I HAVE A DREAM: The Life and Times of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Written by Bruce Miller
Produced by Virginia Repertory Theatre on Tour

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2017
9:30 & 11:30 A.M. • VICTORIA THEATRE
Welcome to the 2016-2017 Frank M. Tait Foundation Discovery Series at Victoria Theatre Association. We are very excited to be your education partner in providing professional arts experiences to you and your students!

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s humble beginnings in Atlanta, Georgia laid the foundation for him to inspire millions of Americans with his words, leadership, and perspective. Becoming one of the Civil Rights Movement’s seminal figures, Dr. King’s tireless efforts led to the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson. I hope this dramatization of Dr. King’s life will inspire you and your students to believe that each of you are an integral part of our country’s journey toward "the solid rock of brotherhood."

The information and activities in this resource guide have been carefully crafted to help you and your students explore the many ways a live theatre experience can open up learning opportunities. Grade level icons will help you determine which activities are good for students, too. And don’t forget to take advantage of the local resources listed inside to extend the play-going experience and make even more curricular connections for you and your students. Thank you again and welcome!

Gary Minyard
Vice President - Education & Engagement

Table of Contents

Comprehension
About The Play and Ohio Spotlight................................................................. Page 2
Civil Rights Vocabulary and Pre-Show Conversation Starters.......................... Page 3
Civil Rights Movement Timeline ................................................................. Page 4

Connection
In Their Own Words ....................................................................................... Page 5
Amendments about Equality ......................................................................... Page 6
Contact Your Representative! ........................................................................ Page 7

Creativity
I Have A Dream Mobile Craft Worksheet (Grades 3-8)................................. Page 8
I Have A Dream Writing Activity Worksheet (Grades 9-12)......................... Page 9
Black and White Collage Craft .................................................................... Page 10
Additional Resources for Students and Teachers......................................... Page 11

This resource guide was created by Amy Handra & Taylor Benjamin. All activities are available for distribution and use in the classroom or at home.

Curriculum Connections

You will find these icons listed in the resource guide next to the activities that indicate curricular connections. Teachers and parents are encouraged to adapt all of the activities included in an appropriate way for your students’ age and abilities. I HAVE A DREAM: THE LIFE AND TIMES OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. fulfills the following Ohio and National Education Standards and Benchmarks for Grades 3-12:

**English/ Language Arts Standards**

**Grade 3** — CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.2, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.3, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.6


**Grade 5** — CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.2, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.3, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.9, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.5.1, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.5.2, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.5.4,


**Ohio's New Learning Standards for Social Studies**

**Grades 3-12**— Historical Thinking and Skills

**Grades 3-12**— Civic Participation and Skills

**Grades 3-12**— Social Transformations in the United States 1945–1994, Civic Involvement, Role of the People, Public Policy, Civil and Human Rights

**National Core Arts Theatre Standards:**

**Grade 3** — TH:Pr5.1.3, TH:Re7.1.3, TH:Cn10.1.3, TH:Cn11.1.3, TH:Cn11.2.3

**Grade 4** — TH:Pr5.1.4, TH:Re7.1.4, TH:Cn10.1.4, TH:Cn11.1.4, TH:Cn11.2.4

**Grade 5** — TH:Pr5.1.5, TH:Re7.1.5, TH:Cn10.1.5, TH:Cn11.1.5, TH:Cn11.2.5

**Grade 6** — TH:Pr5.1.6, TH:Re7.1.6, TH:Cn10.1.6, TH:Cn11.1.6, TH:Cn11.2.6

**Grade 7** — TH:Pr5.1.7, TH:Re7.1.7, TH:Cn10.1.7, TH:Cn11.1.7, TH:Cn11.2.7

**Grade 8** — TH:Pr5.1.8, TH:Re7.1.8, TH:Cn10.1.8, TH:Cn11.1.8, TH:Cn11.2.8

**Grade 9-12** — TH:Pr5.1.1, TH:Re7.1.1, TH:Cn10.1.1, TH:Cn11.1.1, TH:Cn11.2.1

**Benchmarks for Grades 3-12:**

- National Education Standards and Benchmarks for Performing Arts
- Ohio’ s New Learning Standards for Social Studies
- Ohio’ s New Learning Standards for English Language Arts
- National Core Arts Theatre Standards
- Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts
- Ohio’ s New Learning Standards for Language Arts
- Ohio’ s New Learning Standards for Mathematics

