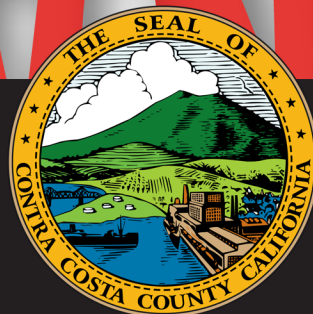


43rd ANNUAL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CELEBRATION

Silence Is Not An OPTION



January 19, 2021
11:00 a.m.
Board of Supervisors
Virtual Celebration



43RD ANNUAL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CELEBRATION

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Antoine Wilson
MLK Committee Chair

OPENING REMARKS

Supervisor Diane Burgis
Board Chair

ENTERTAINMENT

Contra Costa School of
Performing Arts

INSPIRATIONAL VOICES FROM COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Video Presentation of Speakers

PRESENTATION OF HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARDS

2021 Humanitarian
Velma Wilson

2021 Student Humanitarian
Kimyatta Newby

TRIBUTE PRESENTATION

CONCLUSION



CONTRA COSTA SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS

A LYRICAL RECITATION OF "No More Silence"

Poems by Ka'Nayah Landers-Daniels

Silence Is Not An OPTION | KA'NAYAH LANDERS-DANIELS

Ka'Nayah Landers-Daniels is a Senior Theatre Major at Contra Costa School of Performing Art. She has been a leader in Black Student Union for almost 4 years and has performed in the county's Martin Luther King celebration for just as long. This year, she wanted to create a solo piece to express her feelings as a young black woman coming of age in a country that is experiencing a lot of pain but growth as well. She says time to speak out now, more than ever.

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.



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INSPIRATIONAL VOICES FROM COMMUNITY MEMBERS

MIKE ANDERSON

Former Mayor, City of Lafayette



Former Mayor Mike Anderson served on the Lafayette City Council from 2004–2020, and as Mayor in 2008, 2013, 2017, and 2019. He prioritized goals to update the city’s General Plan, increase community awareness, and added citywide safety. He was on the Lafayette Planning Commission from 2001-2003, served as chair in 2003; and also served on the General Plan Advisory committee for 10 years, from 1993 to 2003.

IRIS ARCHULETA

Co-Founder, Emerald HPC International, LLC



Iris Archuleta is Co-Founder and Vice-President of Emerald HPC International, LLC and the architect of Emerald’s trademarked, High Performing Communities Framework. She has a degree in Political Science from California State University East Bay and a Law Degree from John F. Kennedy College of Law.

MERL CRAFT

Mayor, City of Pittsburg



Pittsburg Mayor Merl Craft has worked and volunteered within the Pittsburg community for over 46 years, including Recreation Supervisor, and City Council Member. As Pittsburg’s Recreation Supervisor, she successfully facilitated collaborations between the city, school district, community and faith-based organizations. She also received the East Contra Costa County Dr. Martin Luther King “Love in Action Award” in 2007 for her work within the community.

Silence Is Not An OPTION

"There comes a time
when silence is betrayal."
—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

INSPIRATIONAL VOICES FROM COMMUNITY MEMBERS

REV. PHILLIP LAWSON

Retired Pastor, Civil Rights Activist



Reverend Phillip Lawson, a United Methodist Pastor (retired) and community organizer, works tirelessly for the rights of migrants, low wage workers, and human freedoms. Rev. Lawson marched with Dr. King from Selma to Montgomery. He was subpoenaed by Congress for his ties with the Black Panther Party and his controversial visits to North Vietnam. As President of the Northern California Inter-Religious Conference and the Black Alliance for Just Immigration, Rev. Lawson helped organize the transition of 300,000 refugees from Central America. He was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for his promotion of nonviolence during the Civil Rights movement.

SHANELLE SCALES-PRESTON

Council Member, City of Pittsburg



Shanelle Scales-Preston has been a member of the Pittsburg City Council since her election in 2018. She also works as District Director for Congressman Mark DeSaulnier, 11th District. Prior to her work for Congressman DeSaulnier, she served in numerous positions while on the staff of former Congressman George Miller. As a lifelong resident of Pittsburg and Contra Costa County, her career in public service spans almost twenty years.



2021 HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR

Velma Wilson
Humanitarian of the Year

In her actions, her words, and her example, Velma Wilson lives her life as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. called us to live.

Velma is a selfless, tireless volunteer in the community and the county. She has served by leading her community and many organizations to promote and foster diversity, equality, and justice. She organized food distribution, school supply, and other drives in service to our county's most vulnerable.

Velma has coordinated the annual Antioch MLK Day Celebration, the Antioch Veterans and Memorial Day observances, in addition to many other events. Her leadership skills and creativity bring together local, state, and federal elected officials, as well as the community-at-large.

Her list of leadership and volunteer

roles includes serving as the parent and student engagement liaison for Antioch United School District, Vice President of Legislation and Education for the 32nd District PTA, 1st Vice President of East Contra Costa County NAACP, and Community Member for African American Male Achievement Initiative.

Local service organizations have also benefitted greatly from her membership and involvement.

Her commitment to the Census 2020 effort led her to become a Census Bureau field supervisor. Her relationships and understanding of Antioch and Contra Costa County helped to ensure that both our homeless and unsheltered populations counted and our hardest-to-reach residents in some of the toughest neighborhoods.

2021 HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR

Kimyatta Newby
Student Humanitarian of the Year



Kimyatta Newby serves on the San Pablo Youth Commission (SPYC). The Commission is a youth leadership and civic engagement program that increases youth participation in local government. During her tenure with the SPYC, Kimyatta demonstrated her passion to lead her peers and impact the community. Her passion is most evident during her facilitation of youth-led workshops.

Commitment to SPYC led to an election to multiple leadership roles, serving as Chair, Vice Chair, Interim Chair, and Event Coordinator. She grew the work of the Youth Commission by proposing ambitious goals to the City Council and worked diligently to fulfill each one. Through the expansion of ongoing youth recruitment, she brought in eight new members.

While at Middle College High School, Kimyatta was an active member of the Associated Student

Union, Metas, Black Student Union, Latino Student Union, Leadership, the Dance Team, and Current Events & Debate.

In 2020, she became the West County young leader and organizer for Black youth and accelerated her efforts during the pandemic. She and her peers asked high school administration to address violence, injustice, and inequities for students of color. She began peaceful protests around the Bay Area. Kimyatta organized the George Floyd Solidarity Protest, which attracted over 1,000 participants in Pinole. Her interests include journalism. She wrote articles for the Richmond Pulse to cover black mental health, transitioning from high school to college, and the recent presidential election results.

Kimyatta is currently a freshman, studying remotely, at Howard University

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

District 3—Diane Burgis,
Chair

District 5—Federal D. Glover,
Vice Chair

District 1—John Gioia

District 2—Candace Andersen

District 4—Karen Mitchoff

2021 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Antoine Wilson, Chair

Andi Bivens

Manny Bowlby

Joan Carpenter

John Fout

Jennifer S. Hopkins

A.J. Iroko

Gayle Israel

James Lyons

Vincent Manuel

Susan Shiu

Chris Verdugo

Derrick West

Chris Wikler

Shannon Winston

Traci Young

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

County Administrator's Office

Office of Communications &

Media and Contra Costa TV

Department of Information

Technology

Risk Management

PAST RECIPIENTS OF THE HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

2020—Tamisha Torres-Walker

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

PAST RECIPIENTS OF THE STUDENT HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

2020—Christina Mazzi

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

Silence Is Not An
OPTION

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."

—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.