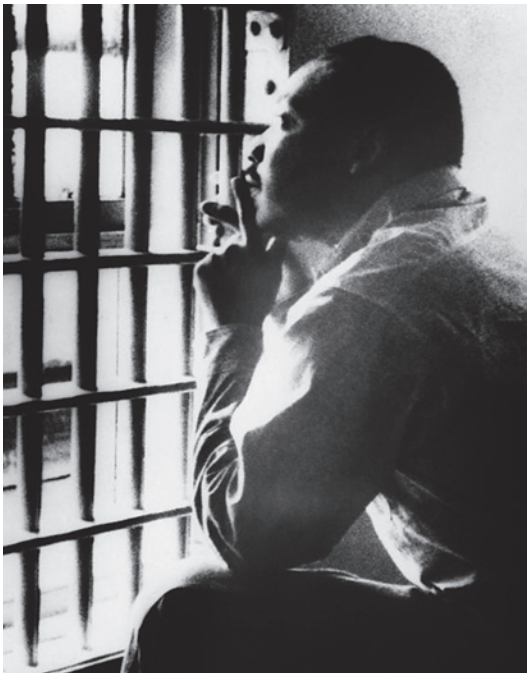
→ "All progress is precarious, and the solution of one problem brings us face to face with another problem." "Almost always, the creative dedicated minority has made the world better." "An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity." "An individual who breaks a law that conscience tells him is unjust, and who willingly accepts the

Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

Monday, January 20, 2014
7:00 - 9:30 pm



Letter from Birmingham Jail: Its Relevance for Today

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

Presented by

GLASTONBURY MLK COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

In partnership with the Glastonbury Human Relations Commission

Sponsored in Part by:
The Town of Glastonbury
George H.C. Ensworth Memorial Fund

→ penalty of imprisonment in order to arouse the conscience of the community over its injustice, is in reality expressing the highest respect for the law." "At the center of nonviolence stands the principle of love." "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do

Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative

What is the Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative?

- The Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative (GMLKCI) is a 501 (c) (3) corporation organized in 2001 to provide leadership and active engagement to build an inclusive community
- GMLKCI works to increase knowledge and understanding of the philosophy and principles of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and is dedicated to applying that philosophy to engage the community in a shared sense of belonging
- We partner with the Town of Glastonbury Human Relations Commission, students, citizen groups, businesses, faith communities and civic organizations in pursuit of the Initiative's programs and projects

What is the purpose of the Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative?

- To provide leadership and active engagement to build an inclusive community

What does an "inclusive community" look like?

- It provides opportunities to satisfy basic societal needs of belonging and acceptance
- It is committed to listening, appreciating differences, and celebrating the positive contributions from all citizens

What are the benefits of an inclusive community for Glastonbury?

- Increasing levels of trust, connectedness, and civic participation in the community
- A stronger sense of belonging to, and ownership of, the community

How does the Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative provide leadership to build an inclusive community?

By living the philosophy and beliefs of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and other community-building leaders to engage the community in a variety of activities, including:

- Organizing Community Conversations and workshops reflecting the philosophy of Dr. King
- Empowering youth to become effective, responsible leaders and community- builders through educational opportunities and activities
- Providing scholarships to Glastonbury students to develop leadership through diversity training
- Partnering with Town of Glastonbury Human Relations Commission, Senior Services Department, Youth and Family Services and Housing Authority; and the Historical Society of Glastonbury, Welles-Turner Memorial Library, Connecticut Center for Nonviolence in support of the mission of GMLKCI

What is the annual Martin Luther King Day Celebration?

- On the national holiday, a free educational program aimed at engaging participants in the principles of the Beloved Community by providing speakers, performers, re-enactors, artists, workshops and activities for all
- An opportunity to gather as a community during and after the event to encourage involvement in future community- building activities

How can I support the work of the Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative?

