Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Monday, January 15 10am–4pm Presenting Sponsor



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Martin Luther King Jr. was born in Atlanta, Georgia, on January 15, 1929. King grew up on Auburn Avenue and attended Ebenezer Baptist church, where his father, Martin Luther King Sr., was pastor. In 1944, at 15 years old, he attended Morehouse College and graduated in 1948. He continued his education and earned a Bachelor of Divinity from Crozer Theological Seminary in Upland, Pennsylvania, in 1951 and a doctorate (PhD) from Boston University in 1955. Dr. King went on to serve as co-pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church with his father from 1959 until his assassination in 1968.

The churches served as a cornerstone for the Civil Rights Movement with pastors openly advocating for human rights during the Montgomery bus boycott in 1956, kickstarting the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) in Ebenezer on January 10, 1957. Dr. King was the first president of the organization. Religious institutions across the South lent their places of worship for organizing, funding, and cooking in contribution to the Civil Rights Movement.

Introduction Video

Kennedy Theater

Learn about the cornerstones of the Civil Rights Movement and how they reinforced historical change.

Mainstage Events

DJ Tamarious Hill Grand Overlook Ballroom 10:30am–3pm

Experience a mix of vibrant music as the DJ plays between mainstage events.

Family Trivia

(recommended for ages 8+) Grand Overlook Ballroom 11:30am-12:30pm

Show off your knowledge of Civil Rights songs, people, and history! Everyone can compete to win fun prizes.

Fashion History with Cynthanie Sumpter

Grand Overlook Ballroom 1–2pm

Join Professor of Fashion, Cynthanie Sumpter as she connects wearing "Sunday's best" clothing with the affirmation of equality and dignity during times of oppression.

Interactive Choir Workshop

Grand Overlook Ballroom 3–4pm

Guests are invited to work with the Atlanta chapter of the Gospel Music Workshop of America (GMWA) as they contextualize historical spirituals over periods of time through an interactive and guest engaging workshop.

Ongoing Activities

Gatheround Self-Guided Experience

(recommended for ages 8+) Gatheround: Stories of Atlanta

Use our *Gatheround* Exhibit to explore the connections among the community, the Civil Rights Movement, and Black churches.

Kenan Research Center Pop Up Experience (recommended for ages 8+) Nicholson Gallery

The Kenan Research Center Pop Up Experience exposes guests to the multitude of resources offered at Atlanta History Center, such as the Cherokee Garden Library, Oral History and Genealogy, and our African American Collections, as well as the community-driven work being done through Community Collaborations. Brief presentations about Kenan's resources will be delivered at 11am, 1pm, 2pm, and 3pm.

Museum Theater: Faith of A Nation

(recommended for ages 8+) Goizueta Gallery

Join us in celebrating the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. as we travel along a path to explore the impactful contributions of The Black Church. Through three distinct vignettes, we will examine the contributions and lasting impact of this vibrant and important part of the American experience. Written by Aaron Bonds and directed by Charity Jordan.

Kids Community

(recommended for kids of all ages) Goldstein Exhibit Gallery, lower floor near Museum Shop

Be transported back to the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960's! Walk alongside young hero activists who marched, sang, and protested: changemaking stations include voting stimulations, button making, choir karaoke, and more.

Hospitality Information

The information desk is in the Allen Atrium at the admissions desk.

Food + Drink

Grand Overlook Ballroom

Hot beverages and baked goods from Just Add Honey will be available for purchase from 10am–4pm.

<u>Coke Café</u> Chick-Fil-A will be available for purchase from 11am to 3 pm.

Sensory-Friendly Space

Classrooms, near Education Lobby (entrance inside *Gatheround: Stories of Atlanta* exhibition)

A quiet place with kids' activity packets and books, along with restroom access.

Nursing Room

Classrooms, near Education Lobby (entrance inside Gatheround: Stories of Atlanta exhibition)

A private room for nursing parents, located next to the Sensory-Friendly Space.

