



24TH ANNUAL

**DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**  
**HOLIDAY OBSERVANCE &**  
**SUNRISE CELEBRATION**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2023

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The 24th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Observance and Sunrise Celebration is sponsored by OCLC, with additional support by the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Task Force of the ALA Social Responsibilities Round Table, the Black Caucus of the American Library Association, the ALA Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services, and Beacon Press.

**THANK YOU TO ALL CO-SPONSORS FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THIS MORNING'S EVENT!**



## NOTE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

THANK YOU for joining us as we celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Observance and Sunrise Celebration is a Midwinter tradition that began in 2000. Through the combined effort of the OCLC, Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA), the Social Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT), Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Task Force, the ALA Office of Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services, and Beacon Press, we are thrilled to host this celebration again in 2023.

Our theme this year is *Housing: The Chicago Chapter in Dr. King's Freedom Movement*. The passages heard in today's ceremony mark King's time in Chicago in 1966, as the Civil Rights Movement shifted its efforts from the South to this major Northern city. Decades after King's death, we believe his words still resonate the inequality of a 21st Century America, as we continue to struggle with moral, political, economic, and social injustice and rampant police brutality across this nation.

Sincerely,

**ANDREW P. JACKSON (SEKOU MOLEFI BAAKO)**  
Co-Chair, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Observance and Sunrise Celebration (BCALA)

**LaJUAN PRINGLE**  
Co-Chair, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Observance and Sunrise Celebration (SRRT); Charlotte Mecklenburg Library

## TODAY'S PROGRAM

### WELCOME + TRIBUTE

**LaJuan Pringle** Co-Chair, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Holiday Observance and Sunrise Celebration

### MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

**“Lift Ev’ry Voice and Sing”** Virtual performance by Committed of  
Oakwood University  
*(See lyrics on page 9)*

### PARTICIPANTS

**Lessa Kanani’opua Pelayo-Lozada** ALA President, 2022–2023

**Tracie D. Hall** ALA Executive Director

**Romelia Salinas** President, REFORMA: National Associate to Promote Library & Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking

**Nichelle Hayes** President, Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA)

**Cindy Hohl** Past President, American Indian Library Association (AILA)

**Meng Qu** Representative, Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA)

**Annie Pho** President, Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA)

**Andrea Jamison** Chair, ALA Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table (EMIERT)

**Dontana McPherson-Joseph** Chair, ALA Rainbow Round Table (RRT)

**Al Kagan** Representative, ALA Social Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT)

**Elizabeth Burns** Representative, Library Services to Persons with Print Disabilities interest Group

**Sally Stieglitz** Representative, ALA Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services Advisory Committee (ODLO-AC)



## KEYNOTE

**Sheryll Cashin** Author of *White Space, Black Hood: Opportunity Hoarding And Segregation In The Age of Inequality*; Carmack Waterhouse Professor of Law, Civil Rights and Social Justice, Georgetown University

### PARTICIPANTS, CONTINUED

**Elizabeth Nebeker** Representative, ALA Committee on Literacy (COL)

**Twanna Hodge** Spectrum Scholar

**Kathy Bloomfield** Immediate Past President, Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL)

**Soline Holmes** Representative, Bridging Deaf Cultures Interest Group

**Fatima Perkins** Representative, RUSA Library Services to an Aging Population Committee (LSAPC)

**Jennie Garner** President, Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL)

**Kenneth Yamashita** President, Joint Council of Librarians of Color (JCLC)

**Vidhya Jagannathan** 2023 Emerging Leader

**Andrew P. Jackson (Sekou Molefi Baako)** Co-Chair, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Observance and Sunrise Celebration

### CALL-TO-ACTION

**Julius C. Jefferson, Jr.** ALA Past President

### CLOSING

**Andrew P. Jackson (Sekou Molefi Baako)** Co-Chair, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Observance and Sunrise Celebration

**Lynn Silipigni Connaway** Executive Director, Research OCLC

### AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

**“We Shall Overcome”** *(See lyrics on page 11)*



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

SHERYLL CASHIN



Sheryll Cashin is an acclaimed author who writes mainly about the U.S. struggle with racism and inequality. Her most recent book, *White Space, Black Hood*, is about the role of segregation and redlining in reproducing inequality. Her 2017 book, *Loving*, explores the 400-year history and future of interracial intimacy in America, how white supremacy was constructed and how “culturally dexterous” allies undermine it. Cashin’s books have been nominated for the C. Wright Mills Award, NAACP Image Award for Nonfiction, Hurston/Wright Legacy Award for Nonfiction, and an Editors’ Choice in the *New York Times Book Review*. She is the Carmack Waterhouse Professor of Law, Civil Rights and Social Justice at Georgetown, where she teaches Constitutional Law, and a former law clerk to Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall. A contributing writer for *Politico Magazine*, she has also written commentaries for the *New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Washington Post*, *Salon*, *The Root*, and other media. For her writing and advocacy, she was recently named by the *Washingtonian Magazine* as one DC’s Most Influential People. Cashin is also a self-taught historian and memoirist, a daughter of civil rights agitators in Alabama, a sought-after speaker and a regular commentator on national radio, TV, news media, and podcasts.



