

*Our Appreciation and Gratitude To:*

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Temple Adath Yeshurun

*Martin Luther King, Jr. Coalition  
Organizing Committee*

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Jessica Richardson  
Maxine Mosley  
Will Thomas  
Arnie Alpert  
Jenn Little  
Ellen Belanger  
Amanda Ouellette  
Sarah Jacobs  
Rev. Eric Jackson  
Katie Parent  
M. Alice Cassidy, rsm  
Marie Metoyer  
D.G.Krasner  
Rabbi Beth Davidson  
Jason Wells  
David Holt  
Garrett Walker

[www.MLKNH.org](http://www.MLKNH.org)

**37th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
Community Celebration  
Temple Adath Yeshurun  
152 Prospect Street  
Manchester, NH 03104**



**“Our Children...Our Future”**  
Presented by the Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Coalition

[www.MLKNH.org](http://www.MLKNH.org)

Monday, January 21, 2019

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The Martin Luther King Coalition has organized annual observances of Dr. King’s birthday since 1983. Its members include diverse local organizations dedicated to carrying on Dr. King’s work to end racism, eliminate poverty, and promote peace through active nonviolence.

# AWARDS

## Lionel Washington-Johnson Youth Awards

Presented by: Maxine Mosley, NEA-NH & MEA

*\*Unfortunately, there were no submissions this year. There will be no awards presented this year. Please consider encouraging youth to participate next year.*

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Coalition Writing and Arts Contest Awards are given in honor of Lionel Washington-Johnson, founder of the MLK Coalition and Celebration, NH State Representative, and community leader who was devoted to the education and enrichment of youngsters. Students State-wide in Grades 5 through 8 were challenged to respond to;

Arts Theme: "Let freedom ring from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire"

Writing Theme: "If Dr. King were alive today, he would \_\_\_\_\_."

## Vanessa Johnson Award

Recipient: Young Organizers United (Y.O.U.)

Presenter: Maxine Mosley- Manchester Education Association

The award is given to recognize and encourage emerging leaders in movements for social justice. Given in memory of Vanessa Washington Johnson Bloeman, for many years the organizer and administrator of the Martin Luther King Coalition and Celebration. Gone too soon, she is missed by us all.

Young Organizers United (Y.O.U.) is a group of high school aged youth from various backgrounds who are dedicated to strengthening multi-issue and multi-racial Youth coalitions designed to overcome ethnic, and racial, disparities in Manchester's high schools. Y.O.U. members believe the student voice is crucial in shaping and implementing policies that concern their education. Because they realize that learning occurs everywhere, they want to actively participate in making their education serve them well.

Y.O.U. embraces policies of inclusiveness to protect individuals against discrimination based on race, gender, sexual orientation, economic status, disability, age, or other categorizations used to oppress one group for the benefit of another. Y.O.U. works to provide information, skills, and leadership training to help empower youth. Y.O.U. embraces student-centered learning (SCL), and works actively to promote SCL practices throughout the Manchester School District.

In 2018 Y.O.U.'s key focus was advocating for Student Voice on the Manchester Board of School Committee.

# Program

2 – 3 pm \* **Community food sharing:**

**Desserts, coffee, tea, soft drinks**

*(ALL food products MUST be prepared in commercial kitchens)*

\*Cake decorating contest voting

\*Manchester Memorial High School Jazz Band

Directed by Tim Russell

3 – 5 pm

**Welcome and Invocation**

Emcee: Rev. Eric Jackson-Greater Manchester NAACP

Invocation: Rabbi Beth Davidson- Temple Adath Yeshurun

**Opening Ceremony and Pledge of Allegiance**

City Year New Hampshire

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Proclamations**

The Honorable Governor Sununu

The Honorable Mayor Joyce Craig

**"Let Freedom Ring" Bell Ringing**

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Award: Dr. Dottie Morris**

**Musical Selections**

Greater Manchester Area Choir

James McKim (Director), Elizabeth Blood (Accompanist)

**"Music, Lead the Way"** (Laura Farnell)

**"Pride"** (U2)

**Keynote Address:** Ron Walker: Executive Director of the Coalition of Schools Educating Boys of Color (COSEBOC)

**Musical Selection**

Greater Manchester Area Choir

James McKim (Director), Elizabeth Blood (Accompanist)

**"Oh Freedom"** (arranged by Pasquale Tassone)

**Vanessa Johnson Award: Y. O. U. Program**

**We Shall Overcome: Led by the Greater Manchester Choir**

**\*ASL Interpretation provided by UNH - Manchester**

## **Martin Luther King, Jr. Coalition** **Organization Members**

American Friends Service Committee – NH  
City Year NH  
Granite State Organizing Project  
Greater Manchester Black Scholarship Foundation  
Manchester Education Association (MEA)\*  
Greater Manchester NAACP\*  
National Education Association-NH (NEA – NH)\*  
American Civil Liberties Union-NH  
New Hampshire Council of Churches  
New Hampshire State Employees Association,  
SEIU Local 1984  
New Hampshire Veterans for Peace\*  
Open Democracy  
Temple Adath Yeshurun\*  
Sisters of Mercy Northeast Community\*  
Unitarian Universalist Church of Manchester  
University of New Hampshire-Manchester  
YWCA-NH

\*Financial Sponsors

## **Keynote Speaker**

Ron Walker: Executive Director of the Coalition of Schools  
Educating Boys of Color (COSEBOC)



Ron Walker has over 45 years of experience serving as a teacher, principal, staff developer, and consultant in various educational communities. Currently, Ron serves as the Executive Director and is a founding member of the Coalition of Schools Educating Boys of Color. The mission of COSEBOC, founded in 2007, is to connect, inspire, support and strengthen school leaders dedicated to the social, emotional and academic development of boys and young men of color. Under his leadership COSEBOC is impacting over 600 schools across the nation with a combined student population of over 300,000. COSEBOC has been recognized for its work on changing the negative narrative often perpetuated by the media and others to a positive counter narrative that lifts up the gifts, talents and promise possessed by boys and young men of color.

