

# 2010 MLK, Jr. Commemoration Committee Application

Office of Student Activities  
209 HUB-Robeson Center  
University Park, PA 16802  
814-863-4624  
servicelearning@sa.psu.edu



## Description of the Commemoration of Martin Luther King, Jr.:

On November 2, 1983, former President Ronald Reagan signed into law House of Representatives Bill Number 3706 declaring January 15, the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., a national holiday.

In December 1985, former Penn State President Bryce Jordan formed a President's planning committee for Martin Luther King, Jr. recognition. Dr. James B. Stewart, director of the Black Studies Program at that time, served as the inaugural chair. The official recognition of this holiday began in 1986, and occurs on the third Monday in January each year.

Today, the MLK, Jr. Commemoration at Penn State is made possible by a dedicated group of students, faculty/staff, donors, and units across the university. This year's student sub-committee will be comprised of an executive director(s) and director(s) of Sponsorship, Public Relations, Student Organizations, Community Outreach, Campus Events, Day of Service, Evening Celebration, and Anniversary Task Force. Several of these chairs will represent the student sub-committee on the university-wide committee. For more information, visit [www.mlk.psu.edu](http://www.mlk.psu.edu).

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## ***SAVE THE DATE!***

***The 2010 MLK, Jr. Commemoration will be  
January 18-22, 2010!***

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### **Qualifications of the MLK, Jr. Commemoration Committee Members:**

ALL Penn State-University Park students are eligible to apply, although prior MLK, Jr. Commemoration experience is strongly encouraged.

### **Expectations of the MLK, Jr. Commemoration Committee Members:**

The MLK, Jr. Student Sub-Committee members will be expected to commit to a year-long position, although the peak work time will be October-January. These members will be selected by the end of each Spring Semester, and expected to serve from the beginning of the Fall Semester until the next sub-committee is selected and transitioned in.

***Please return your 2010 MLK, Jr. Commemoration Committee Application to The Office of Student Activities in 209 HUB by Wednesday, March 4th at 5:00 p.m. Candidates for Chair Positions will be interviewed the week of March 16<sup>th</sup> and should sign up for a 30-minute interview slot in 209 HUB when submitting their application.***

## Description of Events

- **Day of Service:** The MLK, Jr. Day of Service engages Penn State students in a national day of volunteer service on the King Holiday.
- **Social Justice Dinner & Panel:** The Social Justice Dinner & Panel, also held on the King Holiday, is a program developed to engage Penn State community members in conversation about issues of social justice.
- **Peace March & Service:** The Peace March & Service engages Penn State community members in a non-violent march for peace beginning at the Allen Street Gates and ending at the Pasquerilla Spiritual Center. Following is a peace service, featuring Penn State performers and speakers, which encourage those attending to reflect on Dr. King's values and ideals, particularly promoting peace and non-violence.
- **Evening Celebration & Keynote Speaker:** The Evening Celebration & Keynote Speaker is an annual celebration of the life and legacy of Dr. King featuring Penn State and State College community performances as well as a keynote speaker.
- **Penn State Art Competition:** New in January 2008, this competition is open to any Penn State student wishing to submit a piece of art that creatively represents the life and work of Dr. King. Art submissions are displayed the week prior to the King Day of Service, and members of the Penn State community are invited to vote on their favorite submission. Art displays are then displayed at future MLK, Jr. Commemoration events.
- **State College Area School District Short Story, Essay, and Speech Contests:** New in January 2009, the short story, essay, and speech contests for elementary, middle, and high school students respectively was developed as a way to better engage State College area students in programs honoring Dr. King's life and teachings.



# Make a Career of Humanity

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[engage@sa.psu.edu](mailto:engage@sa.psu.edu)



## Contact Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Major/Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## On a separate and attached page, please provide typed answers to the questions below:

1. What is your previous service and leadership experience at Penn State and in the community? You may list your involvement OR provide a current resume with your application.
2. Planning the MLK, Jr. Commemoration begins in the fall semester and continues through the spring, and requires consistent dedication. Please explain how you plan to balance your obligations to the committee with other commitments? Please indicate your 2009-2010 commitments.
3. Why do you think the MLK, Jr. Commemoration is important to Penn State and the surrounding community? If selected, what do you plan on contributing to the MLK, Jr. Commemoration Committee? What do you hope to gain from your experience on the committee?
4. Describe ONE speaker you would like to see brought to Penn State, and explain how they relate to the life and legacy of Dr. King.

## Please rank ONLY the positions that you would like to be considered for:

- \_\_\_\_\_ **Sponsorship:** Work with local businesses and Penn State departments to secure donations of monies, foods, and other goods and services.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Public Relations:** Coordinate all of the MLK, Jr. Commemoration's public relations efforts using various marketing, advertising, and public relations techniques to reach the Penn State and local communities.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Student Organizations:** Serve as a liaison Penn State student organizations and other interested groups to engage them in the MLK, Jr. Commemoration.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Community Outreach:** Work with local communities (e.g. local schools) and community members to engage them in the MLK, Jr. Commemoration.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Campus Events:** Plan and implement campus events as a part of the MLK, Jr. Commemoration (e.g. Art Competition, Social Justice Dinner, Peace March and Service)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Day of Service:** Plan and implement the MLK, Jr. Day of Service as a part of the MLK, Jr. Commemoration, including setting up service sites, recruiting team leaders and volunteers, and coordinating all logistics.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Evening Celebration:** Plan and implement the MLK, Jr. Evening Celebration as a part of the MLK, Jr. Commemoration, including lining up student performances, promoting the event to Penn State and the surrounding community, and coordinating all logistics with Eisenhower Auditorium.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Anniversary Task Force:** Plan and implement special projects that celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the MLK, Jr. Commemoration at Penn State.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Executive Director:** Oversee work of committee directors, work closely with the Office of Student Activities Advisor, serve as primary student representative on university-wide committee, plan and manage budget, and coordinate logistics such a contracting the Evening Celebration speaker.

For additional information, contact the 2009 Executive Director James Patterson ([king09@psu.edu](mailto:king09@psu.edu)), or the Office of Student Activities at 814-863-4624 or [servicelearning@sa.psu.edu](mailto:servicelearning@sa.psu.edu).