Martin Luther King Jr. Day Community Celebration

8:30 a.m., Monday, January 17, 2022

SALLY & JIM NATION THEATRE, IDA GREEN COMMUNICATION CENTER
AUSTIN COLLEGE, SHERMAN, TEXAS
AND LIVESTREAMED

“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.”

-Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Hosted by: Austin College, Grayson County Rotary Club, and Sherman Rotary Club
Special Thanks to our Sponsors

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City of Sherman  
Grayson County Rotary  
Joe Brown, Attorney  
La Mesa Mexican Restaurante & Cantina  
Law Office of M. Todd Estes, P.C  
Sherman Chamber of Commerce  
Sherman Rotary

Grayson County NAACP Scholarship

Each year, this event is a fundraising opportunity for the Grayson County NAACP Scholarship Program. Individual contributions can be made via the online charitable giving platform ActBlue. Scan the QR code or visit: https://secure.actblue.com/entity/fundraisers/111328

Special Thanks:  
Josue Gonzalez ’24 & Carrie Johnson ’24, Public Affairs Interns, Event Planning Co-Leads  
Ryann C. Ashlock ’23, Public Affairs Intern, Program Artwork  
Dan Pucul ’04, Technical Coordinator, Ida Green Communication Center, Austin College
**PROGRAM**

Opening Remarks and Invocation – 8:30 a.m. . . . . . . . . . . Rev. Charles Brown Jr.
New Birth Cathedral of Praise

Welcome – 8:33 a.m. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Steven P. O’ Day, J. D., L.H.D.
President, Austin College

Pledge of Allegiance and Rotary 4-Way Test – 8:36 a.m. . . . . . . . Michael Gary
Sherman High School Interact Club President

Introduction of Student Speaker – 8:38 a.m. . . . . . . . . . . . President O’Day

Student Speaker – 8:40 a.m. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Clemon White ’24
Historian of Pre-Law Society and Black Expressions

Sherman Federated Choir Soloist– 8:50 a.m. . . . . . . . . . . . Susie Viars-Allen

Introduction of Keynote Speaker – 8:58 a.m. . . . . . . . . . . . Teresa Johnson
Sherman Rotary President

Keynote – 9:00 a.m. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Carlos D. Lassiter
Vice President for Student Affairs & Chief Inclusion and Diversity Officer

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Scholarship – 9:20 a.m. . . . . . Dr. Al Hambrick ’79
Grayson County NAACP Branch

Closing Comments – 9:25 a.m. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Sarah Pierce
Grayson County Rotary President

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<th>Pledge of Allegiance</th>
<th>THE ROTARY 4-WAY TEST</th>
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<td>I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.</td>
<td>1. Is it the TRUTH?</td>
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<td>2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?</td>
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<td>3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?</td>
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<td>4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?</td>
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OUR SPEAKERS

Clemon White ’24

Clemon White, an Austin College sophomore from Fort Worth, TX, is a Political Science major and English minor. He is a First-Year Seminar Peer Mentor, a S.T.A.T Ambassador, the historian of the Pre-Law Society, and the historian of Black Expressions. Clemon hopes to attend law school upon graduation and become an attorney. His goals are to help in the reformation of the criminal justice system. He is excited to help celebrate the legacy and activism of Martin Luther King Jr. and wishes to shed light on ways we can use what MLK has taught us to address racial issues today.

Carllos Lassiter

Carllos Lassiter serves as Vice President for Student Affairs and Chief Inclusion and Diversity Officer at Austin College. In his role as VPSA/CIDO, Mr. Lassiter serves as a member of the Senior Leadership Team for the College with responsibility for the strategic direction and administration of programs and services related to Student Affairs and Inclusion and Diversity. Mr. Lassiter currently resides in Sherman, TX although south Mississippi is his home area. As a new member of the Austin College community, his focus for Student Affairs centers on the wellness of students, creation of intentional student programming, and staff development. As the Chief Inclusion and Diversity Officer, his goal is to establish inclusion and diversity as a core institutional value and to reinforce the concept of inclusion and diversity as a standard operating procedure and an integral part all of college activities. Mr. Lassiter’s professional philosophy is to ensure students a quality and rewarding collegial experience and he aims to create an inclusive and welcoming environment for all. His hope for this event is for audience members to gain a greater depth of the education of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and its impact upon his leadership during the Civil Rights Movement.

Thank you for celebrating with us!