- Direct financial support - our budget is approximately $12,000 and our programs are supported solely through contributions from local grants, businesses, individuals and organizations in our community. You can send your tax deductible contributions to:

  Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative
  417 Chimneysweep Hill Road
  Glastonbury, Connecticut 06033
- In-kind services such as marketing services, web development, printing and catering
- Join us! Volunteer to serve on the Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative

www.gmlkci.org, Diane at 860-633-6078, or Linda at 860-643-0473

"Change does not roll in on the wheels of inevitability, but comes through continuous struggle. And so we must straighten our backs and work for our freedom"

Celebration Program

Welcome
Darwin Kovacs, President, Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative

Invocation
Deacon Arthur L. Miller, Director, Office for Black Catholic Ministries, Archdiocese of Hartford

Glastonbury High School Madrigals under the direction of Dr. Ethan Nash
- ***Lift Every Voice and Sing – Audience Participation Encouraged***

Flyer Design Recognition
Darwin Kovacs, Presenting to Kara Petzold, Class of 2017

Multi-media Presentation Recognition
Darwin Kovacs, Presenting to Brendan Clemente, Class of 2014

Joan Kemble Beloved Community Award Recipient
Darwin Kovacs, Presenting to Amanda Cole, Class of 2015

Birmingham, 1963
Deacon Arthur L. Miller

Letter from Birmingham Jail – Dramatic Excerpt
David H. Greer

Choral Performance
Glastonbury High School Madrigals under the direction of Dr. Ethan Nash
- ***Steal Away***, arranged by Moses Hogan
- ***In That Great Gettin' Up Morning,*** arranged by Hart

"Can't Wait – Reflections on the Movement"
HartBeat Ensemble

Closing Remarks and Invitation to Reception
Darwin Kovacs

Discussion
HartBeat Ensemble Cast, David H. Greer, Deacon Arthur L. Miller

→ perpetrate it. He who accepts evil without protesting against it is really cooperating with it." "Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable... Every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle, the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals." "Human salvation lies in the hands of the creatively maladjusted." "I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the

Martin Luther King's Letter from Birmingham Jail

In April 1963, while sitting in solitary confinement, Martin Luther King read in a newspaper an open letter from eight white clergymen urging that the Civil Rights demonstrations in Birmingham, Alabama, be stopped immediately because they were unwise and untimely.

Jailed for his leadership of those demonstrations, King was aghast that the clergymen appealed to black citizens to use only negotiations and the legal system to gain their rights. King knew full well that without the tension created by nonviolent civil action, negotiations either never occurred or failed. As for the legal system, black citizens were routinely denied justice in the courts.

King was also appalled because the clergymen did not mention the terrorism that was being carried out against the black community with the full support of Eugene "Bull" Connor, the Birmingham police commissioner. So frequent were the bombings of black churches, institutions and homes that Birmingham was nicknamed Bombingham. The most horrific bombing was yet to occur: in September 1963, four little girls were blown up while attending Sunday school at the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church.

King felt morally compelled to respond to the letter. Without paper to write on, he began to scribble in the margins of the newspaper in which the letter had been published. When his lawyer, Clarence Jones, came to see him, King asked him to smuggle his notes out. It then fell to Wyatt Walker, one of King's coworkers, to transcribe what he described as "chicken-scratch handwriting" that wove around the advertisements, articles, and headlines. After King's release from jail, the letter was sent for publication. Over a month went by before it appeared in the New York Post, the Christian Century, and other periodicals—a month marked in Birmingham by Bull Connor's order to use police dogs and high-pressure water hoses on the young demonstrators.

King's clear but impassioned letter was not full of anger and bitterness but of reason. He began by pointing out that injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. "We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly." He obliquely chided the clergymen for superficial social analysis that failed to "grapple with underlying causes." To their charge that the demonstrations were untimely, he said that to black citizens the word wait almost always meant never. "We must come to see, with one of our distinguished jurists, that 'justice too long delayed is justice denied.'"

