

34TH ANNUAL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BIRTHDAY OBSERVANCE



**JAN. 17, 2022
7:30PM**

BROADCAST OVER ACMI

History of the Arlington Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Observance

1989-2022

With the Arlington Interfaith Association as the driving spirit, representatives from four local groups spearheaded Arlington's first town-wide observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. birthday holiday in 1989. This event has been repeated each January.

The original organizing committee included three members of the Arlington Interfaith Association as well as Nan Henderson, president of the African American Society of Arlington; Pearl Morrison, president of the Arlington Civil Rights Committee; and Howard Cohen, chairperson of the Arlington Fair Housing Advisory Committee.

A compelling reason for the observance, according to the Rev. Charles Grady, was the almost daily reading "of ugly incidents of racial intolerance and violence, and ... a tendency to strip away hard-won civil rights from minority groups." An annual event honoring Dr. King's memory was one way of responding. The first program featured citations for outstanding work in fostering racial understanding on the local level.

Each year the proceeds are distributed to public organizations and nonprofits that promote the goals of equality, justice and nonviolence for which Dr. King gave his life.

Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law. Please make checks payable to: Martin Luther King Birthday Observance Committee, PO Box 320, Arlington, MA 02476. Or go online at <https://gofund.me/92161ffb>

Program

Monday, January 17, 2022

Musical Interlude	Paul White “National Anthem”
Welcome	Jillian Harvey, Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Division, Health & Human Services; MLK Committee Member
Invocation	Pastor Ross Goodman, St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
Musical Interlude	Paul White “Lift Every Voice and Sing”
Poem	Steven Ratiner, Arlington Poet Laureate, accompanied by Paul White and Dr. Debora Jackson) “We Dreamers”
Master of Ceremonies	Jillian Harvey, MLK Committee Member
Free Will Offering	Crystal Haynes, Journalist, MLK Committee Member
Musical	Paul White and the CFB Ensemble (Caribbean Foundation Performance of Boston) recorded 2021, “Battle of Jericho”
Introduction to Keynote	Mikel Satcher, MLK Committee Member
Keynote Presentation	Dr. Lynn Perry Wooten, President of Simmons University
Master of Ceremonies	Jillian Harvey, MLK Committee Member
Benediction	Rev. Erica Richmond, First Parish Unitarian Universalist
Closing Remarks	Ian Jackson, Chair of MLK Committee
Closing Music	Mildred Walker and Paul White “We Shall Overcome”, from January 2020 MLK Observance

Performances

Paul White

Director of Music Ministry
Peoples Baptist Church of Boston

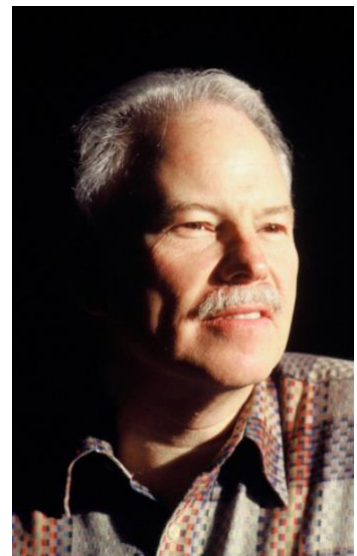
Paul White has performed throughout the United States and internationally as a recitalist, with his jazz trio Paul White & Company, and with a host of gifted artists including the Rev. James Cleveland, Bill Gaither, Billy Preston, and Nina Simone. He has opened for major artists including the renowned a cappella group Take Six.



Steven Ratiner

Current Poet Laureate
Arlington, Massachusetts

Steven is the author of three poetry chapbooks and has published work in numerous journals in America and abroad, including *Parnassus*, *Agni*, *Blackbird*, *Hanging Loose*, *Poet Lore*, *Salamander*, *QRLS* (Singapore) and *Poetry Australia*. *Giving Their Word*, a collection of poetry interviews, was re-issued in a paperback edition from University of Massachusetts Press and includes conversations with some of poetry's most vital contemporary voices, such as Seamus Heaney, Charles Simic, Rita Dove, Bei Dao, and the last full-length interview with Bill Stafford before he died.



