



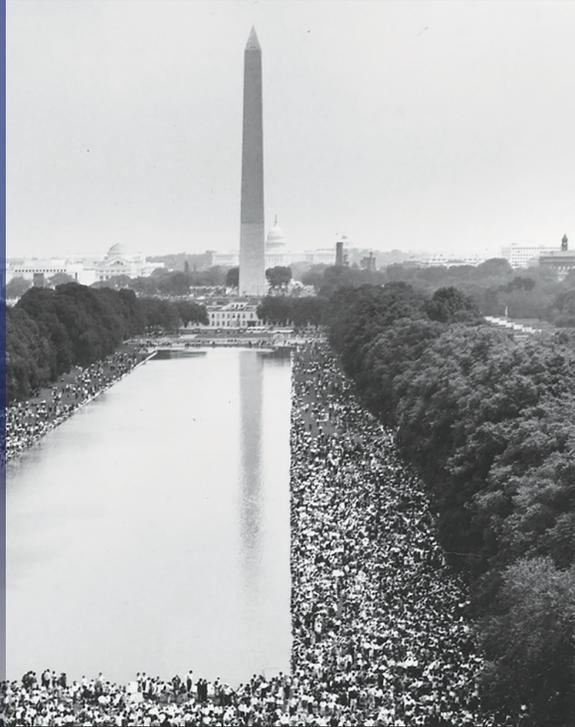
“

WE MUST ACCEPT FINITE

DISAPPOINTMENT, BUT NEVER

LOSE **infinite**  
**hope.**”

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., "SHATTERED DREAMS", STRENGTH TO LOVE



# Program

Wednesday, February 11, 2026, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.  
MIT Morss Hall, Walker Memorial (Building 50)

## Invocation

**Reverend Thea Keith-Lucas**, Chaplain to the Institute & Associate Dean, Office of Religious, Spiritual, and Ethical Life

## Opening

**Sally Kornbluth**, President, MIT

## Welcome

**Michael Ewing '27**

## Reflections on the Life and Legacy of Dr. King

**Oluwadara Deru '26**, Undergraduate Student

**Ekua Beneman**, Graduate Student

**Denzil Streete**, Associate Dean and Director, Office of Graduate Education

## Musical Selection

MIT Gospel Choir

## Introduction of Keynote Speaker:

**Michael Ewing '27**

## Keynote Address

**Paula T. Hammond**, Institute Professor and Dean of Engineering

## “Lift Ev’ry Voice and Sing”

Written by **James Weldon Johnson**

Led by the **MIT Gospel Choir**

## Benediction

**Reverend Thea Keith-Lucas**, Chaplain to the Institute & Associate Dean, Office of Religious, Spiritual, and Ethical Life

## Closing

**Michael Ewing '27**

Scan the QR Code for AI  
live captioning, or visit  
[bit.ly/mitmlkcelebration](https://bit.ly/mitmlkcelebration)



# Recognition

## Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Leadership Award Recipients

### Alumni

**Dr. Melissa Smith PhD '12**, Associate Leader,  
Advanced Materials and Microsystems Group

### Faculty

**Dr. Fred Harris**, Senior Lecturer, Theater Arts

### Graduate Student

**Carissma McGee**

### Undergraduate Student

**Janine Medrano '26**

### Staff

**Edwin Marrero**, Invention Education Administrator, K-14

## 2025 – 2026 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Visiting Professors and Scholars

**Harry Allen** | Department of Mechanical Engineering

**Maurice Fabien** | Center for Computational Science and Engineering

**Lola Fatoyinbo** | Program in Media Arts & Sciences

**L'Merchie Frazier** | Department of Urban Studies and Planning

**Leslie Jonas** | Anthropology Program

**Patrick Njoroge** | Department of Economics and MIT Sloan School of Management

**Djamila Ribeiro** | Women's and Gender Studies Program



# “Lift Ev’ry Voice and Sing”

Written by James Weldon Johnson

Led by the MIT Gospel Choir

## ALL SING 1st VERSE

Lift every voice and sing  
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,  
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 has 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 hast 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.

# Thank you!

We would like to acknowledge and thank all who helped make the 52nd MIT MLK Celebration events possible.

## Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Planning Committee

**Co-chair: Shereece Beckford**, MIT Lincoln Laboratory  
**Co-chair: Steve Branch**, MIT Sloan School of Management  
**Moana Bentin**, MIT Alumni Association  
**Narissa Bryant**, MIT Lincoln Laboratory  
**Jennifer Camacho**, MIT Alumni Association  
**Sharon Clarke**, MIT Lincoln Laboratory  
**Martha Eddison** | MIT Office of the President  
**Michael Ewing '27**, Undergraduate Student  
**Sharikka Finley-Moise** | MIT Office of Graduate Education  
**RaeVaughn Gardner-Williams**, MIT Sloan School of Management  
**Sophia Hasenfus**, Department of Urban Studies and Planning  
**Somiya Kalloo**, MIT Introduction to Technology, Engineering, and Science  
**Zina M. Queen**, Department of Political Science  
**Krissy Robinson**, Office of Academic Community, Empowerment, and Success  
**Crystal Serret**, MIT Lincoln Laboratory  
**Stephanie Tran**, MIT Lincoln Laboratory

## Collaborators and Partners

<b>Campus Activities Complex</b>	<b>MIT Institute Events</b>
<b>Chellypic Photography</b>	<b>MIT Lincoln Laboratory</b>
<b>Corban Swain Photography</b>	<b>MIT Office of Government &amp; Community Relations</b>
<b>French Press Bakery</b>	<b>MIT Office of the President</b>
<b>Irene Borges</b> , MIT Office of the President	<b>MIT Police</b>
<b>MIT Alumni Association</b>	<b>MIT Recycling</b>
<b>MIT Audiovisual Services</b>	<b>MIT Schwarzman College of Computing</b>
<b>MIT Conference Services</b>	<b>MIT Video Productions</b>
<b>MIT Copytech</b>	<b>Party Rentals, LTD</b>
<b>MIT Department of Facilities</b>	<b>Peak Event Services</b>
<b>MIT Gospel Choir</b>	<b>Restaurant Associates</b>
<b>MIT Information Center</b>	<b>Tammy Ko</b> , MLK Celebration Graphic Designer



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Technology