Drawing on Greek philosophy, Bible stories, and personal accounts of the grinding cruelty of segregation, King carefully analyzed the difference between just and unjust laws. He wrote that a person has both a legal and moral responsibility to disobey unjust laws that degrade the human personality. He underscored his point by stating that the laws that led to the Holocaust in Nazi Germany were totally legal and that had he been there, he would have disobeyed them.

King explained the principles of nonviolent protest that, in combination with love, formed a "more excellent way." He condemned extremism of any kind, but if people were going to label him an extremist, he would like to be an extremist for love, following in the steps of Jesus.

By the time King had signed his name to his Letter from Birmingham Jail, it had gone from a response to eight men to an address to the world, universal and timeless in scope. Its theme of inclusivity pertains to immigrants today. His warning about superficial answers that do not address underlying causes still holds true, whether the subject is food stamps, Medicaid, or education. So also does his concern for the psychological damage of inferiority, what he called "nobodyness."

Near the end of his letter, King quoted the words of a 72-year-old black woman who decided not to ride the segregated buses in Montgomery, Alabama: "My feets is tired, but my soul is rested." For him, she symbolized a majestic sense of dignity and profundity towards which everyone should aspire.

— By Kathleen Housley

Birmingham, 1963 - Deacon Arthur Miller

Deacon, author, radio and television host, revivalist, and retired owner of A. Miller Investments, Deacon Miller is the director of the Office for Black Catholic Ministries for the Archdiocese of Hartford. In addition to his assigned parish of St. Mary's in Simsbury, he is also the Catholic chaplain at Hartford's Capital Community College as well as the President of the National Association of Black Catholic Administrators. In this role he represents the over three million black Catholics in America for the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops.

At public forums, houses of worship, schools and universities across the country, Deacon Miller addresses issues of social injustice and the need of conversion to "Radical Love". With firsthand knowledge he speaks to his audiences from the perspective of an African American who grew up on the South Side of Chicago in the 1940s and 1950s. Deacon Miller was 10 years old in 1955 when his schoolmate, Emmett Till, age 14, was brutally murdered in Mississippi for allegedly whistling at a white woman – an incident that energized the nascent Civil Rights Movement. His recently released book, *The Journey to Chatham*, details the historic events seen through the eyes of Emmett's friends.

Deacon Miller is a certified trainer in Dr. King's nonviolence philosophy, and is the Hartford Archdiocese representative to the Connecticut Coalition to Save Darfur. He was influential in passing the law that discontinues the death penalty in the state of CT, and is currently working with state legislators on passing a new law that addresses the elimination of present day slavery in CT. "If God were to give us an 11th commandment," Deacon Miller proposes, "I believe it would read: Thou shall not be a bystander."

Letter from Birmingham Jail - Dramatic Excerpt
David H. Greer

David Horace Greer is a Tony-nominated producer, playwright, and actor. His passions entertain and enlighten audiences in the US and abroad and have raised funds for not-for-profit organizations.

Actor and Choreographer – A Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism Artist Fellow, David adapted for the stage and performs an intimate, emotionally dynamic portrayal of Dr. Martin Luther King's seminal 1963 work, "Letter from Birmingham Jail". He has performed the piece dozens of times in the last 20 years at schools, universities, sanctuaries, and MLK celebrations across the U.S. and as far away as Egypt.

Producer and Playwright – David was a member of the Broadway producing team for the final Kander & Ebb (**Chicago, Cabaret**) musical, **The Scottsboro Boys**, which earned 12 Tony nominations, including a "Best Musical" nomination for him and his team. He also helped produce Broadway shows: **The Mountaintop**, starring Samuel L. Jackson and Angela Bassett, and **The Gershwin's Porgy and Bess**, starring Audra McDonald and David Alan Grier. In Hartford, David wrote, co-directed, and co-produced **Peculiar People** at Hartford Stage, which dramatized stories of less-known Civil Rights Movement heroes and raised funds for the Hartford Urban League. Most recently, David consulted the Executive Producer and casting teams for Universal Pictures' James Brown bio-pic, **Get On Up**, starring Viola Davis, Chadwick Boseman, Jill Scott, and Dan Aykroyd (in theaters August 2014). Works in-development include the play **Hour Farther**, which will make its world premiere at the Emerson Theater Collaborative in Mystic (CT) in 2014; original book, lyrics, and music for the musical **Walk With Me**; and a bio-musical about an internationally-known iconic entertainer. David is also a CCCT Playwright Grant recipient.