**Additional Resources for Students and Teachers**

- I Have A Dream Writing Activity Worksheet (Grades 9-12)
- I Have A Dream Mobile Craft Worksheet (Grades 3-8)
- Black and White Collage Craft
- Additional Resources for Students and Teachers
I HAVE A DREAM: THE LIFE AND TIMES OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Born Michael Luther King, Jr. on January 15, 1929, Martin Luther King, Jr. attended segregated public schools in Georgia and graduated from high school at the age of fifteen. He received a Bachelor of the Arts degree in Sociology in 1948 from Morehouse College. After three years of theological study at Crozer Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania, he was awarded a Bachelor of Divinity in 1951. With the assistance of a fellowship he was awarded at Crozer, he enrolled in graduate studies at Boston University and received his Doctorate in Systematic Theology in 1955. In late 1953, he married Coretta Scott, a vocal music and violin student at Boston University. In 1957, Dr. King was elected President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, an organization formed to provide new leadership for the new emerging Civil Rights Movement.

Between 1957 and 1968, King traveled over six million miles and spoke over 2,500 times. While travelling, he also wrote five books, as well as numerous articles. He led a massive protest in Birmingham, Alabama in April 1963, which inspired "Letter from a Birmingham Jail." On August 28, 1963, he directed the peaceful March on Washington and delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech.

During his lifetime, Dr. King was awarded 5 honorary degrees and was named Man of the Year by Time Magazine in 1963. At the age of 35, King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize and when he was notified of the award, he announced that he would donate the $54,123 in prize money to the furtherance of the Civil Rights Movement.

On April 4, 1968, Dr. King's life tragically ended when he was assassinated by former convict, James Earl Ray. The assassination sparked riots and demonstrations in more than 100 cities across the country.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s life and work have been honored with a national holiday, schools and public buildings being named after him, and a memorial on Independence Mall in Washington, D.C. He was not only the symbolic leader of the Civil Rights Movement in America but also a figure respected across the world.

Ohio Spotlight

Opened on the banks of the Ohio River in Cincinnati in 2004, the mission of the National Underground Railroad Center is to reveal the stories of freedom's heroes, from the era of the Underground Railroad to contemporary times, challenging and inspiring everyone to take courageous steps of freedom today. A history museum with more than 100,000 visitors annually, it serves to inspire modern abolition through connecting the lessons of the Underground Railroad with today's freedom fighters.

For more information, please visit http://www.freedomcenter.org/.
## Civil Rights - Important People and Vocabulary

| **Rosa Parks** | On December 1, 1955, she refused to give up her seat to a white passenger on a Montgomery, AL bus. After she was jailed, the Montgomery bus boycott was organized. |
| **SCLC** | Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) is an organization in which churches connect to inform African Americans about changes in the Civil Rights Movement. |
| **Sit-in** | Nonviolent protests in which a person sits down and refuses to leave. |
| **March on Washington** | In August 1963, Civil Rights leaders organized a massive rally in Washington to urge passage of President Kennedy’s Civil Rights bill. The high point was Dr. King’s “I Have a Dream” speech delivered to more than 200,000 marchers in front of the Lincoln Memorial. |
| **Freedom Riders** | A group of Civil Rights activists that rode in interstate buses into the segregated southern United States to test the ruling of desegregated public places. |

### Pre-Show Conversation Starters

1. Martin Luther King, Jr. lived from 1929 - 1968, a time of tremendous racial injustice and change. In what ways do you think today’s America might be different if Dr. King had not been assassinated at such a young age? List three ways in which you think America would be different.

2. Dr. King says in his famous “I Have a Dream” speech, that his dream is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream.” Discuss what you think the American Dream is and how it relates to Dr. King’s dream.

