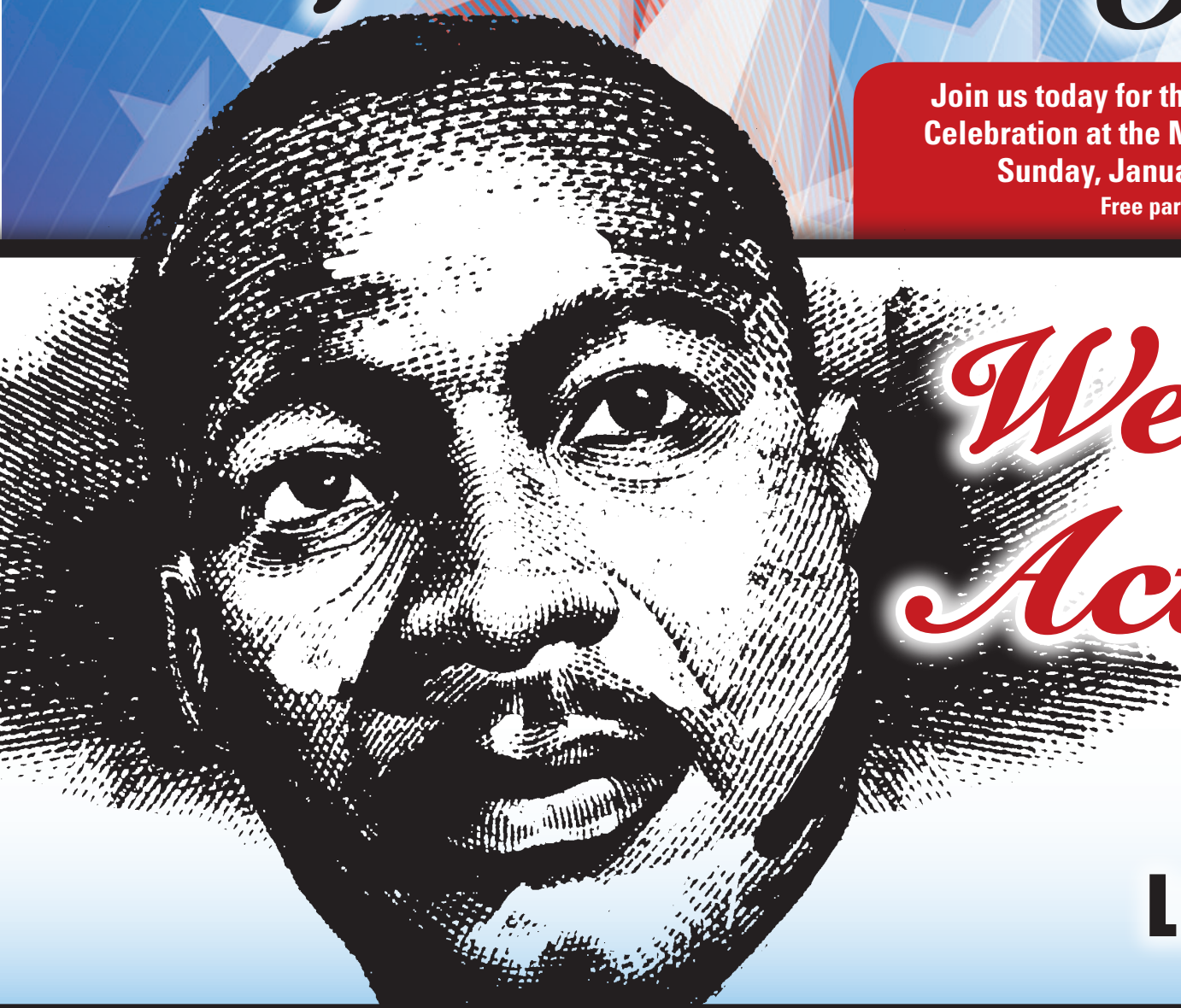


Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Join us today for the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts
Sunday, January 17 at 1pm • 929 N. Water St.
Free parking in the State Street structure



We Must Act Now

— Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Writing Contest Winners

Of the 33rd Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Writing Contest Sponsored by the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel & the Milwaukee Teachers' Education Association



We Must Act Now to Change Our Lives

Amerra Jackson

First Place (2nd & 3rd Grade)
Bryant Elementary School, Grade 3

My name is Amerra and I want to tell you why we must act now to change our lives. One reason we must act now is there is too much violence going on in our community. People are shooting each other instead of solving problems peacefully. Innocent people are being killed. We must act now to bring back Dr. King's beliefs in nonviolence to solve problems.

