

## CONTRA COSTA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

District 2—Candace Andersen,  
Chair

District 3—Diane Burgis,  
Vice Chair

District 1—John Gioia

District 4—Karen Mitchoff

District 5—Federal D. Glover

## 2020 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Antoine Wilson, Chair

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Manny Bowlby

Joan Carpenter

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Jennifer Hopkins

A.J. Iroko

Gayle Israel

Vincent Manuel

Susan Shiu

Kismet Teng

Derrick West

Chris Wikler

Mickey Williams

Tanya Williams

## SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

Community Services Bureau  
Head Start

County Administrator's Office  
Employment and Human  
Services Department

Human Resources Department

Martinez Police Department

Office of Communications &

Media and Contra Costa TV

Public Works Department

AND...

Bob Campbell

David Twa

Nancy Yee

## PAST RECIPIENTS OF THE HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

2019—Reverend Donnell R. Jones

2018—Phil Arnold

2017—James Noe

2016—Terri Porter

2015—Bishop Edwina Perez-Santiago

2014—Sister Ann Weltz

2013—Doug Stewart

2012—Lorraine Sain

2011—Laura Johnson

2010—Ella Randolph

2009—Larry Lewis

2008—Charles D. Tinsley, Dr.

2007—Veronica Pope

2006—Jerrold L. Hatchett

2005—Bishop Curtis Timmons

2004—Mr. Walter Ruelig

2003—Reverend Phillip Lawson

2002—Robin Poindexter

2001—Troy Greer Grove

2000—Eddie Menosse

1999—Orin Allen

1998—Mary Perez and

Neil & Carol Wilson

1997—Helen Troxel & Rollie Mullen

1996—Charles Wilson

1995—Perfecto Villarreal

1994—Lloyd Madden

1993—Bessanderson McNeil

1992—Lucy Donly

1991—January Fredenburg

1990—Yoshiye Togasaki, M.D.

1989—Lonnie R. Bristow, M.D.

