

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration Week

January 20-25, 2020 Theme: #NowIsTheTime

Keynote Speakers

Yusef Salaam



Jan. 20, 2 p.m., Fieldhouse Arena

Yusef Salaam was 15 years old in 1989 when he and four other teenagers were wrongly accused and convicted of attacking and raping a woman in New York City's Central Park. Collectively known as the Exonerated Five, Salaam and the others spent seven-13 years in prison. After their sentences were overturned, Salaam and others were subjects of two documentaries. He is now an activist and noted lecturer.

Cedric Taylor



Jan. 22, 4:30 p.m., Russel H. Kirkhof Center

Cedric Taylor, associate professor of sociology at Central Michigan University, is the writer, director and co-producer of "Nor Any Drop to Drink: The Flint Water Crisis." Taylor is a public sociologist who employs film, visual media and storytelling to engage the wider community in conversations around racism and social justice.

GVSU Schedule of Events:

Monday, January 20

10 a.m.-Noon: Upcycling
Russel H. Kirkhof Center, Pere Marquette Room

11 a.m.-Noon: Panel Discussion
Russel H. Kirkhof Center, rooms 2215/2216

Noon-1:15 p.m.: Free Campus Lunch
Russel H. Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room

1:30 p.m.: Silent March to Fieldhouse
Assemble at James H. Zumberge Hall

2 p.m.: Keynote Presentation by Yusef Salaam
Fieldhouse Arena
LIB 100/201 approved

Wednesday, January 22

3-4 p.m.: Workshop by Cedric Taylor: "Film as Activism: Documentary Filmmaking with Your Smartphone"
Russel H. Kirkhof Center, Pere Marquette Room

4:30 p.m.: Keynote Presentation, "A Dream Still Deferred: Environmental (In)Justice and the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr." by Cedric Taylor
Russel H. Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room
LIB 100/201 approved

Saturday, January 25

9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.: MLK Jr. Day of Service and Solidarity
Coordinated by the Community Service Learning Center

Visit gvsu.edu/mlk for more information.

Campus sponsors: African/African American Studies, Community Service Learning Center, Division of Inclusion and Equity, Graduate School Association, Office of Multicultural Affairs, Making Waves, Student Senate

Greater Grand Rapids Community Schedule of Events:

Sunday, January 19

6 p.m.: MLK Celebration Service
DeVos Center for Arts and Worship, 2300 Plymouth Ave SE, Grand Rapids
Keynote speaker: Rev. Tynae Richardson, One Church

Monday, January 20

10 a.m.-Noon: Davenport University Day of Service
David D. Hunting YMCA, Grand Rapids

Monday, January 20

6 p.m.: 34th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Celebration
Fountain Street Church, 24 Fountain St. NE, Grand Rapids
Keynote Speaker: Yusef Salaam
(Doors open at 5 p.m.)

Tuesday, January 21

Noon: Davenport University presents "The Meeting," by the Ebony Road Players, followed by silent march on campus
Snedden Center, Lettinga Auditorium