COSEBOC is recognized as a critical organization in the efforts to eliminate the academic achievement gap. In this regard recognition has come from many organizations such, the Council of Great City Schools, Education Trust, Cities United, The Center for Law and Social Policy, The Panasonic Foundation, The Kirwin Institute, Harvard University and the American Public Health Association just to name a few. COSEBOC has been awarded major national grants by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and the Open Society Foundation.

Ron has also grown the visibility of COSEBOC and has made many presentations on the national and state level. He has presented to the U.S. Department of Education, College Board, California Association of African American Administrators and Superintendents, The American Public Health Association, The Council of Urban Boards of Education as well being interviewed by Soledad O'Brien on the topic of Educating Black Males.

He was also invited to attend President Obama's My Brother's Keeper Forum held at the White House. Ron has been recognized for his service in education by the Boston Public Schools, Boston College School of Education, Temple University -School of Education, The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. and many community groups. He was nominated for Ebony Magazine's Manifest Award for individuals making substantial contributions in the field of education. Ron has authored two publications on leadership and is featured in numerous education articles. He remains steadfastly committed to high quality education for children and particularly boys and young men of color and other underserved populations.

Ron attributes any success that he has gained to his unrelenting belief in God, the lessons taught by his parents Solomon and Delores Walker and the faith that his wife Toni, children and grandchildren place in him.



Today's featured Musical Selections will be sung by the Greater Manchester Choir

### "Music, Lead the Way" (Laura Farnell)

Laura Farnell has drawn her inspiration for this gospel-style composition from the work of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and others like him, who worked to break down the barriers of racial and social discrimination. A gripping Henry Van Dyke text delivers the powerful message: when we choose love and sing together in community, surely "peace and love will conquer hate and strife."

### "Pride" (by U2)

Pride (In the name of Love) is a poetic expression of the struggle to emancipate mankind from the tyranny of power, and the ongoing struggle to seek equality, fair conditions by different people through history; but focusing on Dr Martin Luther King's project to win civil rights for African Americans. "Pride' is the best song we've ever written," said Bono in a 1984 interview, and perhaps to date it was. Nearly 20 years later, it would still hold pride of place in U2's live set and was considered a modern rock classic.

### "Oh Freedom" (arranged by Pasquale Tassone)

The spiritual Oh Freedom! probably came into being soon after the end of slavery. Like many African American spirituals, the song has more than one meaning. Not only does it refer to freedom in the world to come after death, as many slave spirituals do, but it celebrates their new freedom in the here and now. "Oh, Freedom" is a post-Civil War African-American freedom song. It is often associated with the American Civil Rights Movement, with Odetta, who recorded it as part of the "Spiritual Trilogy", on her Odetta Sings Ballads and Blues album, and with Joan Baez, who performed the song at the 1963 March on Washington.



## Martin Luther King Jr. Award

Recipient: Dr. Dottie Morris

Presented by: Arnie Alpert-American Friends Service Committee



Dr. Dottie Morris is the Associate Vice President for Institutional Diversity and Equity at Keene State College. She is a member of the Keene State College President's Cabinet. Her main foci are providing support and direction to the Executive, Academic, Student Affairs, Advancement and Finance and Planning divisions of the college as the institution works to fulfill its commitment to diversity and multiculturalism. For years, Dottie has worked with undergraduate and graduate students in the capacity of counselor, teacher, academic advisor, and advisor of student groups. She has demonstrated a consistent and persistent dedication and devotion to diversity, inclusion, multiculturalism and social justice over the past two decades.

In her role as the Associate Vice President for Institutional Diversity and Equity, Dr. Morris is available for consultation on a wide range of issues associated with diversity, multiculturalism and social justice. This consultation includes (but is not limited to):

- presentations/lectures in classes or living environments,
- workshops with employee groups,
- discussions with faculty and supervisors associated with difficult dialogues in work and class environments,
- receiving bias-related incident reports.

In addition, using data from the [Keene State College campus climate survey](#) and research associated with "best academic practices," plans such as Inclusive Excellence and Student Success have been established with the College's priorities in mind. These data-driven plans provides a systematic way to evaluate effectiveness (ongoing assessment), identify areas for improvement and to make changes when necessary.

As important as her on-campus role, Dottie has become one of the state's top "go to" people for communities that want to better understand the impact of racism and what to do about its pernicious influence. She is a member of the Governor's Commission on Diversity and Inclusion, for which she has led listening sessions around the state.

Prior to her position at KSC, she served as the Associate Dean for Student Learning at World Learning School for International Training Institute (SIT) in Brattleboro, VT, the Director of Student Affairs for the Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program at Antioch University New England in Keene and staff counselor at the Colorado State University Counseling Center and the Coordinator of the Employee Assistance Program.

**Congratulations to Dr. Dottie Morris for being named the MLK Jr. Award winner for 2018-2019.**