Keynote: Dr. Lynn Perry Wooten, President of Simmons University



On July, 1, 2020 Dr. Wooten became the 9th president of Simmons University and the first African American to lead the university.

Specializing in crisis leadership, diversity and inclusion, and positive leadership—organizational behavior that reveals and nurtures the highest level of human potential—Dr. Wooten is an innovative leader and prolific author and presenter

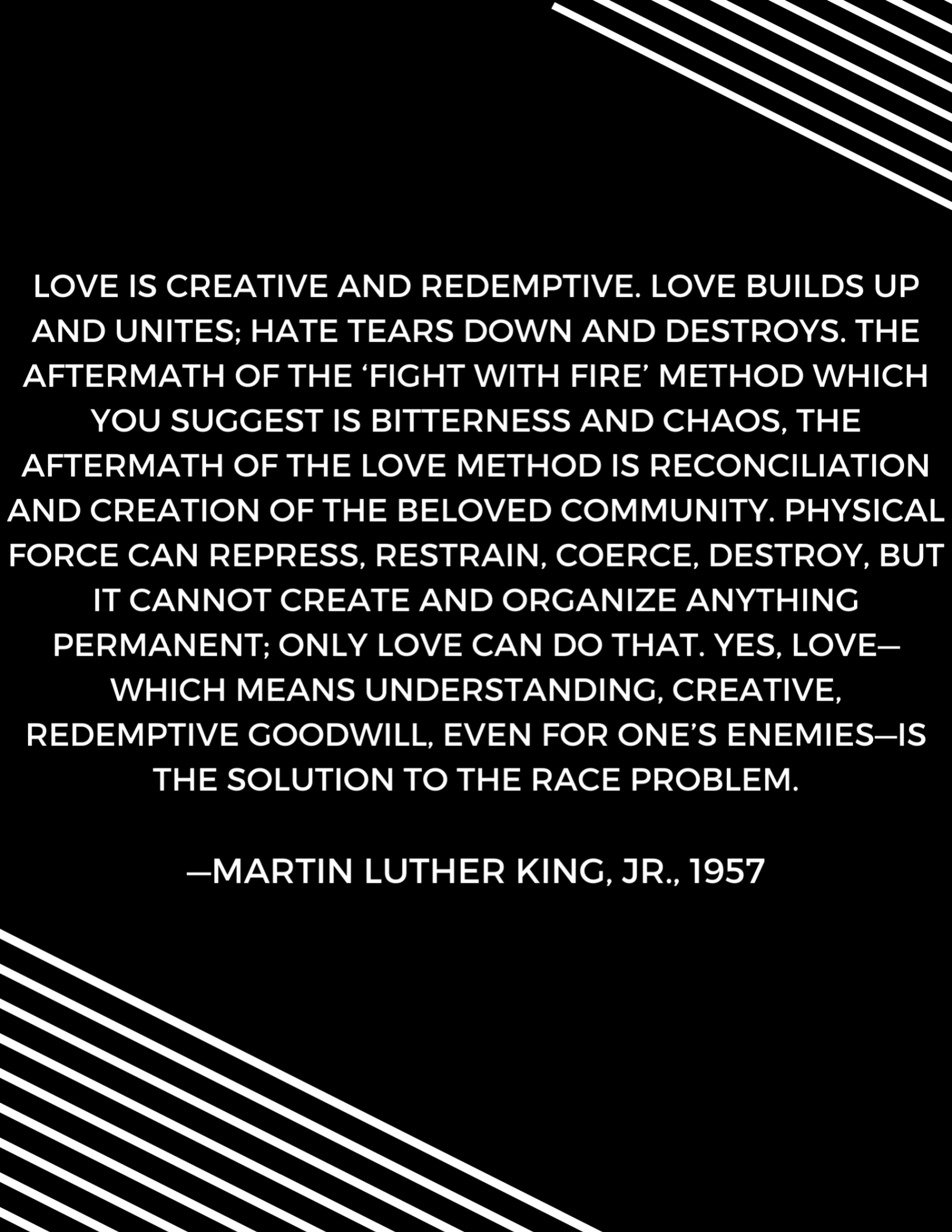
whose research has informed her work in the classroom and as an administrator. She first joined a university faculty in 1994 and has served in administrative roles since 2008. Dr. Wooten came to Simmons from Cornell University, where she was the David J. Nolan Dean and Professor of Management and Organizations at the Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management.

