2015 EVENT SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, JAN. 9 – SATURDAY, JAN. 17
Young Artist Artwork Exhibition
Harre Union

THURSDAY, JAN. 15
MLK performance — “Shades of Gray”
5 – 6:20 p.m., Harre Union Ballrooms

Art & Essay Contest Recognition and Award Ceremony
6:30 p.m., Harre Union Ballrooms

FRIDAY, JAN. 16
Community Conversations
Noon – 1 p.m., various locations throughout the City of Valparaiso

SATURDAY, JAN. 17
Film Screening — “Documented”
2 – 4 p.m., Harre Union Ballrooms

SUNDAY, JAN. 18
10 a.m., Chapel of the Resurrection

Alan Bloom Memorial Basketball Tournament
4 – 9 p.m., Athletics–Recreation Center

MONDAY, JAN. 19
Convocation
Featuring keynote speaker Ishmael Beah
10 a.m., Chapel of the Resurrection

Luncheon
Featuring Q&A with keynote speaker Ishmael Beah
Emcee: Zebadiah Hall
11:45 a.m., Harre Union Ballrooms

Focus Session I
1:15 p.m., various locations

Focus Session II
2:30 p.m., various locations

Closing
Joanne Bland
4 p.m., CCLIR Community Room

Talk to a Lawyer Today
Hosted by the NWI Volunteer Lawyers Inc.
9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Wesemann Hall, Law School

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 21
Mock Congressional Debate
Topic: Law students will debate the riots and protestor experiences related to events in Ferguson, Mo.
4 – 6 p.m., Wesemann Hall, Law School

THURSDAY, JAN. 22
Law School MLK Speaker
Terry Smith, DePaul University College of Law “From King to Obama: Cycles of Backlash and the Fire Next Time”
4 p.m., Wesemann Hall, Law School
Ishmael Beah was born in Sierra Leone in 1980. When he was 11, Mr. Beah’s life was derailed by the outbreak of a brutal civil war. After his parents and two brothers were killed, Mr. Beah was recruited to fight as a child soldier at the age of 13. He fought for more than two years before he was removed from the army by UNICEF and placed in a rehabilitation home in Freetown, the capital of Sierra Leone.

Mr. Beah speaks to bring international attention to the plight of child soldiers and children affected by war around the world. He is the author of “A Long Way Gone,” which was named one of the Top 10 Nonfiction Books of 2007 and has since been translated into more than 40 languages, and “Radiance of Tomorrow,” which was released in 2014.

Joanne Bland began her civil rights activism in the early 1960s, marching on “Bloody Sunday,” “Turn Around Tuesday,” and the first leg of the successful March from Selma to Montgomery, witnessing brutal beatings of fellow marchers by police. By the time she was 11 years old, Ms. Bland had been arrested a documented 13 times. Her early involvement in the struggle against “Jim Crow,” American apartheid, has been the foundation for her civil and human rights work throughout her life.

Ms. Bland has presented at conferences and workshops throughout the United States. She is owner and operator of Journeys For The Soul, a touring agency that specializes in civil rights tours with a major focus on Selma, Ala., and co-founder and former director of the National Voting Rights Museum in Selma.

Rev. Richard Morrisroe, J.D., D. Min., a former Catholic priest and now attorney, is the city planner for East Chicago, Ind., and teaches business ethics and social justice at Calumet College of St. Joseph. The Rev. Morrisroe walked and worked with the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. to advance educational and voting rights. After responding to a call from King in 1965 to northern clergy members to assist with helping to register African Americans to vote in Alabama, the Rev. Morrisroe was shot on the same day that Episcopal seminarian Jonathan Myrick Daniels was shot and killed. The Rev. Morrisroe has dedicated his life and work to advance civil rights ever since.

Terry Smith is a distinguished research professor at DePaul College of Law in Chicago and is the author of “Barack Obama, Post-Racialism and the New Politics of Triangulation.” A magna cum laude graduate of Brown University and a Patricia Roberts Harris Fellow while attending New York University Law School, Professor Smith has clerked for the Honorable Nathaniel R. Jones of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, worked in private practice, and taught at Fordham Law School for 16 years prior to joining DePaul’s faculty. He is the author of numerous scholarly articles appearing in leading legal periodicals and is currently writing a book on how legal structures compel the transfer of black Americans’ wealth.
Today we celebrate the 50th anniversary of two sweeping pieces of legislation that transformed the concepts of justice, equality, and democracy for generations to come. We also reflect on the milestones of the Civil Rights Movement, memorialize those who fought tirelessly to make America more equal, and rise to the challenge of the work left to be done.

More than a half century ago, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed into law the Civil Rights Act of 1964, making it illegal to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin, thereby legislatively ending school, workplace, and public facility discrimination. Following a protest march in Selma, Ala., which was brutally obstructed by state troopers, Congress followed up with the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which banned the use of literacy tests and poll taxes in state and local elections previously used to keep minority voters from exercising their democratic right to vote.

So as we celebrate this anniversary and the undeniable progress made during the past 50 years, let us also recommit ourselves to make the United States more just and free.