Additional – David served on the Boards of Hartford's TheaterWorks and Footlights, an after-school arts program which is now a part of Greater Hartford YMCA programs. He also co-founded One World Epic and currently works in Strategic Planning and Finance for a Fortune 50 company. Originally from rural Oakland, Kentucky, he graduated **cum laude** from Kentucky's Centre College, was a Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholar at the American University in Cairo (Egypt), and earned an MBA from the University of Chicago, Booth School of Business.

"Can't Wait – Reflections on the Movement"
Relevance Today of Themes in Letter from Birmingham Jail
HartBeat Ensemble

HartBeat Ensemble - Founded in 2001 by Steven Ginsburg, Julia B. Rosenblatt and Gregory Tate (1952-2012), HartBeat Ensemble is a Connecticut-based performance company that creates theater drawn from contemporary life. The company uses their own unique play-creation process, which focuses on first-hand accounts and interviews to extend the boundaries of theater. Through Mainstage Productions and Education Programs, HartBeat develops innovative theater works that are accessible beyond the barriers of class, race, geography and gender. HartBeat is based at The Carriage House Theater at 360 Farmington Avenue, where they perform their own work and present other artists and companies.

Julia B. Rosenblatt - Originally from Hartford, Julia is a playwright, actor and the Co-Artistic Director of HartBeat Ensemble. After earning her BA in theater from the University of California Los Angeles School of Theater, Film and Television, she moved to northern California to work with various theatrical groups. After returning to Hartford she became a co-founder of HartBeat Ensemble, co-writing and performing in a variety of the company's productions. In addition to her playwriting and performance work, Julia is a recognized theater educator and has developed a unique approach to civic learning while teaching theater skills at a high level for young adults. She is a recipient of the 2009 New Boston Fund Individual Artist Award as well as the 2013 Connecticut Commission on the Arts Artist Fellowship.

Cindy Martinez - A native of Hartford, Cindy studied Theatre at the Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts & Center for Creative Youth at Wesleyan University. Cindy co-hosted a documentary film 'Women In Charge' alongside Adrianne Baughns-Wallace. After completing her Bachelor's degree in Video Production at Southern CT State University, Cindy became a member of HartBeat Ensemble in 2008. Her film credits include The Street Walker in "Sunny's Secret", a short film; Dorothy, Secretary to the Chief of Police, in the highly anticipated, TV pilot police drama "The 2nd District"; and the lead role of "Nikki" in My Father's Shadow. She has performed in HartBeat Ensemble's Graves, The Pueblo, Flipside and Riding the Turnpike.

Taneisha Duggan NYC: Lesbian Love Octagon (The Kraine) Get to Nomi (LaMama) Flipside (Fringe Festival NYC-HERE Arts Center) Women of Roswell (American Globe Theater); Hamlet (Purchase Repertory Theater); Regional: Riding the Turnpike (HartBeat Ensemble) Race (TheaterWorks); Tigertigertiger (Long Wharf Theater); Flipside (HartBeat Ensemble), Raisin in the Sun (Hartford Stage Company); Cat on a Hot Tin Roof (Hartford Stage Company). Education: Purchase College, State University of New York.

Glastonbury High School Madrigals

Dr. Ethan Nash has been the Director of Choirs at Glastonbury High School since 2007. He received his D.M.A. in Choral Conducting from the Hartt School. Dr. Nash is also the Artistic Director of the West Hartford Women's Chorale. He is the author of the earthsongs choral music publication Translations and Annotations of Choral Repertoire. At Glastonbury High School, he conducts three curricular choirs, the Chorus, Treble Choir and Concert Choir as well as the Madrigals and the extracurricular Men's Choir.

