



COLUMBUS STATE  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# History Sees You

THE 34TH ANNUAL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION

FEATURING A KEYNOTE ADDRESS FROM:  
**HASAN KWAME JEFFRIES**

College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Associate Professor of History,  
The Ohio State University

Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2024  
10 a.m. – noon

Center for Workforce Development  
4th Floor Ballroom  
Columbus State Community College



Featured speaker:

## Hasan Kwame Jeffries

College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Associate Professor of History,  
The Ohio State University

Hasan Kwame Jeffries teaches, researches, and writes about the African-American experience from a historical perspective.

He has chronicled the civil rights movement and shared his expertise on African-American history and contemporary Black politics through public lectures, op-eds, and interviews on film, television, Audible Originals series, podcasts, books and essays.

His 2020 TEDx Talk “Why We Must Confront the Painful Parts of US History” has been viewed more than two million times and reflects his commitment to teaching what he calls “Hard History” which helps school districts develop anti-racism programming and culturally responsive curricular content centered on social studies.

For his public history work, the King Arts Center honored him with a 2023 Legacy and Legends Award. His teaching has received numerous awards, including Ohio State’s highest commendation for teaching — the Ohio State Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching.

## Program

### Columbus State Gospel Vocal Ensemble

#### Welcome

Primrose Igonor, Director, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

#### Opening Dance

Shani Hathorn, Ami Kounta, and Simone Robinson

#### Opening Remarks

Dr. David T. Harrison, President, Columbus State Community College

### The Barbara Smith-Allen Visionary Dreamer Award & The Darius Tarence Visionary Dreamer Award Presentations

Almar Walter, Vice President of Diversity/CDO

#### Poetry Selection

Reuel Barksdale, Professor, Business Programs

#### George Floyd Scholarship Award Presentation

Vincent Hill, Assistant Director, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion  
Michelle Baker, Program Coordinator, Advising and Career Services

#### Introduction of Speaker

Primrose Igonor

#### Keynote Conversation

Dr. Hassan Jeffries, College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Associate  
Professor of History, The Ohio State University

#### Special Presentation to Keynote Speaker

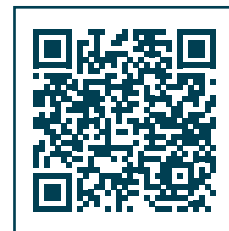
D’Tron Driessen, Student  
Chelsea Patterson, Student

#### Song – “Lift Every Voice and Sing”

Columbus State Gospel Vocal Ensemble  
Dr. Emma Easton, Adjunct, Humanities

#### Call to Action

Dr. Terrence Brooks, Senior Director, Student Life



For full bio visit: [cscs.edu/mlk](https://cscs.edu/mlk)



## Columbus State Gospel Vocal Ensemble

The Columbus State Gospel Vocal Ensemble (GVE), under the direction of Dr. Emma L. Easton, has appeared in numerous prestigious venues within the Ohio area since 2006. GVE has opened for and shared the stage with various national talent and notables. The group made history at Columbus State by releasing “The Hope Project” — the very first gospel CD ever produced at the college. Since then, their discography has consisted of four audio releases and three music videos. Their latest music video, “Worthy,” was penned by its director and released in 2021.

## Dance Performance

Simone, Shani, and Ami share a longstanding history rooted in Columbus, Ohio, having forged their bond during their formative years at dance rehearsals. Their initial collaboration blossomed in the production of The Chocolate Nutcracker, marking their debut performance together. Subsequently, this talented trio embarked on a continued journey, participating in various productions like Africa to America, Pan, and Ami Kounta’s distinctive showcase, “Dance with my Father.”



Shani Hathorn



Ami Kounta



Simone Robinson

Original poem read by:  
**Reuel Barksdale**

Reuel Barksdale is an award-winning tenured professor in the Business Programs Department at Columbus State Community College where he teaches Human Resources Management, Business Management and Interpersonal Skills Management. He also coordinates the Human Resources Development Degree and Certificate Programs. Professor Barksdale has received the Distinguished Teacher Award at Columbus State and has been listed as “A Teacher of Excellence” by Ohio Magazine.



## Scholarship and Awards

### Student and Employee Visionary Dreamer Awards

Winners make a significant and lasting contribution to continue creating an environment where diversity is honored and respected on our campuses and within the broader community.

### George Floyd Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship, created in memory of George Floyd, is a merit-based award given to students who demonstrate leadership, social justice work, and activism that furthers progress in their community.

