

# OHIO DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY COMMISSION

## MLK ANNUAL AWARDS

The Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission was established to recognize Dr. King's significance as a civil rights leader and advocate his principles of racial, social, and economic justice. In keeping with the Commission's primary focus, each January the Commission hosts the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Celebration honoring Ohio individuals and organizations for their work to keep Dr. King's dream alive and carry on his philosophy of nonviolent social and economic equity.

*The annual Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Celebration is held in January each year on the Thursday preceding the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.*

**Instructions:** Please complete this nomination form as thoroughly as possible. Only complete nominations will be considered. **Nominees must be Ohio residents. Nominations are accepted throughout the year but must be submitted by Oct. 30 for consideration for the upcoming annual celebration.**

### I. NOMINEE INFORMATION

*Please provide the following.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### II. AWARD CATEGORIES

*Please check one box that best relates to the contribution of the nominee (see attached award descriptions). If more than one category is checked, the nomination may be disqualified.*

1. Individual Award

2. Organization Award

3. Collaborative Effort Award

4. Youth Award

5. Governor's Humanitarian Award

### III. NOMINATED BY

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (daytime): \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

**Submission deadline: Emailed or faxed by Oct. 30 to be considered for the annual celebration in January.**  
The Commission reserves the discretion to change the nomination category.

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**IV. NOMINATION INFO**

*Please feel free to attach additional sheets (i.e., resume, bio, etc.), if necessary.*

A. Why do you feel this person or organization is worthy of this award?

**Submit to:**

**Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission**

Ohio Department of Administrative Services

Telephone: 614-466-2136; Fax: 614-466-7949; Email: [mlk@das.ohio.gov](mailto:mlk@das.ohio.gov)

**Deadline for submission:** Emailed or faxed by Oct. 30 to be considered for the upcoming annual celebration held each January.

[das.ohio.gov/mlk](http://das.ohio.gov/mlk)

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## AWARDS CRITERIA

The annual awards program recognizes the service and achievements of Ohio residents and organizations in areas consistent with the teachings and standards set by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. King Award recipients demonstrate a commitment to seeking racial, social, and economic justice through nonviolent struggle that benefits not only the victims of oppression, but society as a whole. Annual awards in the following categories lift both concrete achievements and continuing the spirit of Dr. King's dreams for this nation.

While nominees may demonstrate achievement in numerous areas, the following are a few examples for your reference: protecting the rights of the vulnerable; standing up against racism by nonviolent means; uplifting underserved individuals or communities; progress in eradicating systemic barriers that impede the attainment of academic excellence; advancing health equity and awareness; contributions to legal, legislative, and governmental systems on behalf of vulnerable populations; workforce training development programs improving infrastructure; the creation of community partnerships or community outreach or educational programs for an underserved population; the creation of housing assistance, energy efficiency, or environmental programs; encouragement of new business startups; and taking advantage of state and federal aid to provide economic opportunity.

### 1. INDIVIDUAL

Nominees must be individuals who have made significant contributions toward building a sense of unity among Ohio citizens. Nominators must demonstrate how the nominee has used Dr. King's vision of nonviolent social change to successfully bring people from diverse backgrounds together to build a better community and advance equity.

### 2. ORGANIZATION

Nominees must be organizations that have made significant contributions toward building a sense of unity among Ohio citizens. Nominators must demonstrate how the nominee has used Dr. King's vision of nonviolent social change to successfully bring people from diverse backgrounds together to build a better community and advance equity.

### 3. COLLABORATIVE EFFORT

Nominees, which may be any combination of individuals, communities, businesses, or other organizations, must collectively have made significant contributions toward building a sense of unity among Ohio citizens. Nominators must demonstrate how the nominees have used Dr. King's vision of nonviolent social change to successfully bring people from diverse backgrounds together to build a better community and advance equity.

### 4. YOUTH: CAPTURING THE VISION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

**Nominees must be 20 or younger on Oct. 31.** Nominees must exemplify leadership, nonviolence, commitment to excellence, and interracial cooperation. Nominations by schools, community organizations, or employers should include specific situations in which the nominee demonstrated an adherence to one or more of Dr. King's Six Principles of Nonviolence, which are:

1. Nonviolence is a way of life for courageous people.
2. The Beloved Community is the framework for the future.
3. Attack forces of evil, not persons doing evil.
4. Accept suffering without retaliation for the sake of the cause to achieve the goal.
5. Avoid internal violence of the spirit as well as external physical violence.
6. The universe is on the side of justice.

### 5. OHIO DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. GOVERNOR'S HUMANITARIAN AWARD

This award seeks to honor those quiet soldiers who promote the welfare of humanity and the elimination of pain and suffering through their own selfless service, often without recognition. Nominees possess a personal activism that has inspired unheralded long-term service to the community and stands as a model for others to emulate. Those who have gone far beyond the normal duty of being a good neighbor receive special consideration. It is the individual who watches the children when no one else is there, who organizes children's games to get them off the streets, or who cares for the sick and feeds the hungry. It is the individual who does what no one else will and does so because that is who she or he is.

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