The Madrigals are a highly competitive and specialized after-school ensemble. They perform small choral works representing a variety of time periods. Recent repertoire has included traditional "madrigals" such as J Morley's Fyer and Fyer and Arcadelt's Il bianco e dolce digno, Romantic favorites like Stanford's Beati Quorum Via and Ravel's Nicolette as well as modern choral standards like Poulenc's Hodie Christus Natus Est and Steven Sametz's Gaudete. Recent pop songs performed have included complex arrangements such as the Kings Singers' Hide and Seek and the Swingle Singers' Drive My Car. The group's 16-20 members are selected by audition from the music department's choral classes. The ensemble rehearses two hours a week and performs at most major school concerts as well as extensively in the community. Recent performance venues have included the Glastonbury Rotary Club, South Church and the Apple Harvest Festival.

Soprano
Emma Burris, Teryn Kuzma, Corinne Prudente, Kiele Sacco, Shannon Siwik

Alto
Meredith Coon, Jennifer Hogan, Allison Kask, Elizabeth Lybass, Lily Masternak

Tenor
David Brewer, Peter Fan, Tre Frazier, Gabriel Julien, Jared Miller

Bass
Benjamin Feldman, Johan Hartman, James O'Flarity, Ryan Paulekas, Eli Poesnecker

Dr. King's Philosophy and Beliefs

Dr. King believed that part of our destiny was what he called a "Beloved Community." This is not a utopian dream but an inevitable reality based on his belief that human beings are innately social and dependent upon each other. Dr. King once wrote, "We are tied together in the single garment of destiny, caught in an inescapable network of mutuality." How we treat each other determines how close we come to that ideal community. He saw segregation as a form of violence, which is a significant barrier to community. But he also recognized that conflict was an inevitable part of human experience and could be resolved peacefully. Adversaries could be reconciled through a mutual, determined commitment to nonviolence.

The path to a Beloved Community is well defined in Dr. King's principles of nonviolence and social change. He created a structure for conversations that ensures people hear each other and honor differences without animosity, hatred, physical violence or any form of dominating, controlling or invasive behavior. In his campaign for civil rights he called people into conversation through boycotts and marches. The result was shared understanding and reconciliation. This is the "stuff" of community. However, community does not need to result from disagreements; more often it results from knowing and accepting others in an environment of mutual respect.

We use the phrase "inclusive community" to describe Dr. King's Beloved Community -- but our goals are the same. In 2013 we hosted three separate conversations on community: a panel discussion "The Nonviolent Movement of the 1960's Holds Lessons for Today" facilitated by Shelby Brown and Diane Drakes, which explored ideas about nonviolent social change and agapic energy presented by our 2013 Celebration speaker Diane Nash; a trip to see "The Mountaintop" by Katori Hall at TheaterWorks followed by a discussion of the way in which that play presented themes relating to Dr. King's life and work, and finally "Do Neighborhoods Matter? Building Connections in Vibrant Communities", a discussion moderated by Tom Condon of the Hartford Courant and featured author Peter Lovenheim, writer and community activist Susan Campbell, Professors Andrew Walsh and Ann Marie Garran. In short, we encourage any activity that promotes listening, appreciating the differences and celebrating the positive contributions from all citizens so that everyone feels that they belong here and the community belongs to them.

Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative

Mission: Provide leadership and active engagement to build an inclusive community.

