



**COLLEGE ARCHIVES**

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Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library  
Gustavus Adolphus College  
800 West College Avenue, Saint Peter, MN 56082-1498

**Gustavus Adolphus College Archives  
St. Peter, Minnesota**

**Martin Luther King Jr. Lecture Collection, 1986-Ongoing.**

**GACA Collection 241**

**Martin Luther King Jr. Lecture Collection, 1986-Ongoing. GACA Collection 241. ½ Hollinger box, 1 oversize folder, and digital media.**

**ABSTRACT:**

The Martin Luther King Jr. Lecture collection consists of papers, photocopies, and clippings concerning the annual Martin Luther King Jr. lectures. Also included are posters, programs, and audio/video recordings. Lectures are held each year at Gustavus Adolphus College on the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr.

**HISTORICAL NOTE:**

“The annual lecture was first held in 1986. Speakers are champions of civil rights and non-violence; their work, and the work of their organizations, reflects the same principles advocated by Dr. King. Over the years, a number of the lecturers have worked directly with Dr. King.

The Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Lecture was instituted by the Peace Studies program at Gustavus Adolphus College to honor the legacy of Dr. King. Initially housed solely in Peace Studies, the lecture typically did not occur on the national holiday honoring Dr. King. Since 2010, the lecture has been a cooperative campus effort and held on the annual day of remembrance.”

\*Taken from the website <https://gustavus.edu/events/mlk/history.php> 10 November 2020.

**PAST SPEAKERS:**

- 1986 Vivian Jenkins Nelson, *Hubert Humphrey Institute, Director of Administration*
- 1987 Dr. Richard Green, *Superintendent of Minneapolis Schools*
- 1989 Dr. Bernard LaFayette, Jr., *Close associate of MLK, Jr., Director of Peace Education at Gustavus from 1974-77*
- 1990 Dr. Bernard Powers, *Professor of History, N.E. Illinois, University of Chicago*
- 1991 Dorothy Cotton, *Founding Member of Southern Christian Leadership Conference*
- 1993 Bernice Reagon, *“Sweet Honey in the Rock” Gospel Group*
- 1994 Cornell West, *Professor, Princeton University; Prominent Public Intellectual*
- 1995 Arun Gandhi, *Institute for the Study of Nonviolence, TN; Grandson of Mohandas Gandhi*
- 1996 Dr. Michael Harper, *Professor of English, Brown University; Poet Laureate of Rhode Island*
- 1998 Charles Rankin, *Professor of Education, Kansas State University*
- 1999 Dr. Bill Green (GAC '72), *Professor of History, Augsburg College, MN; Former Chair of Minneapolis School Board*
- 2000 Martin Luther King III, *son of Martin Luther King, Jr.*
- 2001 Dr. John Wright, *Professor of English and African American Studies, University of Minnesota*
- 2002 Dr. Philip Bryant, *Associate Professor of English, Gustavus Adolphus College*
- 2003 Dr. Miroslav Volf, *Croatian Theologian, Yale; “Living with the Other”*
- 2004 William Greaves, *African American Filmmaker on the life of Ralph Bunche*
- 2005 Major Brent Beardsley, *Eyewitness to the Rwandan Genocide and former Canadian peacekeeper*
- 2006 Sal y Luz: *Peace Churches in Columbia, Representatives from the churches*

