~

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Lift every voice and sing,
Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,
Bitter the chast'ning rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat,
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered.
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past,
Till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who hast by Thy might,
Led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,
May we forever stand,
True to our God,
True to our native land.

by: James Weldon Johnson

M L K Scholarship Winners

The 2024 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Essay Contest is for high school seniors attending a City of Dallas high school.

The 2024 Essay Prompt was: "Dream the Impossible Dream: Arise and Pursue the Legacy."

Students were asked to describe an impossible dream that would drastically change society for the better; who would be impacted, and how would they turn this impossible dream into reality.

Click on a student to hear more!



Morgan Lee
1st Place Winner
Bishop Dunne
Catholic School



Naiya Carney
2nd Place Winner
School of Health
Professions at Yvonne A.
Ewell Townview Center



Corey Hamilton
3rd Place Winner
Judge Barefoot
Sanders Law Magnet
at Yvonne A. Ewell
Townview Center



Lily Brown



Ariel Collins



Hlyia Kennedy



Triniti Houston



Rebecca Cawi Gang

Honorable Mentions

Keynote Speaker

Rev. Dr. Frederick Douglas Haynes, III



Rev. Dr. Frederick Douglass Haynes, III is a prophetic pastor, passionate leader, social activist, eloquent orator, and educator engaged in preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ, and fighting against racial injustice. Dr. Haynes is also committed to and has devoted his life to economic justice and empowerment in underserved communities and touching and transforming the lives of the disenfranchised. For the past 40 years, Dr. Haynes has served as a visionary and innovative senior pastor of Friendship-West Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas. Under his servant leadership, the ministry and membership of the church has grown from less than 100 members in 1983 to over 13,000.

After experiencing racism in the segregated south Dr. Haynes' father decided it was best to move his family to San Francisco where his father, Dr. Frederick D. Haynes Sr., pastored the historic Third Baptist Church. At the age of 14, Dr. Haynes' life took a drastic turn when his father passed away on his first day of high school.

Following his father's death, Dr. Haynes encountered many difficulties but with the help of mentors, his family, and God, he was able to overcome every obstacle. Dr. Haynes continued his education at Bishop College in Dallas, TX and graduated with honors in 1982. While a student at Bishop College, he also became a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. In 1996, he earned a Masters of Divinity degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. In 2005, Dr. Haynes received his Doctorate in Ministry from the Graduate Theological Foundation where he was afforded the opportunity to study at Christ Church, Oxford University in Oxford, England. His dissertation, "To Turn the World Upside Down: Church Growth in a Church Committed to Social Justice" reflects his commitment to faith based social activism.

A committed community activist, Dr. Haynes has formed alliances and partnerships with local community leaders and Dallas city officials to fight social injustice, domestic violence, and poverty. He worked with the Center for Responsible Lending in order to fight economic predators in Texas and across the nation that engage in predatory lending. Under the previous presidential administration, Dr. Haynes was frequently invited to the White House in order to address issues ranging from the state of the economy to voting and civil rights. He was publicly applauded by President Barack Obama for developing the THRIVE Intern and Leadership Program which employed nearly 100 young black males between the ages of 16-19. Since its inception, the program has expanded and now employs both young men and women with local businesses and at the church at a pay rate above minimum wage.

A life-long learner, Dr. Haynes is committed to education and has led Friendship-West to donate over two million dollars to Historically Black Colleges and Universities and students who are members of the church and the greater Dallas community.

As a reflection of his commitment to community transformation and social consciousness, Dr. Haynes serves in various leadership capacities in organizations that champion social change and education. Among them the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference, the Conference of National Black Churches, the National Action Network, and 100 Black Men of America. He also serves as a member of the Board of Trustees of Paul Quinn College, an HBCU in Dallas.

2024 Trailblazer Award Recipient



Commissioner John Wiley Price

John Wiley Price is the ranking member of the Dallas County Commissioner's Court, and the most visible proponents of justice and liberation in the State of Texas. But don't just believe what you may have heard about him, his record of resilience and respect that says it better than anyone person ever could.

John Wiley Price (JWP), "Our Man Downtown" came to elective position and to his purpose in a mercurial fashion. JWP was elected as the first African American to the Dallas County Commissioner's Court, and has served for more than 38 years. He remains as passionate and popular as the day he took office on January 1, 1985.

John Wiley Price prevailing promise was to develop alliances that would guarantee Minority and Women Business Enterprise (MWBE) contractors equal opportunity with Dallas County. Prior to 1985, Dallas County let roughly \$50,000 to minorities while managing an operating budget of hundreds of millions of dollars. Since his investiture, procurement and contracts let to minority vendors and professionals has exploded. Dallas County's MWBE began publishing annual results in 1998 and report an aggregate total of \$372,032,707.89 as of June 2011.

