New York University announces MLK Week 2013

It has been more than 50 years since the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. accepted an invitation from student leaders to address the New York University community. Dr. King's speech entitled, "The Future of Integration," advocated for civil rights and nonviolent protest for social change. He said, "Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable . . . Every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle; the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals."

This year marks the 50th anniversary of Dr. King’s “I Have a Dream Speech” and, hopefully, the continuation of heightened awareness and activism on behalf of many pressing social justice issues. Today, though there is a new generation of dedicated individuals that have joined in this commitment, we still find ourselves at a crossroads in this nation and across the globe as we continue to struggle with social and economic disparities. The theme of NYU MLK Week 2013, 50 Years Forward: The Cost of a Dream Deferred, is intended to create a platform for critical dialogue rooted in the consequences of failing to ‘make justice a reality for all.’

The 8th Annual MLK Week is February 4-9, 2013. Please join us as we explore “The Cost of a Dream Deferred,” and honor Dr. King’s legacy with a series of events featuring guest speakers and unique programs. Highlighting the week is the MLK University-wide event, A Conversation with Reverend Al Sharpton and Featured Guests, on Thursday, February 7, 2013 at 7pm in the Eisner & Lubin Auditorium, Kimmel Center for University Life.

This highly anticipated University-wide event will feature the critical perspectives of several guests as they present their views and ideas and engage in a stimulating dialogue surrounding the costs of failing to realize the dreams that Dr. King articulated fifty years ago. Reverend Al Sharpton will be joined by Michaela Angela Davis, Shankar Prasad and others. Our hope is that these invited speakers, in the tradition of Dr. King, will call on the audience to take action in the name of justice and full democracy for all. In addition, we will also be presenting the NYU MLK Jr. Humanitarian Award to Young Alumna Trustee, Natalie Holder-Winfield, Steinhardt ’97.

To learn more about the University-wide event and other thought-provoking programming and activities planned by the NYU community at large, please visit the official NYU MLK Week 2013 website for details and information: http://www.nyu.edu/mlkweek.

Thank you for your interest and on behalf of the 2013 NYU MLK Week Committee, we look forward to your involvement and participation.

Sincerely,

Monroe France, Chair, MLK Week 2013