

# MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT



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## **Annual Community Celebration Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** *Thursday, January 12 @ Merriweather Library in Buffalo*

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The 43<sup>rd</sup> annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Celebration will be held at the **Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Branch Library, 1324 Jefferson Avenue, Buffalo on Thursday, January 12, 2023 from 12 noon – 1:30 p.m.** This all-ages program is free and open to the public.

Local community leader and poet Clifford Bell will serve as Master of Ceremonies for a program that will include City of Buffalo Poet Laureate Jillian Hanesworth, a performance by We All Storytellers (Karima Amin and Sharon Holley) and music by students from the Buffalo Academy of Visual and Performing Arts.

"The Library has been proud to host a community commemoration of Dr. King's life and legacy for several decades," said Library Director John Spears. "The mass shooting that took place in our community on May 14 has shown that we still have a long journey before that legacy is fully realized. In remembrance of the ten individuals who lost their lives and to further the healing process, we felt that the Dr. Eva M. Doyle Auditorium at the Merriweather Library was the most appropriate venue for this year's event. We urge everyone to reflect on and reaffirm Dr. King's essential messages of economic justice, racial equality, and resistance to the forces that act against them."

For information on additional Buffalo & Erie County Public Library activities, please consult [www.BuffaloLib.org](http://www.BuffaloLib.org) or call 716-858-8900.

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