## PAST RECIPIENTS OF THE STUDENT HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

2019—Yassna Ahmadi

2018—Sienna Camille Terry

2017—Paige Godvin

2016—Davis Bullock

2015—Tyler Page

2014—Anand Kannappan

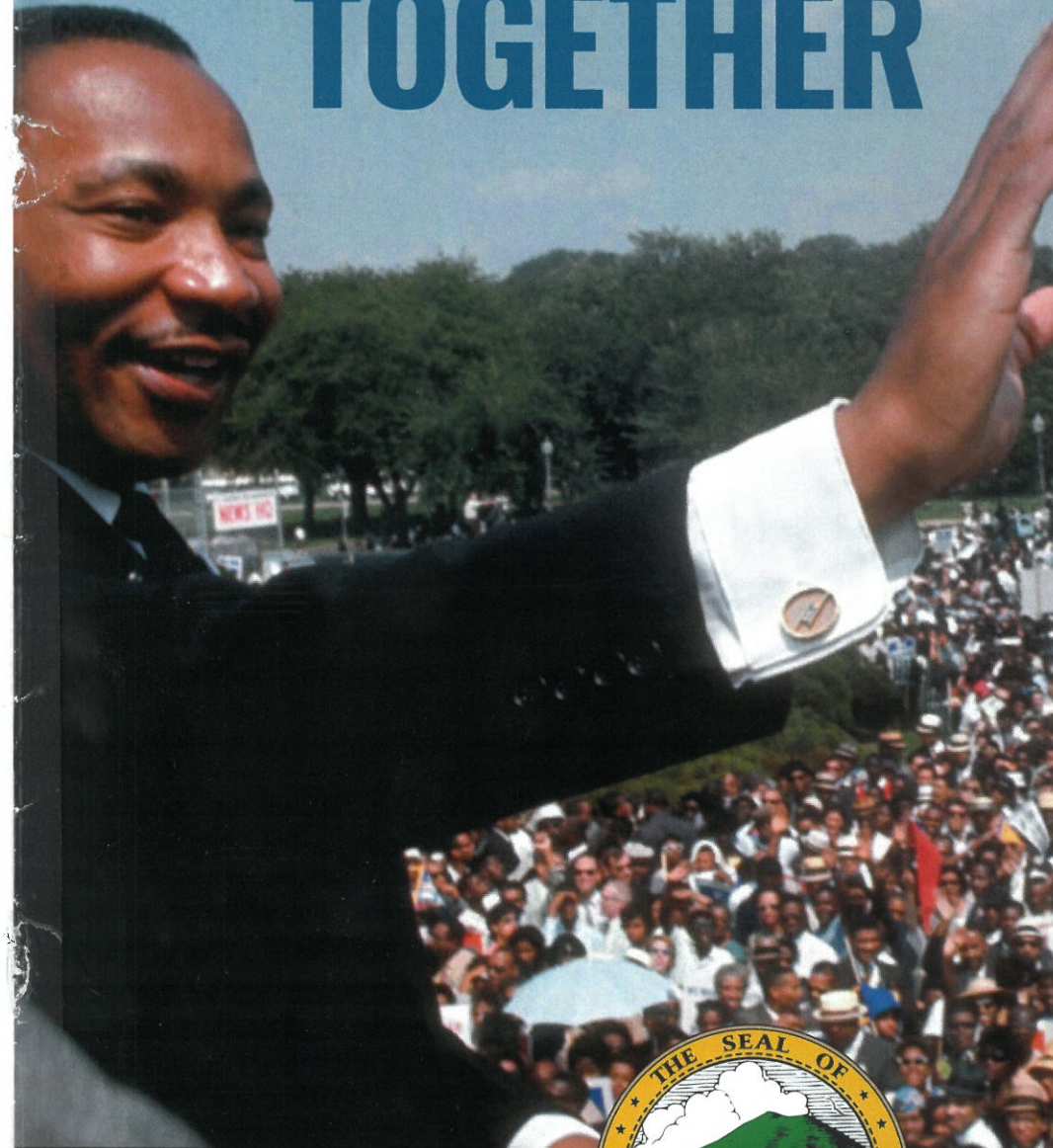
2013—Casey Leonard

2012—Andrew Gonzales

2011—Mario Alvarado

## 42<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CELEBRATION

# We Are In This TOGETHER



January 21, 2020  
11 a.m.

Board of Supervisors Chambers  
651 Pine St., Room 107, Martinez, CA 94553





## 42<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CELEBRATION

### WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Antoine Wilson

MLK Committee Chair

### OPENING REMARKS

Supervisor Candace Andersen

Board Chair

### ENTERTAINMENT

Contra Costa School of  
Performing Arts

Linda Jackson, Soloist

### KEYNOTE SPEECH

Bisa French

Interim Police Chief, City of Richmond

### PRESENTATION OF HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARDS

2020 Humanitarian

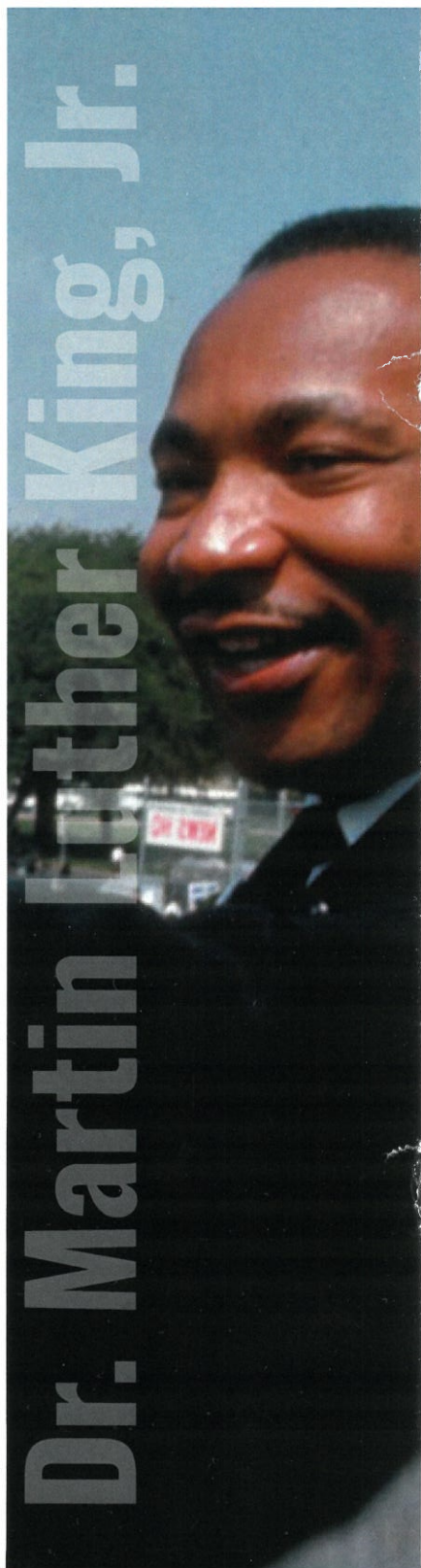
Tamisha Walker

2020 Student Humanitarian

Christina Mazzi

### CONCLUSION

Please join us for a lunch reception in the lobby after our ceremony.



## We Are In This TOGETHER

"If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward."—Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

### SOLOIST

## LINDA JACKSON

Linda Jackson motivates her audience and challenges them through her music and work. Linda is known throughout the Bay Area as an educator, vocalist and recording artist, *I Am Not Ashamed* (1994), and annual New Year Eve concerts. She has been the guest gospel soloist for Adventure Cruise Lines, Royal Caribbean and has featured in over thirty DVD's of gospel music concerts.

Linda has been an active member of Hilltop Community Church in Richmond for more than 40 years. She is very active in the Richmond community. She has been involved in a number of ministries, including convalescent care facilities, and prison ministries throughout California, British Columbia, Cambodia, and Nepal.