With leadership at the core of her work, Dr. Wooten's research has ranged from an NIH-funded investigation of how leadership can positively alleviate health disparities to leading in a crisis and managing workforce diversity. She is the author of two books, *Positive Organizing in a Global Society: Understanding and Engaging Differences for Capacity Building and Inclusion* (2016) and *Leading Under Pressure: From Surviving to Thriving Before, During, and After a Crisis* (2010). Sharing her work at nearly 60 symposia and conferences, she also is the author of nearly 30 journal articles

and more than 15 book chapters, as well as managerial monographs and numerous teaching cases.

Dr. Wooten grew up in Philadelphia, where she attended an all-girls high school. She earned a BS in accounting in 1988 from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, a Historically Black College, where she graduated as valedictorian; an MBA from the Duke University Fuqua School of Business in 1990; and a PhD in business administration from the University of Michigan Ross School of Business in 1995. She received a Certificate in Advanced Educational Leadership from the Harvard University Graduate School of Education in 2018.

She is a past recipient of the University of Michigan Ross School of Business's BBA Student Award for Teaching Excellence as well as the school's Andy Andrews Distinguished Service Award. She also was chosen as a "Next Generation Business Thinker" by the Financial Times. Find out more [here](#).



LOVE IS CREATIVE AND REDEMPTIVE. LOVE BUILDS UP AND UNITES; HATE TEARS DOWN AND DESTROYS. THE AFTERMATH OF THE 'FIGHT WITH FIRE' METHOD WHICH YOU SUGGEST IS BITTERNESS AND CHAOS, THE AFTERMATH OF THE LOVE METHOD IS RECONCILIATION AND CREATION OF THE BELOVED COMMUNITY. PHYSICAL FORCE CAN REPRESS, RESTRAIN, COERCE, DESTROY, BUT IT CANNOT CREATE AND ORGANIZE ANYTHING PERMANENT; ONLY LOVE CAN DO THAT. YES, LOVE—WHICH MEANS UNDERSTANDING, CREATIVE, REDEMPTIVE GOODWILL, EVEN FOR ONE'S ENEMIES—IS THE SOLUTION TO THE RACE PROBLEM.

—MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., 1957

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Lift every 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 chastening 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 a path through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out of the gloomy past, 'til we now 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!

We Shall Overcome

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

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

We shall overcome
We shall overcome
We shall overcome someday.

Members of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Birthday Observance Committee

Ian Jackson
Kate Cubeta
Roberta Lasky
Pearl Morrison
Mikel E. Satcher
Ann Mathes
Alberto Guzman
Neil Osborne
Jack Cooper
Jillian Harvey
Crystal Haynes
Katie Chang
Regina Caines
Sherry Hahn

Arlington Community Media Inc.

Jason Audette
Jeff Barnd
Cheryl Brusgillis
Katie Chang
Jasper Hamilton
Sean Keane
Norm McLeod
James Milan
Jeff Munro
Jared Sweet
Anim Osmani

Thank you for joining in tonight's celebration of Dr. King's life and legacy.

May we move forward as one, with a fierce determination to advance truth, decency and equality.

If you are interested in joining the committee contact dei@town.arlington.ma.us

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

BIRTHDAY OBSERVANCE COMMITTEE

Arlington, Massachusetts

Along with organizing a community celebration of Dr. King's life and works in January of each year, the committee is charged with fostering racial understanding, tolerance, and respect for others, promoting non-violent means to settle differences of opinions, and recognizing people in the community who further the goals of Dr. King.