John Wiley Price's fights for inclusion among institutions that traditionally resist minority participation. To name a few of his duties, he serves as Chairman of Dallas County Civil Service Commission, Chairman of Jail Population Committee, Vice President of the Dallas County Juvenile Board, Chairman of Jail Sanitation and Maintenance Committee, Vice President of the Dallas County and Housing Finance Corporation, Chairman of the Public Health Advisory, Bioterrorism and Safety.

John Wiley Price is the Founder and President of KwanzaaFest, Inc., the largest community, cultural event in the state established in 1991. In 2010 the event recorded 48,456 in health screening which equated to \$1,043,090 in free health care. KwanzaaFest plays host to an excess of 50,000 patrons and embraces the seven principles of the African American holiday, Kwanzaa.

John Wiley Price has been active in this community and is no stranger to personal sacrifice. Over 38 years leadership, the Commissioner's extracurricular activities include "The Dallas County Community Leadership Luncheon", nightly host of KKDA's "Talk Back, Liberation Radio", and a drive time radio crusade known as Liberation Nation KNON 89.3.

John Wiley Price manages his personal responsibilities with the same rigor and regard that he has for his work. He is the committed father of two sons, John Jr. and John Nicholas, and one daughter, Angelina Monique.

Mistress of Ceremony



Tashara Parker

Tashara Parker is a 4X Emmy award-winning journalist, speaker, founder of #TheBunMinistry, a national advocate for natural hair movements, and host of #Rooted on WFAA in Dallas, TX. Beloved for her bold, direct reporting and advocacy, Tashara's powerful storytelling and sense of humor have earned her a diverse following and broad platform.

Tashara is a multifaceted professional, influential speaker, journalist, host, and emcee. Her career is a testament to her unwavering dedication to empowering individuals, amplifying diverse narratives, and creating spaces where authenticity thrives.

With a commanding stage presence and an innate ability to connect with her audience, Tashara has become one of the most sought-after speakers of our time. She has graced the stage of over 200 events across the country, captivating audiences with her thought-provoking ideas and inspiring them to embrace the power of diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging (DEIB). Tashara's unique blend of expertise and charisma sparks meaningful conversations and facilitates transformative experiences, leaving a lasting impact on all who have the privilege of hearing her speak.

As a 4X Emmy award-winning journalist, Tashara has a keen eye for uncovering compelling stories and capturing the essence of the human experience. Through her work, she sheds light on the issues that matter, challenges the status quo, and gives voice to the voiceless. Tashara's dedication to ethical reporting and her commitment to truth have earned her the trust and respect of both her readers and her peers.

Beyond the world of journalism, Tashara is the founder of Loud Women Lead, a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering women to rise and lead with confidence and authenticity. Through Loud Women Lead, she is instrumental in shaping the future of female leadership, fostering a community that embraces and celebrates the power of women's voices.



Dallas City Council



Chad West
District 1



Jesse Moreno
District 2



Zarin D. Gracey
District 3



Carolyn King Arnold
District 4
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem



Jaime Resendez
District 5



Omar Narvaez
District 6



Adam Bazaldua
District 7



Eric L. Johnson
City of Dallas Mayor

Tennell Atkins
District 8
Mayor Pro Tem



Paula Blackmon
District 9



Kathy Stewart
District 10



Jaynie Schultz
District 11



Cara Mendelsohn
District 12



Gay Donnell
Willis District 13



Paul E. Ridley
District 14



MLK Center Advisory Board

The MLK Advisory Board is comprised of fifteen members. Fourteen members represent Council-member districts (1-14). The Board Chair is appointed by the Mayor of Dallas and approved by a vote of City Council. Generally, Advisory Board Members serve a two-year term ending on September 30 of each odd-numbered year.



Eddie Elaine Sacks
District 1

Shlawnda T. Celestine
District 8



Dr. Zandra D. Mendenhall
District 2

Kelly Don Drake
District 9



Candace Wicks
Vice Chair
District 3



Clara Brown Trimble
Chair
District 10

Alexis Cook
District 11



Ann Williams
District 4

Michael Ross
District 12



Jonda Mitchell
District 6

Cannon Brown
District 14



Jessica Jolly
District 7

Betty Hooley
District 15



Entertainment

Booker T. Washington School of Performing Arts Choir Ensemble

Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts is extremely proud to host several award winning choirs. Booker T. Choirs have performed at a number of conventions including the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) Conference and the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA). Choral groups from Booker T. have collected several awards at the UIL Concert and Sight Reading contests, including "Sweepstakes" which honors the choirs for receiving the highest honors in concert singing and sight reading.

