# Department of **MUSIC** and Office of Diversity and Inclusion

## The Martin Luther King Jr. "I HAVE A DREAM" REMEMBRANCE CONCERT

Cantatrici Men's Glee Club University Singers

Shane M. Lynch, Artistic Director and Conductor

# MLK Combo

Joshua T. Harvey, musical director

Saturday, Jan. 17, 2015 7:30 pm First Baptist Church Lexington, Virginia

LENFEST CENTER for the Arts
<u>WASHINGTON AND LEE</u>
UNIVERSITY

Members of the audience are requested to turn off all beeping devices for the duration of the program.

## PROGRAM

#### **Reading by**

Reverend Preston Tyler, Main Street Baptist Church Clifton Forge, Virginia

#### The Choirs of the Washington and Lee Music Program

Shane M. Lynch, Artistic Director and Conductor

#### The MLK Combo

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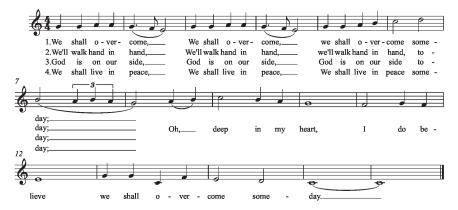
#### Welcome—Lauren Mosely '15

Member of Cantatrici (2011-14)

#### We Shall Overcome

## The MLK Combo

Audience sing-along



I am happy to join with you today in what will go down in history as the greatest demonstration for freedom in the history of our nation. Five score years ago, a great American, in whose symbolic shadow we stand today, signed the Emancipation Proclamation. This momentous decree came as a great beacon light of hope to millions of Negro slaves who had been seared in the flames of withering injustice. It came as a joyous daybreak to end the long night of their captivity. Traditional

But one hundred years later, the Negro still is not free. One hundred years later, the life of the Negro is still sadly crippled by the manacles of segregation and the chains of discrimination. One hundred years later, the Negro lives on a lonely island of poverty in the midst of a vast ocean of material prosperity. One hundred years later, the Negro is still languishing in the corners of American society and finds himself an exile in his own land. So we have come here today to dramatize a shameful condition.

In a sense we have come to our nation's capital to cash a check. When the architects of our republic wrote the magnificent words of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, they were signing a promissory note to which every American was to fall heir. This note was a promise that all men, yes, black men as well as white men, would be guaranteed the unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

#### Find the Cost of Freedom

Stephen Stills arr. Nick Page

## Cantatrici

It is obvious today that America has defaulted on this promissory note insofar as her citizens of color are concerned. Instead of honoring this sacred obligation, America has given the Negro people a bad check, a check which has come back marked "insufficient funds." But we refuse to believe that the bank of justice is bankrupt. We refuse to believe that there are insufficient funds in the great vaults of opportunity of this nation. So we have come to cash this check — a check that will give us upon demand the riches of freedom and the security of justice. We have also come to this hallowed spot to remind America of the fierce urgency of now. This is no time to engage in the luxury of cooling off or to take the tranquilizing drug of gradualism. Now is the time to make real the promises of democracy. Now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of segregation to the sunlit path of racial justice. Now is the time to lift our nation from the quick sands of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood. Now is the time to make justice a reality for all of God's children.

It would be fatal for the nation to overlook the urgency of the moment. This sweltering summer of the Negro's legitimate discontent will not pass until there is an invigorating autumn of freedom and equality. Nineteen sixty-three is not an end, but a beginning. Those who hope that the Negro needed to blow off steam and will now be content will have a rude awakening if the nation returns to business as usual. There will be neither rest nor tranquility in America until the Negro is granted his citizenship rights. The whirlwinds of revolt will continue to shake the foundations of our nation until the bright day of justice emerges.

#### **Praise His Holy Name**

Keith Hampton

## Cantatrici, Men's Glee Club, and the MLK Combo

But there is something that I must say to my people who stand on the warm threshold which leads into the palace of justice. In the process of gaining our rightful place we must not be guilty of wrongful deeds. Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of bitterness and hatred.

We must forever conduct our struggle on the high plane of dignity and discipline. We must not allow our creative protest to degenerate into physical violence. Again and again we must rise to the majestic heights of meeting physical force with soul force. The marvelous new militancy which has engulfed the Negro community must not lead us to a distrust of all white people, for many of our white brothers, as evidenced by their presence here today, have come to realize that their destiny is tied up with our destiny. They have come to realize that their freedom is inextricably bound to our freedom. We cannot walk alone. As we walk, we must make the pledge that we shall always march ahead. We cannot turn back.

#### Nearer My God to Thee

arr. James Stevens

## Men's Glee Club and the Men of the University Singers

There are those who are asking the devotees of civil rights, "When will you be satisfied?" We can never be satisfied as long as the Negro is the victim of the unspeakable horrors of police brutality. We can never be satisfied, as long as our bodies, heavy with the fatigue of travel, cannot gain lodging in the motels of the highways and the hotels of the cities. We cannot be satisfied as long as the Negro's basic mobility is from a smaller ghetto to a larger one. We can never be satisfied as long as our children are stripped of their selfhood and robbed of their dignity by signs stating "For Whites Only". We cannot be satisfied as long as a Negro in Mississippi cannot vote and a Negro in New York believes he has nothing for which to vote. No, no, we are not satisfied, and we will not be satisfied until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream.

