Grand Valley State University presents

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration Week

January 18-26, 2021

The Legacy of MLK: Purpose, Truth and Justice

Keynote Speaker

Yamiche Alcindor

Yamiche Alcindor, award-winning journalist and White House correspondent for PBS Newshour, will give the keynote address, "The Legacy of MLK: Purpose, Truth and Justice," during West Michigan's commemoration of the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Alcindor joined PBS NewsHour in 2018. She began her journalism career at Newsday in New York and several years later was named a political correspondent for NBC and MSNBC. She has received the White House Correspondents' Association Aldo Beckman Award for Overall Excellence in White House Coverage and the 2020 National Association of Black Journalists' Journalist of the Year Award.

The program includes presentation of high school scholarship recipients and welcomes from college presidents and community leaders.

Schedule of Events

Monday, January 18

6:30–8 p.m. | "The Legacy of MLK: Purpose, Truth and Justice," by Yamiche Alcindor, White House correspondent for PBS NewsHour and an NBC and MSNBC political contributor

Webinar Emcee, Julian Sanders (2021). Register for this free event online to receive a link for the Zoom webinar. Event will be closed captioned.

Thursday, January 21

7 p.m. | Chief Isaiah McKinnon: "Policing from the Inside"

Presented by the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum and Library, and GVSU's Division of Inclusion and Equity; RSVP online for a Zoom webinar link.

Saturday, January 23

10:30 a.m.–5 p.m. | MLK Day of Service and Solidarity 2021

All events will be held in the Kirkhof Center and Cook-DeWitt Center. Events including a documentary and discussion, a panel on Gen Z activism, service projects, mural painting activity, and a food drive. See details and register online. RSVPs are required to maintain proper safety precautions.

Student Senate Give Thanks Initiative: A canned food/non-perishable food drive will be held in coordination with the MLK Day of Service and Solidarity 2021. Donation boxes will be placed around campus during the last two weeks of January. Event participants are asked to bring a non-perishable food item with them to donate. Proper public health protocols will be utilized for this effort.

Tuesday, January 26

1–2:30 p.m. | Panel Discussion, "Looking for MLK: Doing Justice in West Michigan": panelists are GVSU faculty members and community members.

RSVP online to receive a link to the Zoom webinar.

- Joe Jones, Grand Rapids Commissioner, Ward 2, and former president of Grand Rapids Urban League
- Tonisha Jones, Associate Professor of Criminal Justice
- Louis Moore, Associate Professor of History
- Denavvia Mojet, GVSU graduate and community activist
- Sherry Johnson, Associate Professor of English (facilitator)

Visit gvsu.edu/mlk for more information.

Presented in collaboration with:

Grand Valley State University

GRCC Grand Rapids Community College

Davenport University

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