Turtle Creek Chorale

In 1980, 30 men stood on stage and sang at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Now known as Turtle Creek Chorale (TCC), that small group has grown to more than 250. As the most recorded male chorus in the world, TCC has provided musical journeys to audiences in Dallas, Texas and beyond for over 40 years and offers an annual mainstage concert series at Moody Performance Hall, Meyerson Symphony Center, and other venues around the DFW metroplex.

Timothy McCoy

Timothy McCoy is a highly talented singer, songwriter, and versatile music performer who has captivated audiences with his exceptional musical abilities. With a deep passion for music from an early age, Timothy honed his skills in various genres, including R&B and gospel. His remarkable stage presence and captivating performances have earned him critical acclaim. Timothy's ability to seamlessly blend different musical styles creates an electrifying experience for his audience, leaving them in awe of his incredible talent. Timothy's soulful interpretations and dynamic delivery make him a true standout in the music industry.



2024 MLK Award Categories

Community Service Award – This award honors persons/organizations who are making significant contributions to the community through their time, actions, talents, dedication, in-kind sponsorships, and partnerships that has supported the programs and services of the MLK Jr. Community Center throughout the year.

Nominees

1. DFW Voices for Education and Youth
2. TXU Energy
3. Peter & Dena Silberman

Excellence Award – This award recognizes outstanding collaborations and sponsorships by an organization that has routinely and historically sought to improve practices, implement best practices, and positively impact their community with an emphasis on the MLK Jr. Community Center.

Corporate Nominees

1. Kroger
2. Reliant NRG
3. Dairy Farmers of America (DFA)

Non-Profit Nominees

1. LIRA Group
2. First Choice Social Services
3. Oasis Focus

Humanitarian (Empathy) Award – The recipient must show examples of having a strong commitment to the programs and services of the MLK Jr. Community Center by participating in or promoting activities that emphasize social responsibility in responding to domestic and/or local issues.

Nominees

1. Hope Encourage Love Protect (HELP)
2. Oncor
3. Accident & Injury Chiropractic

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2024 MLK Award Categories

Volunteer of the Year Award – The person or organizations being nominated for this award will have consistently demonstrated compassion and service to the programming and services of the MLK Jr. Community Center throughout the year.

Nominees

1. In the City for Good
2. Atmos Energy
3. GEICO

Trailblazer Award - The recipient nominated for this award will have used their specific platform, to highlight issues and inequities across racial and gender lines. The recipient ideally, will be working to create awareness of these issues and creating positive change within the community. The recipient will also be educating the public on issues and provide ideas and opportunities to get involved and what can be done to address and solve these problems in our community.

2024 Recipient: Commissioner John Wiley Price

Engagement Award - This award recognizes organizations and or individuals who seek collaborations in the community, provide a positive impact, and has had routinely and historically supported the MLK Jr. Community Center throughout the year with their time, resources, and in-kind sponsorships.

Corporate Nominees

1. Fort Worth Community Food Bank
2. Enterprise
3. Boss Fight Entertainment

Non-Profit Nominees

1. Miles of Freedom
2. Giving Tree Ministries
3. Alpha Sigma Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Dallas Dream Forward Award – The person or organization that has gone above and beyond to deliver the highest quality of service to the MLK Jr. Community Center. This award recognizes the tireless efforts of this individual or organization who works so diligently to find the “Yes” to assist the needs of the citizens of Dallas and the programs/cultural events of the MLK Jr. Community Center. This work is done with compassion and dedication through service and sponsorship.

Organizational Nominees

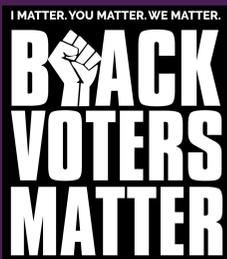
1. Empowering the Masses
2. Ellen’s Kitchen
3. Bridgford Foods

Individual Nominees

1. Deborah Sutton
2. Carla Woolridge
3. Doris Edmon

Thank You 2024 Sponsors & Supporters!

JB MANAGEMENT



Dallas Love Field



R
RENAISSANCE®
DALLAS HOTEL



Evangelist Betty Carter Hooey
Councilman Chad West

Dedication

In remembrance of the cherished lives we have lost in 2023, we honor their memory and celebrate the impact they had on our lives. Each individual illuminated our world in their unique way, leaving an indelible mark on our hearts. Through their accomplishments, kindness, and enduring spirits, they inspired us to strive for greatness and taught us the value of love, compassion, and resilience. As we join together in this gala, let us remember their legacies, and find solace in the memories they left behind.

❖ **Eddie Bernice Johnson**
Former United States Congressional Member



❖ **Lois Jean Lilly**
Former MLK Advisory Board Member, District 3



❖ **Jesse Tafalla, Jr.**
MLK Advisory Board Member, District 5



❖ **Craig Watkins**
Former Dallas County District Attorney



DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

MLK

CELEBRATION WEEK

JANUARY 9-15, 2024



Community Care