3. Do you think Dr. King’s dream of a more united America has come true? Why or why not? Discuss your answers as a class.
The Civil Rights Movement (1955-1968) was a social, legal, and political struggle by African Americans against racial discrimination in order to gain full rights as citizens of the United States. The Civil Rights Movement started with a challenge to the system of segregation that was set up after the abolition of slavery at the end of the Civil War. The movement was characterized by protest marches, boycotts, and a refusal to abide by segregation laws.

**SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT**

1954
- Brown vs. Board of Education was a United States Supreme Court case in which the court declared state laws establishing separate public schools for black and white students to be unconstitutional.

1960
- President Kennedy issued Executive Order 10925, prohibiting discrimination in federal government hiring on the basis of race, religion or national origin and established The President’s Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity, the EEOC.

1963
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. gives his famous “I Have a Dream” speech in Washington, D.C.

1964
- After a 75-day long filibuster, congress passes the Civil Rights Act of 1964 declaring discrimination based on race illegal.

1965
- A march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama is organized in defiance of segregationist repression and to show the marchers’ desire to exercise their constitutional right to vote.
- The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was signed into law by President Johnson, which made it illegal to force would-be voters to pass a literacy test in order to vote.

1968
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is assassinated in Memphis, TN by James Earl Ray.
- President Lyndon B. Johnson signs the Civil Rights Act of 1968, which prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental, and financing of housing.

**Did You Know?**

One spectator at Dr. King’s “I Have a Dream” speech was a young man named George Raveling. When he and a friend got to the National Mall, they were stationed on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. When Dr. King’s speech was over, he folded up his copy of the speech and Raveling, an avid collector of recordings and speeches by King and other Civil Rights leaders, quickly asked Dr. King if he could have the original copy. King handed the papers to Raveling and went on his way. Now retired, Raveling still has the famous speech. He would like the speech to be on public display someday. He has even written a clause into his will that passes custody of the speech to his son, Mark. There is only one condition: Mark may never sell it.
Barack Obama, the 44th President of the United States, accepted the Democratic nomination for the presidency on August 28, 2008, on the anniversary of Martin Luther King, Jr’s historic “I Have a Dream” speech. Many asked if Obama’s presidency was the realization of King’s dream. Both are leaders who worked toward better and fairer solutions for our nation. Read the quotes in the chart below and discuss similarities and differences.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Martin Luther King, Jr.</th>
<th>Barack Obama</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Love vs.</td>
<td>“Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.”</td>
<td>“Love and hope can conquer hate.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hate</td>
<td>- <em>Strength To Love</em> (1963)</td>
<td>- Speech for the 50th Anniversary of the Selma Marches (March 7, 2015)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>“The function of education, therefore, is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character -- that is the goal of true education.” - <em>The Purpose of Education</em> <em>(Morehouse College Paper, The Maroon Tiger, 1947)</em></td>
<td>“Michelle and I are here only because we were given a chance at an education. I will not settle for an America where some kids don’t have that chance. We’ll keep our promise to every young American--if you commit to serving your community and your country, we will make sure you can afford a college education.” -Democratic National Convention Speech <em>(August 27, 2008)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unity</td>
<td>“We must learn to live together as brothers, or perish together as fools.”</td>
<td>“There is not a black American and white American and Latino American and Asian American--there is the United States of America.” - <em>The Audacity of Hope: Thoughts on Reclaiming the American Dream</em> <em>(2006)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- “Remaining Awake Through a Great Revolution” <em>(Commencement Address for Oberlin College, June 1965)</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>“The God whom we worship is not a weak and incompetent God. He is able to beat back gigantic waves of opposition and to bring low prodigious mountains of evil. The ringing testimony of the Christian faith is that God is able.” - <em>A Gift of Love: Sermons from Strength to Love and Other Preachings</em> <em>(2012)</em></td>
<td>“I believe that there are many paths to the same place, and that there is a higher power, that we are connected as a people. There are values that transcend race or culture that move us forward, and there’s an obligation for all of us individually as well as collectively to take responsibility to make those values lived.” -<em>Chicago Sun Times</em> interview <em>(March 27, 2004)</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Extension Question:** Pick one of the topics from the chart. Explain how each man’s quote relates to the topic, and then discuss whether you agree or disagree with their views.
33 amendments to the United States Constitution have been proposed by the United States Congress since the Constitution was put into operation on March 4, 1789. Each of the 33 was sent to the states for ratification. 27 of these amendments, having been ratified by the requisite number of states, are part of the Constitution. Amendments 1-10 are known as the Bill of Rights.