Goals:

1. Increase knowledge and understanding of the life and philosophy of Dr. King to inspire others to continue his work
2. Bring the concept of inclusivity to the community
3. Raise awareness of the benefits of an inclusive community
4. Engage community members in activities that foster meaningful relationships and dialogue
5. Engage youth by supporting the development of their community-building and leadership skills

Benefactors

In-Kind Donations

- Gardiner's Market
- Highland Park Market
- Ken's Corner Breakfast and Lunch
- Christopher Merisotis, Technology, Glastonbury Public Schools
- Mustard Seed Cafe
- Sam's Club
- Starbuck's
- Glastonbury Public Schools
- Shop Rite, East Hartford
- Stop & Shop, Glastonbury Blvd.
- Stop & Shop, Oak Street
- TD Bank
- Town of Glastonbury
- Tom Zelek & Applied Engineering Class, GHS
- Whole Foods Market

Financial Support

- George H.C. Ensworth Memorial Fund
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- Glastonbury PTSO
- Glastonbury Rotary Club, Inc.
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- Premier Driving School, LLC
- Quality Car Care Towing
- Rockville Bank Foundation
- Saint James Episcopal Church
- Smiles for the Future, LLC
- Representative Prasad Srinivasan, MD & Kala Prasad
- Thompson Landscape Improvement, Inc.
- Margaret M. Wilcox

Partners

- ABC House volunteers
- Shelby Brown and Diane Drakes, Community Conversations Facilitators
- Brendan Clemente, GHS '14, Multi-Media Presentation
- Glastonbury High School Madrigals, Dr. Ethan Nash
- Glastonbury Public Schools
- Glastonbury Senior Services, Patti White
- Kathleen Housley, author/ historian, MLK's Letter from Birmingham Jail
- Pam Lehn, Computer Arts Teacher, Glastonbury High School
- Mary Ellen Linderman, Riverfront Community Center Display
- Kara Petzold, GHS '17 MLK Flyer Design
- Dr. Daniel Roach, Director of Art, Glastonbury Public Schools
- Town of Glastonbury, Mary Wilbor
- Town of Glastonbury, Housing Authority, Neil J. Griffin, Jr.
- Welles-Turner Memorial Library, Barbara Bailey, Director

Appreciation

Thank you for attending tonight's program. Your presence encourages the work we do as members of the Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative. To celebrate this year's event, we felt it was fitting to look back to 1963, the 50th anniversary of so many significant events in the Civil Rights Movement. Dr. King's Letter from Birmingham Jail stands out as a powerful, prophetic message with relevance for today.

This project was accomplished by a handful of committed community members but the work does not end tonight. Activities are planned throughout the year. All of our programs are free, but we are dependent on you for financial support. The Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative is a 501(c)(3) corporation. You can send your tax deductible contributions to:

Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative
417 Chimneysweep Hill Road
Glastonbury, Connecticut 06033

Thank you for supporting our efforts through your participation in making Glastonbury a more engaging place to live and visit.

GLASTONBURY MLK
COMMUNITY
INITIATIVE

501(c)(3)
Using Dr. King's philosophy and principles to build an inclusive community

Town of Glastonbury Human Relations Commission

The Glastonbury Human Relations Commission is available to assist any resident who, because of race, color, age, sex, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or intellectual, mental or physical disability, has been discriminated against in a manner prohibited by the laws of the State of Connecticut or the Town of Glastonbury. For additional information visit the Town's website or contact the Commission through the Human Resources Department, (860) 652-7501.

Members of the Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative

Joyce Allen	Darwin Kovacs	Leslie Ohta
Lisa Davis	Susan Lowenkron	Jean Partridge
Linda Ferreira	Diane Lucas	Jen Siskind
Donna Kidwell	Susan Marks	Natalie Lynn Smith
John Kidwell	Annemarie O'Connor	Denise Weeks

www.gmlkci.org, Diane at 860-633-6078, or Linda at 860-643-0473

can be no deep disappointment where there is not deep love." "We must develop and maintain the capacity to forgive. He who is devoid of the power to forgive is devoid of the power to love. There is some good in the worst of us and some evil in the best of us. When we discover this, we are less prone to hate our enemies." "There can be no deep disappointment where there is not deep love." — Dr. Martin Luther King, 1929 - 1968

The Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative thanks our sponsors who help make this work possible:

George H.C. Ensworth Memorial Fund

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