"From the Mountain Top"
By Dwayne Glapion
Anthem

JAMES WELDON JOHNSON
The Negro National Anthem

Lift every voice and sing
Till earth and heaven ring,
Let the harmonies of Liberty
Till 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
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun
Let us march on till 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 have been watered,
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past,
Till now we 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 hast 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.
“Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend.”

“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.”

“Nonviolence means avoiding not only external physical violence but also internal violence of spirit. You not only refuse to shoot a man, but you refuse to hate him.”

“No one really knows why they’re alive until they know what they’d die for.”

“I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality. This is why right, temporarily defeated, is stronger than evil triumphant.”

“Hatred paralyzes life, love releases it; Hatred confuses life, love harmonizes it; Hatred darkens life, love illuminates it.”

“The hope of a secure and livable world lies with disciplined nonconformists who are dedicated to justice, peace, and brotherhood.”

“Intelligence plus character - that is the true goal of education.”

-Martin Luther King Jr.

Congratulations on this year’s celebration of the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Greetings to all attendees of the 31st Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration in the city of Aurora!

As Mayor, and on behalf of the Aurora City Council, I wish to express our delight in celebrating the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and encourage all citizens of the city of Aurora and throughout the metro area to attend planned events during this special commemoration.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. dedicated his life to the dream of rights and liberty for all people regardless of ethnicity, race, gender or creed. One of the greatest attributes of the city of Aurora lies in the diverse cultures that comprise our population. Our diversity is demonstrated not only through our collection of national flags in the lobby of the Aurora Municipal Center, but also through numerous community festivities that honor all cultural backgrounds that make our city such a wonderful place to live and work. Aurora is truly ‘Worth Discovering’!

I hope you will enjoy this month’s festivities, and I encourage you to consider one of Dr. King’s beautiful and thoughtful quotes. “Everybody can be great because anybody can serve. You don’t have to have a college degree to serve. You don’t have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace, a soul generated by love.” Today, let us ask ourselves what Dr. King believed to be life’s most urgent question: “What are you doing for others?” Let us commemorate the life of Dr. King through our service to others.

Sincerely,

Stephen D. Hogan
Mayor
City of Aurora

2017 Council Calendar

January
2 – New Year’s Day (Offices Closed)
9 – Council Meeting
16 – Martin Luther King Day (Offices Closed)
23 – Council Meeting
28 – Winter Workshop

February
6 – Council Meeting
13 – Special Study Session
20 – Presidents Day (Offices Closed)
27 – Council Meeting

March
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20 – Council Meeting
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27 – Special Study Session

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29 – Memorial Day (Offices Closed)

June
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July
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August
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14 – Special Study Session
19 – Global Fest
21 – Council Meeting

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30 – Council Meeting
31 – Halloween

November
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8 – Veteran’s Day
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13 – Council Meeting
20 – Council Meeting
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Jan. 9, 2017
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This new year, 2017, is an exciting time for the 31st Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration, “Crossing Over, Moving Forward.”

The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Colorado Holiday Commission was established by Gov. Richard D. Lamm in 1985. I am filled with joy to continue the tradition in Aurora and be inspired by the Dream that Dr. King envisioned. We are the only city in Colorado with a more than life size statue of the Rev. Dr. King. We also have the only Martin Luther King Jr. Library and Municipal Service Center in the state.

Dr. King was born in 1929, and tragically his life was cut short in 1968 in Memphis leading the protest for fair wages for garbage workers. As we begin this year to honor and celebrate his 88th birthday, his legacy of the “I Have a Dream” speech is still a lasting reminder for peace, justice, equality and the non-violent way to seek justice.

“Crossing Over, Moving Forward” is not the time to linger looking in our rear-view mirror, but a time to look ahead to build bridges to connect and appreciate one another. Diversity is all around us in our city of Aurora and very important. We should encourage all cultures and ethnicities to share and participate in the growth and changes in our city.

Examining race as a culture, we are all one race, and that is the human race. The city of Aurora is integrated with multicultural, multilingual and multietnic residents. We are more alike than we are different. Let’s celebrate each other. Individually, we all can make a difference in our city.

Aurorans, the Community Relations Division is committed to our residents, supporting our community, echoing the “Dream” of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Martin Luther King Jr. (Jan. 15, 1929-April 4, 1968) was born Michael Luther King Jr. but later had his name changed to Martin. His grandfather began the family’s long tenure as pastors of the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, serving from 1914 to 1931; his father has served from then until the present, and from 1960 until his death, Martin Luther acted as co-pastor. Martin Luther attended segregated public schools in Georgia, graduating from high school at the age of 15; he received the B.A. degree in 1948 from Morehouse College, a distinguished Negro institution in Atlanta from which both his father and grandfather had graduated. After three years of theological study at Crozer Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania where he was elected president of a predominantly white senior class, he was awarded the B.D. in 1951. With a fellowship won at Crozer, he enrolled in graduate studies at Boston University, completing his residence for the doctorate in 1953 and receiving the degree in 1955. In Boston he met and married Coretta Scott, a young woman of uncommon intellectual and artistic attainments. Two sons and two daughters were born into the family.

