

**New York State Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Memorial Observance  
Monday, January 16, 2012, Convention Center, Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY**

**Posting of Colors: Honor Guard, New York State Police – 9:45 a.m.  
Live Satellite Broadcast from 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m.  
Event is Free and Open to the Public**

**OPENING**

**Reverend Leonard Comithier, Macedonia Baptist Church, Albany**

- National Anthem performed by Union College Heavenly Voices Gospel Choir, Lenny Walters, Choir Director
- Invocation: Rabbi Rena Kieval, Congregation Ohav Shalom, Albany
- Musical Youth Selection: “Amazing Grace” performed by Allyson Crowley-Duncan, Bagpipes Solo, Shaker High School, Latham

**NEW YORK STATE CALL TO COMEMORATION**

**A MESSAGE ON CIVIL RIGHTS - “A MISSION TO FULFILL”**

Alphonso B. David, Deputy Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Governor

**A MESSAGE OF ACTION - “VOLUNTEERISM”**

**Elisa Streeter, News Anchor - WTEN-TV 10**

Dr. King stated, “I’d like someone to mention that day that Martin Luther King, Jr. tried to give his life serving others....I want you to be able to say that day that I did try to feed the hungry. I want you to say that I tried to love and serve humanity. And if I can help somebody as I pass along, then my living will not be in vain.”

- Video Presentation: New York State Initiative “Labor for Your Neighbor ” produced by the Office of the Governor
- Dramatic Presentation: “Remember! Celebrate! Act! performed by Too Deep Entertainment & Urban Stage Students, Hackett Middle School
- Musical Selection: “If I Can Help Somebody” performed by Linda Mallory Mitchell, accompanied by Bertrum Mitchell, Pianist

**A MESSAGE OF EQUALITY - “FREE AT LAST”**

**Yolanda Vega, New York State Division of the Lottery**

Dr. King stated, “We must gain political power, and we must come to the point of being able to participate in government. No longer must we be willing to be disenfranchised. We must say, give us the ballot. We are determined to have the ballot, and we are determined to have it now.”

- Dramatic Presentation: *Freedom Summer* featuring Ms. Ella Baker, Ms. Henrietta Franklin and Mrs. Myrlie Evers written and produced by Donald Hyman Productions

**A MESSAGE OF HOPE - “THE DREAM”**  
**JoDee Kenny, News Anchor, YNN –TV, Time Warner Cable**

Dr. King stated, “I say to you today, my friends, so even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream. I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed. We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal. I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character. I have a dream today. I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together. This is our hope.”

- **Musical Presentation:** “I Can Tell The World” performed by Schenectady County Community College (SCCC) Vocal Chamber Ensemble, Dr. Yiping Wu, Conductor
- **Keynote Speaker:** H. Carl McCall, Chairman, SUNY Board of Trustees, First African American to be Elected Comptroller of New York State introduced by Nancy L. Zimpher, Chancellor, State University of New York

**A MESSAGE OF UNITY - “LETTER FROM BIRMINGHAM JAIL”**  
**Reverend Dr. Edward B. Smart, First Israel African Methodist Episcopal Church**

Dr. King stated “I hope this letter finds you strong in the faith. I also hope that the circumstances will soon make it possible for me to meet each of you, not as an integrationist or a civil rights leader but as a fellow clergyman and a Christian brother. Let us all hope that the dark clouds of racial prejudice will soon pass away and the deep fog of misunderstanding will be lifted from our fear drenched communities, and in some not too distant tomorrow the radiant stars of love and brotherhood will shine over our great nation with all their scintillating beauty.”

- Video Presentation: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial, Washington, D.C. produced by NY Network, Mo Beasley and the Duke Ellington School for the Arts, New York City
- “Happy Birthday Dr. King” Commemorative Birthday Cake, Price Chopper Supermarkets
- Musical Presentation: Capital District Community Voices of Praise, Dennis Edney, Minister of Music, Mount Pleasant Baptist Church

**CLOSING**

- Musical Selection: Anthem of the Movement: “We Shall Overcome”
- Benediction: Reverend Mariana Rodriguez, First United Methodist Church, Rensselaer and Reverend Willie J. Stovall, Mount Olive Southern Missionary Baptist Church, Albany
- “Beloved Community” March and Wreath Laying @ Lincoln Park King Memorial

\* Licensed by The King Center, Intellectual Properties Management, Atlanta, GA.

\*Photo of Washington, D.C. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial courtesy of National Memorial Project Foundation, Inc.