Another reason we must act now is kids are not finishing school. When people don't get an education they can't get a decent job. When people don't have jobs, more people commit crimes. That's bad for all of us. Dr. King worked hard for us all to get an equal education. Don't waste that opportunity.

Additionally we can get more peace by stopping what we're doing and helping our community. Help others get a job so we can have more peace and no more people dying in Milwaukee.

In conclusion we must act now because our community needs our help. We need to finish school and get a good education and the violence must stop. Now it's time to bring back Dr. King's ideas of fighting for equality and respect for all.



We Must Act Now to Stop Violence!

Tania Isidoro-Muñoz

Second Place (2nd & 3rd Grade)
Hayes Bilingual School, Grade 3

I agree with Martin Luther King Jr. We must act now. In the world, the most important thing is poor people. When I see poor people it makes me feel sad because I think about their families. I can't imagine not having a house or food.

What I can do to help poor people is to donate food and clothes. At school, I brought 9 cans to the food drive. I can also give them money.

We must also act to stop violence, because of the violence people can die. Last year a four year old girl died in Milwaukee, and this year over 100 people have been murdered. I feel bad because their moms and dads are alone.

To stop violence, I can make a poster that says we need to stop violence. I can put the posters up on my street and at school.

What Martin Luther King Jr. wanted was PEACE. He didn't want to use fists or guns. He wanted to use words and actions. We must act now to help the poor people and stop violence.



We Must Act Now to Help Others

Camila Morales-Rodriguez

Third Place (2nd & 3rd Grade)
Lincoln Avenue Elementary School, Grade 3

I am going to tell you about how we must act now. We must act now by being peaceful and helpful like Martin Luther King Jr.

I act now by helping my mother do chores in the house and cleaning my room without my mom telling me to do it. I can also help my brother and sister read books. And by helping cook food with mom! In fact you can help yourself by saying nice things to each other.

At school, you can start by listening the first time the teacher talks to you or says something to you. I can act now by helping in my neighborhood by raking leaves in the fall. And giving the homeless some food. You can also help them pick up trash.

If Martin Luther King Jr. read my story he would agree that this is how we must act now.



We Must Act Now and Work Together

Aniya Gillespie

First Place (4th & 5th Grade)
Keefe Avenue Elementary School, Grade 5

I live in a horrible world. This world has become more evil. I see people on the street begging for money. We always hear something bad when we watch the news. It makes me feel sad because I know that is not the way that Dr. King wanted us to live. Everywhere that we go, we have to hear about people being shot and murdered for nothing. Our world is not a Utopia. It is a Dystopia!

I live in a city where there is too much gun violence. In my city, people steal from each other. There is too much poverty. Too many children are being murdered before they are able to live their life. We must act now, before there is nothing left for any of us!!

We must act now. We need to work to get guns off the streets and stop people from selling them to people who are not the police. We can work together to put up more security cameras so that people will feel safe. We can all work to help people who may not have enough of what I have by donating the things that people need to survive. We need to come together to end children's homicides, because children are our future. I am an African American young lady who wants to live to see that day when I can be a future leader and solve the problems in my community.

I cannot do it by myself. I need everyone's help. I need the help of my friends, my teachers, my family, and my neighbors. I need the leaders in Milwaukee to stop the violence by working together instead of arguing and wasting time. I need people to be more empathetic. When we work together, when we hope for the future, we are more powerful together!



We Must Act Now to Stop Violence

Aalanianna Fox

Second Place (4th & 5th Grade)
Golda Meir School, Grade 4

people and their families shouldn't have to pay the price. My idea is to only let police officers have guns.

We must act now to stop hate crimes due to people's differences. We are all different on the outside, but we are all the same on the inside. We need to build awareness to create open-mindedness. I think that everyone should be treated equally. My mom and dad taught me to treat people the way you want to be treated.

Martin Luther King, Jr. has taught me that freedom is for everyone. This means that everyone should be treated equally. If everyone followed Dr. King's dream, violence would not exist. We must act now.

We must act now to stop violence. We have to stop bullying in schools. If my peers and I stick together we can avoid bullying. If you hear or see someone being bullied, you should tell someone as soon as possible. The people you should tell are teachers, parents, or any adult you trust.

We must act now to stop shootings in our communities. It makes me sad when I watch the news and I hear that people are being hurt by gun violence. The people who are being hurt the most are kids and innocent people. Those