- 2007 “Stories of Loss, Hope, and the Power of Nonviolent Activism,” *September 11 Families for Peaceful Tomorrows*
- 2008 Mixed Blood Theatre performance and Homily by Dr. Bill Green; “Nonviolence for an Age of Terrorism,” Dr. David Cortright, *Fourth Freedom Forum*
- 2009 Dr. Henry Williams, *Laird Bell Professor of History at Carleton College*
- 2010 Rev. C.T. Vivian, *Close friend and Lieutenant of Dr. King during the civil rights movement*
- 2011 Dr. Bernard LaFayette Jr., *Co-founded the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee in 1960*
- 2012 Taylor Branch, *Pulitzer Prize winning author, arguably the preeminent biographer of King; “Myths and Miracles for the King Years”*
- 2013 Dr. Cathy J. Cohen, *Professor of Political Science, University of Chicago; “Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in the Age of Obama: Building a New Movement for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”*
- 2014 Diane Nash, *Key figure of the civil rights movement of the 1960s; “Reflections on the Civil Rights Movement”*
- 2015 Rev. Dr. Jamie Washington, *President and Co-Founder of the Washington Consulting Group and the Social Justice Training Institute*
- 2016 Dr. Rashad Shabazz, *Associate Professor in the School of Social Transformation at Arizona State University; “Why Geography Matters in the Struggle for Racial Justice”*
- 2017 Jonathan L. Walton, *Plummer Professor of Christian Morals at Harvard University and Pusey Minister in Harvard’s Memorial Church; “It Was All a Dream...”*
- 2018 Dr. Joyce Ladner, *civil rights activist and sociologist*
- 2019 Rev. Dr. Luke Powery, *Dean of Duke University Chapel and Associate Professor of Homiletics at Duke Divinity School; “Diversity in Adversity: Martin Luther King Jr., and the Promise of the ‘World House’”*
- 2020 Donzaleigh Abernathy, *“Growing Up with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.”*

#### **RESTRICTIONS:**

There are no restrictions on use of this collection for research purposes. The researcher assumes full responsibility for observing all copyright, property, and libel laws as they apply.

Researchers must use collection in accordance with the policies of the College Archives, the Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library, and Gustavus Adolphus College.

#### **COLLECTION CITATION:**

Martin Luther King Jr. Lecture Collection, 1986-Ongoing. GACA Collection 241. Gustavus Adolphus College Archives, St. Peter, Minnesota.

#### **ACQUISITION:**

Gregory Mason transferred this collection during 1995.

**PROCESSED BY:**

Amber Holets, student worker, processed this collection and developed the finding aid during September 2010.

**RELATED COLLECTIONS IN THE ARCHIVES:**

Peace Studies. Collection of the Peace Studies Program, 1970-Ongoing. GACA Collection 258.

**SUBJECT HEADINGS:**

Peace Studies--Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Lecture (Gustavus Adolphus College).

<b>GACA Collection 241</b>	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Planning Materials, 1989-91	1	1
Programs, 2011, 2014, 2016, 2020	1	2
Posters, 2010-15	Map Case	--
<b>Recordings, 1986-Ongoing</b>		
1986 January 15, Vivian Jenkins Nelson, "Martin Luther King Jr.: A Theological, Psychological and Social Reformer for our Times" (audio cassette)	1	3
1992, John Wright (audio cassette)	1	3
1993, Bernice Johnson Reagon (audio cassette)	1	3
1994 April 12, Cornel West (audio cassette)	1	3
1995 January 16, Arun Gandhi (audio cassette)	1	4
1996 January 15, Michael Harper (audio cassette)	1	4
1996 January 16, Michael Harper, Poetry Reading (audio cassette)	1	4
1999, Bill Green (audio cassette)	1	4
2010, Rev. C.T. Vivian (digital video .mp4)	Google	Drive
2011, Bernard Lafayette, Jr., "Lose, Gain, and be Gained" (digital video .mp4)	Google	Drive
2012, Taylor Branch, "Myths and Miracles From the King Years" (DVD and digital video .mp4)	1 Google	5 Drive
2013, Dr. Cathy J. Cohen, "Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in the Age of Obama: Building a New Movement for the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century" (digital video .mp4)	Google	Drive
2015, Rev. Dr. Jamie Washington, "50 Years Later, The Work Continues: Living the Legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King In Our Own Time" (digital video .mp4)	Google	Drive
2016, Dr. Rashad Shabazz, "Why Geography Matters in the Struggle for Racial Justice" (digital video .mov)	Google	Drive
2017, Jonathan L. Walton, "It Was All A Dream..." (digital video .mov)	Google	Drive
2018, Dr. Joyce Ladner, "The Civil Rights Movement, Still Marching After All These Years" (digital video .mov)	Google	Drive
2019, Rev. Dr. Luke Powery, "Diversity in Adversity: Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Promise of the 'World House'" (digital video .mov)	Google	Drive
2020, Donzaleigh Abernathy, "Growing Up with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (digital video .mp4)	Google	Drive