The following Amendments to the Constitution deal with equality but equality doesn’t only pertain to race. It could also be about religion, gender and sexuality.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amendment</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Amendment</td>
<td>Covers 5 freedoms: of speech, of press, of religion, of assembly, of petition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13th Amendment</td>
<td>Abolishes slavery and gives Congress the power to enforce abolition through legislation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th Amendment</td>
<td>Covers women’s suffrage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14th Amendment</td>
<td>Covers the definition of citizens as people born in the US and prohibits the states from denying due process and equal protection under the law. It also excludes women from voting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th Amendment</td>
<td>States that voting rights will not be based on race.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th Amendment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th Amendment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th Amendment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21st Amendment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22nd Amendment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23rd Amendment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th Amendment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th Amendment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26th Amendment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27th Amendment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28th Amendment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29th Amendment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30th Amendment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31st Amendment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32nd Amendment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33rd Amendment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Has there ever been a law or policy that you saw as wrong or unjust? You can write to your representative and let them know. If there is not a specific law that you know of, you can visit [http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/billtracker--130th-general-assembly--2013-2014--4](http://www.ohioschoolboards.org/billtracker--130th-general-assembly--2013-2014--4) and use the topic search to find a proposed bill that may pertain to you. There are bills about many different topics including: what should be allowed to be taught in health class, student immunization, common core standards, and conceal carry on school campuses, as well as many others.

Mike Turner represents the people who live in Ohio’s 10th district in Washington, D.C. and you can contact him!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>D.C. Office:</th>
<th>Dayton Office:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 2239 Rayburn Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515 | 120 W. Third Street  
Suite 305  
Dayton, OH 45402 |

Use the sample below to help draft a letter to your representative. If you want to send a letter to a representative in a different area, visit [http://www.house.gov/representatives/find/](http://www.house.gov/representatives/find/) and type in the zip code for the area in which you live.

**Return Address**

**Date**

**Representative’s Address**

**Salutation**

**Introduce yourself:** your name, address and school to identify that you are a constituent

**Why are you writing your Representative?**

**Ask for a response**

**Thank your Representative for his/her time**

**Closing with your name**

[Your Name]  
Address  
City, State  Zip Code

[Insert Date]

The Honorable [Insert Representative’s Name]  
[Insert Address of Representative]

Dear Representative [Insert Last Name]:

My name is [Insert Your Name] and I reside at [Insert Your Address] in [Insert Your City], Ohio. I am in the [Insert Your Grade] at [Insert Your School].

I am writing you to about [Insert questions and ideas about policies]  
[Be specific with your suggestion, idea or request. If you are writing about a specific Bill, include the Bill Number - for example, H. 5400 or S. 2815]

I appreciate your help and ask that you please send me a response letting me know if you are able to pass a Bill that would [Insert area of suggestion].

Thank you for your time and considering my request.

Sincerely,

[Insert Your Name]
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. had many dreams about his future and the future of the world. What are some of your dreams?

**Have your students create “I Have A Dream” cloud bubbles and then hang them around your classroom.**

**You will need:**
- Print out of the bubble below for each student
- A small picture of each child to tape or glue in to the small circle on the first bubble
- Colored pencils
- Tape or glue
- Hole punch
- String

**NAME:**

Insert Picture Here

**I Have A Dream:**

____________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________
The "I Have a Dream" speech is one of the most well-known and recognizable speeches in recent history, yet few people know that the "dream" section of the speech was completely improvised. During the seventh paragraph, Mahalia Jackson, a gospel singer and good friend of King’s, shouted "Tell 'em about the dream.” Clarence Benjamin Jones, one of the men who helped King write his speeches, saw King “push the text of his prepared remarks to one side of the lectern” and then King began his most famous section of that speech.

Read the following section of Dr. King’s speech and identify the four dreams Dr. King outlines:

“I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal. I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood. I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice. I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character. I have a dream today!”