In 1954, Martin Luther King became pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Ala. Always a strong worker for civil rights for members of his race, King was, by this time, a member of the executive committee of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the leading organization of its kind in the nation. He was ready, then, early in December 1955, to accept the leadership of the first great Negro revolt. The Montgomery bus boycott, and action; and meanwhile he wrote five books as well as numerous articles. In these years, he led a massive protest in Birmingham, Ala. that caught the attention of the entire world, providing what he called a coalition of conscience. and inspiring his “Letter from a Birmingham Jail,” a manifesto of the Negro revolution; he planned the drives in Alabama for the registration of Negroes as voters; he directed the peaceful march on Washington, D.C. of 250,000 people to whom he delivered his address, “I Have a Dream,” he conferred with President John F. Kennedy and campaigned for President Lyndon B. Johnson; he was arrested nearly 20 times and assaulted at least four times; he was awarded five honorary degrees; he was named Man of the Year by Time magazine in 1963; and he became not only the symbolic leader of American blacks, but also a world figure.

At the age of 35, Martin Luther King Jr. was the youngest man to have received the Nobel Peace Prize. When notified of his selection, he announced that he would turn over the prize money to have received the Nobel Peace Prize. When notified of his selection, he announced that he would turn over the prize money to the American Committee forums and conventions. As a result, he was assassinated.

On the evening of April 4, 1968, while standing on the balcony of his motel room in Memphis, Tenn., where he was to lead a protest march in sympathy with striking garbage workers of that city, he was assassinated.
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

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In 1957 he was elected president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, an organization formed to provide new leadership for the now burgeoning civil rights movement. The ideals for this organization were taken from Christianity and its operational techniques from Gandhi. In the 11 year period between 1957 and 1968, King traveled over 6 million miles and spoke over 2,500 times, appearing wherever there was injustice, protest, and action; and meanwhile he wrote five books as well as numerous articles. In these years, he led a massive protest in Birmingham, Ala., that caught the attention of the entire world, providing what he called a coalition of conscience; and inspiring his “Letter from a Birmingham Jail,” a manifesto of the Negro revolution; he planned the drives in Alabama for the registration of Negroes as voters; he directed the peaceful march on Washington, D.C., of 250,000 people to whom he delivered his address, “I Have a Dream,” he conferred with President John F. Kennedy and campaigned for President Lyndon B. Johnson; he was arrested nearly 20 times and assaulted at least four times; he was awarded five honorary degrees; he was named Man of the Year by Time magazine in 1963; and he became not only the symbolic leader of American blacks, but also a world figure. At the age of 35, Martin Luther King Jr. was the youngest man to have received the Nobel Peace Prize. When notified of his selection, he announced that he would turn over the prize money to have received the Nobel Peace Prize. When notified of his selection, he announced that he would turn over the prize money to

We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope.
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Barbara Shannon-Banister
Chief
Community Relations Division
Worth Discovering • auroragov.org
Neighborhood Services Department
City of Aurora
Community Relations Division
Barbara Shannon-Banister, Chief
15151 E. Alameda Parkway, Ste 4500
Aurora, Colorado 80012
303.739.7297
# 2017 Aurora City Council

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<th>Month</th>
<th>Council Meetings</th>
<th>Study Sessions</th>
<th>Other Events</th>
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Sincerely,

Stephen D. Hogan
Mayor
WHEREAS, the Congress and the President of the United States have established, by law, a national holiday on the anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s birth, that started in the year 1986, and will be observed this year for the 31st time in the City of Aurora; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was born on January 15, 1929, and was assassinated on April 4, 1968 in Memphis, Tennessee. He was known internationally to have advanced the civil atmosphere for all people, worldwide; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. had many beautiful words of wisdom and peace, and dedicated his life to the dreams of rights and liberty for all people through peaceful means. This week we remember his teachings of choosing to love more than hate, to seek justice rather than revenge, and to refrain from acts of violence to any person, group or race; and,

WHEREAS, we recognize that our community has taken progressive steps forward, but has yet to reach Dr. King’s promised land is not an admission of defeat, but a call to action; and,

WHEREAS, in these challenging times, too many Americans face limited opportunities, but our capacity to support each other remains limitless. Today, let us ask ourselves what Dr. King believed to be life’s most urgent and persistent question: “What are we doing for others?”; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Aurora’s week long events began on Monday, January 9th at 10:00am in the Aurora Municipal Center Lobby and ends with the Martin Luther King, Jr. African American Heritage Rodeo of Champions at the National Western Stock Show on Monday, January 16th at 6:00pm; and,

WHEREAS, an additional Commemoration event will be the Dedication Luncheon at Community College of Aurora on Wednesday, January 25th.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Stephen D. Hogan, Mayor of the City of Aurora, Colorado, do hereby proclaim the week of January 9th through 16th 2017 as:

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. WEEK

in the City of Aurora, and encourage participation in the planned activities within our city to commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s 88th birthday.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Aurora, Colorado to be affixed this 9th day of January 2017.

Lift every voice and sing
Till earth and heaven ring,
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Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea,
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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.
"From the Mountain Top"
By Dwayne Glapion