Her educational career afforded experiences as a classroom teacher, principal, Coordinator of Early Childhood Development, Executive Director of K-12 schools, and an adjunct Educational Leadership Professor at California State University East Bay. She serves as an Emeritus Educational Leader in West Contra Costa Unified School District.

She continues her gospel singing and work in ministries throughout the Bay Area.

# CONTRA COSTA SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS

A LYRICAL RECITATION OF  
"What Color is Your Freedom" and  
"Whose Flag?"

Poems by Evelyn Snelgro-Bilal

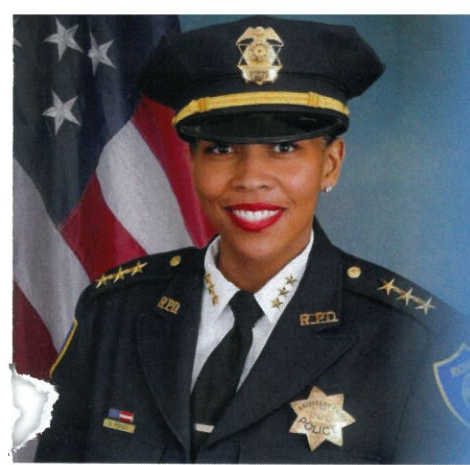
Thank you to the student performers for helping us celebrate the 42<sup>ND</sup> Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in Contra Costa County.

## We Are In This TOGETHER

- BRANDON BARNES
- EVELYN SNELGRO-BILAL
- KA'NAYAH LANDERS-DANIELS
- SAMARA DESMOND
- KALANI GOLDEN
- ZAKIYA LESLEY
- NYAH SMITH
- MALIA WILLIAMS

The mission of the Contra Costa School of Performing Arts is to provide a distinguished, pre-professional experience in performing arts within a college and career preparatory setting.

The school believes in fostering a culture of excellence with the core values of rigor, relevance, resilience and relationships.



## We Are In This TOGETHER

**BISA FRENCH**  
Keynote Speaker

Bisa French, Interim Police Chief began her career with the Richmond Police Department in 1998. As a young officer, she worked various assignments including Community Police Officer, Field Training Officer, and Bicycle Patrol Officer. She then worked as a Detective in the Property Crimes Unit and Family Services Unit.

In 2006, Chief French promoted to the rank of sergeant where she led, mentored, and developed officers in a variety of supervisory assignments. She also served as the department's Public Information Officer.

In 2011, Chief French was promoted to Lieutenant and worked diligently to establish a Family Justice Center in West Contra Costa County. In 2013, she was promoted to the rank of Captain. She was the first

African American and Latina Captain in the department and the youngest ever to hold the position. In 2016, she was promoted to the rank of Assistant Chief. As the Assistant Chief with responsibility for the overall operations of the department.

In September 2019, Chief French was appointed to her current position. She is the first female chief in the department's 110-year history.

Chief French graduated from the Police Executive Research Forum's Senior Management Institute for Police (SMIP), holds an undergraduate degree in Public Administration, and a Master's Degree in Human Resource Management.

She is a married mother of three children ages 11, 16, and 25.



# 2020 HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR



**TAMISHA WALKER**  
Humanitarian of the Year



**CHRISTINA MAZZI**  
Student Humanitarian of the Year

Tamisha Walker is a co-founder and Executive Director of the Safe Return Project, a Richmond organization invested in securing the freedom of formerly incarcerated individuals. She has been a community organizer and advocate on issues of mass incarceration and racial disparity in the criminal justice system since her release from incarceration in 2009.

As a current Rosenberg Foundations Leading Edge Fund fellow, she advances the work of social justice to build a movement of highly skilled, formerly incarcerated leaders fighting discrimination based on criminal history. In 2017, she received the San Francisco Robert

C. Kirkwood Leadership Award. Her leadership was recognized at the 2018 The Black Elected Officials of the East Bay, "Shine," and honored with a Community Excellence award for demonstrated excellence in her field.

Her educational experience includes professional training in research and advocacy for the formerly incarcerated and their families, and a Bachelors in Psychology from California State University East Bay.

Tamisha serves on Contra Costa County's Racial Justice Oversight Body, Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council, and the Contra Costa LEAD Antioch Diversion Initiative Advisory Committee.

Christina Mazzi is a 17-year-old Ugandan-American at Concord High School. She loves giving her time and energy back to the communities that did so much for her when she was younger. Through the encouragement of mentors, friends, and family, Christina has been able to launch different initiatives to aid the younger generation of the communities where she belongs.

During the summer of 2018, Christina founded ProjectWOC, an Instagram based community organization working to inspire the younger generation of girls of color. Through both local and international mentorship programs, Christina and

her Board of Directors are successfully making a difference in young girls' lives.

When Christina is not doing schoolwork, working at a part time job, or leading ProjectWOC, she loves to give time to the clubs that she leads at school. As the president of the California Scholarship Federation club, the Co-President of Black Student Union, and the Co-President of The Cub Project—a local mentorship group she started under ProjectWOC—she loves the many opportunities to participate and lead community-enhancing programs