Use the template below to identify four dreams you have for yourself and your future. These dreams can be for family, friends, community, etc. Once completed, use these dreams to write your own "dream" speech.

1. I have a dream that...

_______________________________________________________________________________

2. I have a dream that...

_______________________________________________________________________________

3. I have a dream that...

_______________________________________________________________________________

4. I have a dream that...

_______________________________________________________________________________
Black and White Collage Craft

You will need:
- One sheet of black construction paper
- One sheet of white construction paper
- One piece of brightly colored construction paper
- Glue or tape

Step One: Tear black and white sheets into small pieces (1/2” squares or smaller). Glue or tape the black and white pieces onto the brightly colored sheet to create a unique collage. You may choose to create an identifiable object, a geometric design, a patterned “quilt”, etc.

Step Two: After all of the pieces are completed, allow students to show their pictures to the rest of the class and briefly describe what they created. Note that neither the black nor the white paper alone would have created an interesting picture, yet the two colors of paper combined can create something very interesting. In short, the colors are more productive working as a team.

Extension: Discuss the need for teamwork, whether it be in the home, the classroom, the workplace, or out in the community.

You might also pay attention to the difference between the pieces. Point out that just as no two pieces are alike, no two people are alike. Each person has a unique purpose in life and society as a whole is benefitted when each person finds and fulfills his or her purpose.

Consider the lives of some of your own personal role models. What would have happened if any of them had not followed their own purpose and tried to be just like someone else?
Resources for Students & Teachers

Additional Books by Martin Luther King, Jr.:

*The Measure of a Man* (1957)
*Stride Toward Freedom: The Montgomery Story* (1957)
*Strength to Love* (1963)
*Why We Can't Wait* (1964)
*Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?* (1967)

Publications for Teachers and Parents:


Websites for Teachers and Students:

http://www.thekingcenter.org: Established in 1968 by Mrs. Coretta Scott King, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change (“The King Center”) has been a global destination, resource center and community institution for over a quarter century. Nearly a million people each year make a trip to the National Historic site to learn, be inspired and pay their respects to Dr. King’s legacy.

http://www.history.com/topics/black-history/martin-luther-king-jr: The History Channel’s website has complied articles, videos and speech transcripts from Martin Luther King, Jr, Coretta Scott King, Rosa Park, and more.

http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/1964/king-bio.html: The Official Site of the Nobel prize has complied biographies, speeches, nominations and more about Martin Luther King, Jr.

Victoria Fuse’s Local Resource

**JOHN RANKIN HOUSE MUSEUM**

Take a guided tour of the newly restored home of Rev. John Rankin, located on a bluff overlooking the Ohio River, and learn how the Rankin family and their neighbors in Ripley, Ohio and other nearby communities helped fugitives escape from slavery to freedom via the Underground Railroad.

At this National Historic Landmark, you can step inside one of the best-documented and most active Underground Railroad “stations” in Ohio and get the story of Ohio’s role in the abolitionist movement that set the stage for the end of slavery as well as the modern Civil Rights movement.

For more information, Visit https://www.ohiohistory.org/visit/museum-and-site-locator/john-rankin-house.
Virginia Repertory Theatre is a nonprofit, professional theatre company and the result of the 2012 merger of Barksdale Theatre and Theatre IV. With a budget of $5 million, four distinct venues, an educational touring arm, and an annual audience over 550,000, Virginia Rep is the largest professional theatre and one of the largest performing arts organizations in Central Virginia. Our Signature Season operates under an annual contract with Actors Equity Association. For over 60 years, Virginia Rep has served Virginia’s adults, children, families and schools and contributed to the cultural, educational, and economic life of our city and region.

Mission Statement: Virginia Repertory Theatre creates professional productions of the great comedies, dramas, and musicals — past, present and future. We seek to be a regional theatre of national standing. We embrace the art form in its entirety, presenting plays of all genres and national origins, serving an audience of all ages and backgrounds. In keeping with the legacies of Barksdale and Theatre IV, the hallmark of our nonprofit company is community engagement. To that end, we seek national caliber excellence in the arts, education, children’s health, and community leadership.

For more information, visit https://va-rep.org