CALL-TO-ACTION SPEAKER

JULIUS C. JEFFERSON, JR.



An active member of ALA for 16 years, Julius C. Jefferson, Jr. was the 2019–2020 President of the American Library Association. He has been a member of ALA Council since 2011 and has served on a number of committees and task forces of the Association. In addition to his service to ALA, Jefferson served on the board of the Freedom to Read Foundation (2012–2016) and served as its 2013–2016 president; served as president of the DC Library Association (2015); and served on the board of BCALA (2007–2009). He is the recipient of several awards, including ALA Equality Award (2019), BCALA Outstanding Contribution to Publishing Award (2013), and BCALA Appreciation Award (2010).

A frequent speaker on issues of importance to library workers, Jefferson has appeared on a number of media outlets, including National Public Radio. He is co-editor of “The 21st Century Black Librarian in America: Issues and Challenges” and is often sought as a speaker on library-related issues such as diversity, leadership, and professional development. Jefferson holds a bachelor’s in history from Howard University and an MLS from the University of Maryland.



## VIRGINIA BRADLEY MOORE



Virginia Bradley Moore, affectionately known as "Ginny," was born on May 13, 1932, in Lauren, South Carolina, to the late Robert Otis Brown and Queen Esther Bradley. She grew up and received her early education in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. She went on to earn a B.S. degree in elementary education in 1957 from Winston-Salem State University and a M.S. degree in library science from the University of Maryland.

Ginny began her career in D.C. Public Schools in 1965. Through the seventies, she served as a librarian for several public schools, and in the late seventies, she was assigned to Anacostia Senior High School, where she served until her retirement in 1980.

In 1997, Ginny joined the Prince George's County Memorial Library System, providing information and literature to children and adults at Greenbelt Branch Library. In 2007, she joined the Oxon Hill Branch Library as a specialist in the Sojourner Truth Room for the African-American Research Collection. She officially retired from the library sciences in 2012.

Ginny was a leader in the library profession for more than four decades and a respected member of the American Library Association since 1972. She headed numerous committees and task forces, including ALA councilor-at-large and director-at-large of the Intellectual Freedom Round Table and was selected to join the first library and information science delegation to the People's Republic of China. In 1991, she authored a bibliography, *Books by African American Authors and Illustrators for Children and Young Adults*. In August 2013, she received the Distinguished Service to the Library Profession Award from the Black Caucus of the ALA. Other honors include the 2014 Jean E. Coleman Library Lecture Award by the ALA Association Office of Literacy and Outreach Services. Most recently, she was endorsed as a lifetime achiever by Marquis Who's Who after having been included in numerous volumes of *Who's Who—Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who in American Education*, *Who's Who in the East*, *Who's Who in the World*, and *Who's Who of American Women*.



## "LIFT EV'RY VOICE AND SING"

*Lyrics: James Weldon Johnson; Music: John Rosamond Johnson*

Lift ev'ry voice and sing,  
 'Til earth and heaven ring,  
 Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;

Let our rejoicing rise  
 High as the listening 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 'til 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,  
'Til 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 has brought us thus far on the way;

Thou who has 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.



## LYRICS

### “WE SHALL OVERCOME”

*Traditional; Derived from “I’ll Overcome Someday,” by Charles Albert Tindley*

We shall overcome, we shall overcome,  
We shall overcome someday;  
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,  
We shall overcome someday.

The Lord will see us through, The Lord will see us through,  
The Lord will see us through someday;  
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,  
We shall overcome someday.

We’re on to victory, we’re on to victory,  
We’re on to victory someday;  
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,  
We’re on to victory someday.

We’ll walk hand in hand, we’ll walk hand in hand,  
We’ll walk hand in hand someday;  
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,  
We’ll walk hand in hand someday.



We are not afraid, we are not afraid,  
We are not afraid today;  
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,  
We are not afraid today.

The truth shall make us free, the truth shall make us free,  
The truth shall make us free someday;  
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,  
The truth shall make us free someday.

We shall live in peace, we shall live in peace,  
We shall live in peace someday;  
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,  
We shall live in peace someday.