I am not unmindful that some of you have come here out of great trials and tribulations. Some of you have come fresh from narrow jail cells. Some of you have come from areas where your quest for freedom left you battered by the storms of persecution and staggered by the winds of police brutality. You have been the veterans of creative suffering. Continue to work with the faith that unearned suffering is redemptive.

Go back to Mississippi, go back to Alabama, go back to South Carolina, go back to Georgia, go back to Louisiana, go back to the slums and ghettos of our northern cities, knowing that somehow this situation can and will be changed. Let us not wallow in the valley of despair.

#### Hallelujah from The Cry of Jeremiah

Rosephanye Powell

## University Singers and the MLK Combo

I say to you today, my friends, so even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream.

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.

I have a dream that one day, down in Alabama, with its vicious racists, with its governor having his lips dripping with the words of interposition and nullification; one day right there in Alabama, little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers. I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

This is our hope. This is the faith that I go back to the South with. With this faith we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope. With this faith we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. With this faith we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day.

This will be the day when all of God's children will be able to sing with a new meaning, "My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing. Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrim's pride, from every mountainside, let freedom ring."

And if America is to be a great nation this must become true. So let freedom ring from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire. Let freedom ring from the mighty mountains of New York. Let freedom ring from the heightening Alleghenies of Pennsylvania!

Let freedom ring from the snowcapped Rockies of Colorado!

Let freedom ring from the curvaceous slopes of California!

But not only that; let freedom ring from Stone Mountain of Georgia!

Let freedom ring from Lookout Mountain of Tennessee!

Let freedom ring from every hill and molehill of Mississippi. From every mountainside, let freedom ring.

And when this happens, when we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, "Free at last! free at last! thank God Almighty, we are free at last!"

#### Free at Last

Traditional



MLK Combo Audience Sing-Along

#### **Closing Remarks**

On April 4, 1968, Martin Luther King, Jr., was assassinated. While his dream has yet to be fully realized, we honor him today and look forward to the day when his dream may be a reality for all in this world.

MLK

Clayton, Hewson, Evans, and Mullen arr. Robert Chilcott

### **University Singers**

Postlude "The Selma March" The MLK Combo Grant Green

## Lenfest Center *for the* Arts **BOX OFFICE AND TICKET INFORMATION**

The Lenfest Box Office is accessible from either the fan parking lot in front of the building on the corner of Nelson and Glasgow Streets or from the W&L parking garage. The Box Office will be open from 9 a.m.-11 a.m. and 2 p.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday, and two hours prior to any performance where tickets are required or sold. The Lenfest Box Office follows the University Academic Calendar.

Individual tickets for upcoming events will go on sale approximately six weeks prior to opening night. All sales are final. There are no refunds or exchanges. Seating for events is by general admission. There is no reserved seating; however, patrons may call the Box Office to reserve handicapped seating. Our goal is to start all performances at the time indicated. Latecomers will be seated in the nearest seats available at a suitable pause in the performance.

Patrons are encouraged to call the Box Office for information concerning the suitability of events for children.

#### PARKING

Parking is reserved in the Lenfest Center fan for drop-offs and handicapped parking only. The W&L parking garage is open to all patrons for Lenfest Center event parking.

## ASSISTED LISTENING SYSTEM

An assisted listening system has been installed in the Keller Theatre, Johnson Theatre and the Concert Hall. The receivers can be coupled to headphones or neck-loops to accommodate the widest variety of users possible. Receivers and headphones are available for all programs in the Lenfest Hall. Please see the House Managers at least 15 minutes prior to the performance.

#### TOURS

Tours of the Lenfest Center are available upon request.

## LOST AND FOUND

Articles should be reported or turned into the Box Office.

### WHEELCHAIRS

Patrons in wheelchairs will find Lenfest Center entrances easily accessible. There is also handicapped parking in the fan.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

100 Glasgow Street, Lexington, VA 24450 • (540) 458-8001

## LENFEST CENTER for the ARTS

## UPCOMING MUSIC EVENTS

## Faculty Voice Recital: Jason Widney

Sunday, January 18 at 3 pm *No tickets are required.* 

## **Concert Guild: Marinus Ensemble**

Saturday, January 31 at 8 pm *Tickets are required*.

## Samite in Concert

Saturday, February 7 at 8 pm *No tickets are required.* 

## **Concert Guild: King's Singers**

Friday, February 13 at 8 pm *Tickets are required*.

## W&L University Singers Tour Home Concert

Tuesday, March 3 at 8 pm *Tickets are free, but required.* 

## SonoKlect-Autour de la Chanson Francaise-Terry Vosbein Nonet

Saturday, March 7 at 8 pm *No tickets are required*.

All events take place in Wilson Concert Hall unless otherwise noted. A complete schedule can be found online at lenfest.wlu.edu.