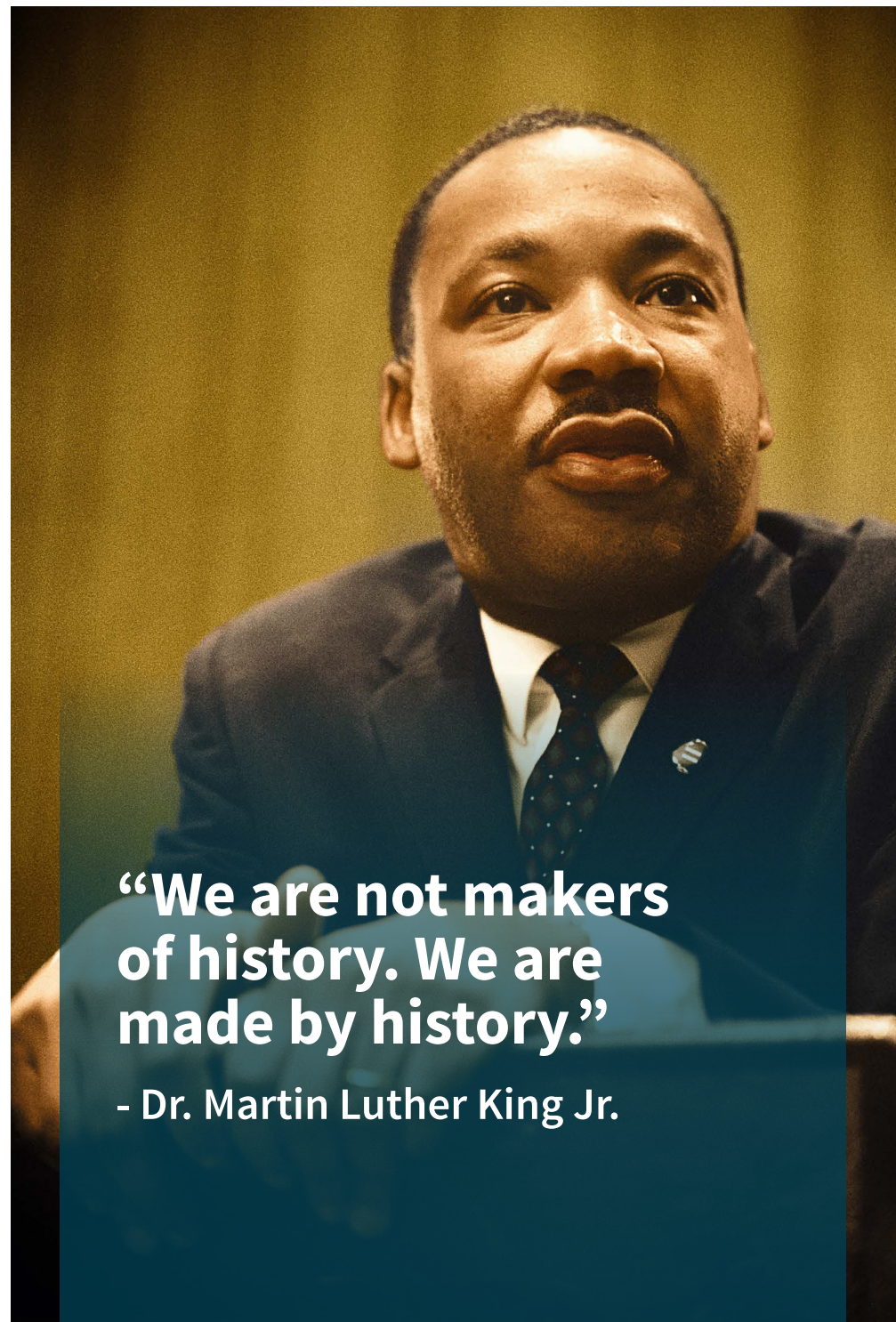




The Black National Anthem  
**Lift Every Voice and Sing**

Written and composed by  
James Weldon Johnson and John Rosamond Johnson

Lift every voice and sing,  
'Til earth and heaven ring,  
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;  
Let our rejoicing rise  
High as the list'ning 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,  
Let us march on 'til 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 has been watered,  
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,  
Out from the gloomy past,  
'Til 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 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.



**“We are not makers  
of history. We are  
made by history.”**

**- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.**



Capture your experiences using the hashtag  
**#CSCCMLK**

### **MLK Planning Committee**

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Reuel Barksdale  
Alexandra Bradley  
Crystal Clark  
Dana Cummings  
Timothy Davis  
Sharon Dixon  
Hannah Groah  
Gregory Hetterscheidt  
Vincent Hill

Vena Hill  
Grace Howard  
Patricia Huston  
Primrose Igonor  
Ben Kalb  
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Katelyn Kirk  
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Brett Welsh  
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Ariana Woods

Special thanks to the National Afro-American Museum and Cultural Center



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AFRO-AMERICAN  
MUSEUM AND  
CULTURAL CENTER**

[ohiohistory.org](http://ohiohistory.org)



[csc.edu/mlk](http://csc.edu/mlk)