“We have proved that great progress is possible. We know how much still remains to be done. And if our efforts continue, and if our will is strong, and if our hearts are right, and if courage remains our constant companion, then my fellow Americans, I am confident, we shall overcome.” — Lyndon B. Johnson

The Convocation, 10 a.m., Chapel of the Resurrection

Prelude: Valparaiso University Chamber Concert Band
— Jeffrey Doebler, Ph.D., Conductor

Invocation: The Rev. James Wetzstein

Welcome: Mark A. Heckler, Ph.D., President

Hymn: “Lift Every Voice and Sing,” Lutheran Service Book 964
Led by members of the Valparaiso University choirs
Accompanied by Dennis Friesen-Carper, piano

Recitation: Major Milestones of the Civil Rights Movement
Please see insert for transcript

Presentation of awards: Mark A. Heckler, Ph.D., President

CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT MILESTONES

1619 Arrival of first slaves in the U.S. (Jamestown, VA)
1862 President Abraham Lincoln signs Emancipation Proclamation
1865 Civil War ends; Slavery abolished; Lincoln assassinated
1866 Plessy v. Ferguson U.S. Supreme Ct. upholds “separate but equal” racial segregation in public facilities
1896 Rosa Parks refuses to give up seat in segregated bus in Montgomery, AL
1955 Student sit-ins began and "Freedom Riders" test new anti-segregation laws in interstate travel facilities
1960
Introduction to Keynote Speaker: Joseph Goss, Assistant Director for Valpo Core

Keynote Address: Ishmael Beah

Hymn: “Amazing Grace,” Lutheran Service Book 744 (verses 1–4 only)
Led by soloist Monique Nunes and members of the Valparaiso University Choirs
Accompanied by Dennis Friesen-Carper, piano

The congregation is invited to join in singing the fourth verse

Announcements: Elizabeth Gingerich ’81, J.D. and Becky Klein ’97, MLK Steering Committee Co-Chairs

Benediction: The Rev. Charlene M. Rachuy Cox, STM

Post-Convocation Music: Valparaiso University Chamber Concert Band

Guest Readers

Narrator: The Rev. John A. Nunes, Ph.D., Emil and Elfriede Jochum University Chair, Valparaiso University

Reader 1: Kendra Adamson, Administrative Assistant to the Dean, College of Business, Valparaiso University

Reader 2: Angela Kim, Valparaiso University student, Class of 2017

Reader 3: Nadeem Zabaneh, Valparaiso University student, Class of 2017

Reader 4: Jared Riddle, Associate Professor and Department Chair, English and Communication, Ivy Tech

Reader 5: Faith Miller, Valparaiso University student, Class of 2017

Reader 6: Mercy C. Ngetich, Valparaiso University student, Class of 2015

Reader 7: Joseph Robinson, Valparaiso University student, Class of 2017

Reader 8: Byron Martin, Director, Multicultural Programs, Valparaiso University

Reader 9: Lumturije Akiti, Title IX Coordinator/Contracts Administrator, Finance, Valparaiso University

Reader 10: Redrick Taylor, Admission Counselor, Undergraduate Admission, Valparaiso University

1963
Birmingham, AL: Rev. King jailed during anti-segregation protests; Fire hoses/dogs turned on black demonstrators

1963
Former Alabama Gov. George Wallace attempts to keep blacks from entering the U. of Alabama. Pres. Kennedy summons troops

1963
Four young girls were killed by a bomb during their Sunday School class at the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, AL

April 4, 1968
Martin Luther King, Jr. assassinated outside his hotel room in Memphis, TN

1963
Dr. King leads March on Washington, D.C.; “I Have a Dream” speech delivered
**Martin Luther King Jr. Award Recipients**

1995 Lou Jeanne Walton ’60
1996 Walter Reiner and Karl Lutze
1997 Valpo Faculty Jazz Trio
1999 Jane Claiborne ’01, ’04 MALS
2000 Judith Erwin-Neville and Valpo Gospel Choir
2001 Hugh McGuigan
2002 David Kehret
2003 Bill Marion Jr.
2004 Jane Bello-Brunson
2005 Asian American Association, Black Student Organization, and Latinos in Valparaiso for Excellence
2006 James Kingsland ’82 J.D.
2007 Alan Harre

2008 Ryan Freeman-Jones and Gregory Jones
2009 Roy Austensen and Renu Juneja
2010 Alan Bloom, and the Peace and Social Justice Symposium: Jane Bello-Brunson and Delphina (Del) Hopkins-Gillispie, co-founders
2011 Zhimin Lin
2012 Ivan Bodensteiner, NaTasha Henry ’04, ’06 MALS, and the Black Law Students Association
2013 Allison Schuette ’93, Liz Wuerffel ’00, and Holly Singh ’98, ’05 MALS
2014 Stacy Hoult-Saros
2015 Valpo Men’s Soccer Team, Larry Baas, and Zahra Nwabara

**MLK 2015 Steering Committee**

Co-Chairs: Elizabeth Gingerich ’81, J.D. and Becky Klein ’97

Jim Albers
Salena Anderson
Victoria Brockett
Charlene Cox
Christina Crawley
Patrice Davis
Sarah Degner Riveros
Deondra Devitt
Nirupama Devaraj
Sri Frazee
Charley Gillispie
Del Gillispie
Sara Gundersen
Zebadiah Hall
Deanna Hardwick
John Harrison
Brian Johnson
Ruth Johnston
Kristen Knoerzer
Jane Lohmeyer ’68, ’82 MALS
Amy Lowery ’07
Jaquann Merriweather ’13
Rachael Muszkiewicz
Monique Nunes
Zahra Nwabara

Samuel Payan
Jennifer Powell
Phillip Powell
Maggie Rivera
Tracy Rongers
Dan Saros
Kevin Steele
Larissa Sullivant
Dorothy Warner ’82
James Wetzstein
Carolyn Whittier
Jessica Wilson
The 2015 MLK Jr. Day Steering Committee thanks the following for their participation

Phillip Powell, Special Assistant to the Provost for Inclusion
Carolyn Whittier, Assistant Dean of Students for Greek Life, Leadership and Volunteer Programs
The Freshman Core Program
Ralph Johnston ‘85, bagpipes

Chapel of the Resurrection Staff and University Pastors
Valparaiso University Department of Music
Community Conversation Host Sites
Integrated Marketing and Communications

We would like to thank the following for additional funding for the MLK celebration