

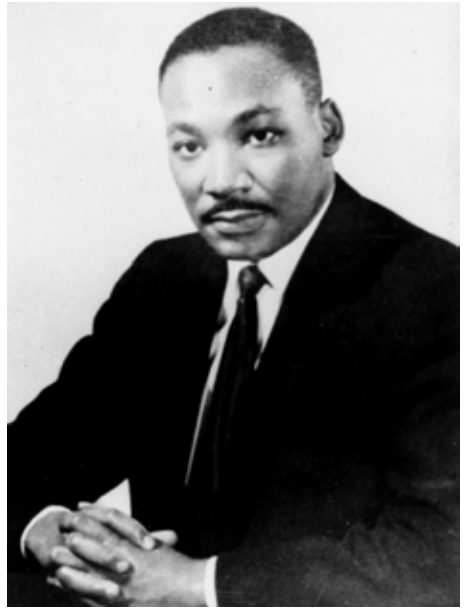


Contra Costa County 35th Annual
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.
Commemoration & Humanitarian of the Year Awards

“STANDING ON THE SHOULDERS OF GIANTS”

Contra Costa County
Board of Supervisors
January 22nd, 2013





Dr. King was much more than a civil rights leader. Among his many interests and gifts, he was also a passionate advocate of education and lifelong learning and an avid student of history who urged his fellow citizens to appreciate and gain a thorough understanding of history to avoid repeating it. He once said, "We are not makers of history. We are made by history, and that many of the ugly pages of American history have been obscured and forgotten . . . America owes a debt of justice which it has only begun to pay."

The theme "Standing on the Shoulders of Giants" represents all of the leaders in today's society who were motivated by individuals who came before them. The pictures you see on the front cover are of individuals who had an impact on the motivation and teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Those individuals are Plato, Benjamin Mays, Mahatma Gandhi, Henry David Thoreau, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Paul Ramsey, and Martin Luther King Sr. who is affectionately referred to as "Daddy King".

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

35th Annual Commemoration & Humanitarian of the Year Awards

Welcome & Introductions Glenn E. Howell, MLK Committee Chair
Master of Ceremonies..... Federal D. Glover, Board Chair
Video Presentation..... MLK Committee
Introduction of Band Glenn E. Howell, MLK Committee Chair
Musical Selection(s) The Los Medanos College Gospel Choir
(Under the direction of Silvester C. Henderson)

Keynote Address:

Dr. Helen Benjamin-Chancellor
Contra Costa Community College District

★ Presentation of Humanitarian Awards:

2013 Student Humanitarian Award Federal D. Glover, Board Chair
2013 Humanitarian Award..... Federal D. Glover, Board Chair
Musical Selections The Los Medanos College Gospel Choir
(Under the direction of Silvester C. Henderson)
Adjournment Federal D. Glover, Board Chair

Lunch Reception

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors:

District 1: John M. Gioia
District 2: Candace Andersen
District 3: Mary N. Piepho
District 4: Karen Mitchoff
District 5: Federal D. Glover

Special thanks to our sponsors:

Public Works Department	Martinez Police Department
Animal Services Department	Human Resources Department
Employment & Human Services Department	Contra Costa Television (CCTV)
(Community Service Head Start Central Kitchen)	Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



Dr. Helen Benjamin-Chancellor

Contra Costa Community College District

Dr. Helen Benjamin has worked in the Contra Costa Community College District since 1990. She began her career at Los Medanos College in Pittsburg as Dean of Language Arts and Humanistic Studies and Related Occupations. Since her early days in the District, Dr. Benjamin has held the following positions beginning with the most recent as President of Contra Costa College in San Pablo; Interim President of Contra Costa and Los Medanos Colleges; Vice Chancellor, Educational Programs and Services and Associate Chancellor at District headquarters in Martinez.

The District was the first county-wide college district in the state and began serving students in 1949. The District consists of Contra Costa College, Diablo Valley College, Los Medanos College, San Ramon Campus, and the Brentwood Center. With a county population of over one million people, the District serves an annual enrollment of nearly 62,000 students.

Dr. Benjamin has a B.S. degree in English and Spanish from Bishop College in Texas where she graduated magna cum laude and earned her master's and doctoral degrees from Texas Woman's University in Denton, Texas. She has never lost sight of her roots as a teacher, having taught high school English in the Dallas Independent School District.

The passion Dr. Benjamin feels for the College District is evident as she maintains an active role in a wide variety of professional organizations and community activities throughout Contra Costa County. Her leadership also extends to community college issues at the state and federal levels. Always putting students in the forefront, Dr. Benjamin enjoys the challenges of developing programs and policies that will continue the over 50-year tradition of education excellence in the Contra Costa Community College District.



Doug Stewart

2013 Humanitarian of The Year

Since 2004, Doug Stewart has made it his mission to do what he can to help solve the homeless crisis. What started out as just helping some in Pacheco has turned into a mission for Doug and he commits himself to getting out into the community six days a week, including weekends, to make a difference in the lives of the homeless and temporarily stranded. Specifically, Doug drives through Martinez, looking for homeless people. Since 2004, Stewart has been helping the homeless and temporarily stranded by providing transportation, food, water, and finding shelter providers.

“Pacheco was having a lot of problems with homelessness and people would come in and complain. Once a month I would sit for an hour and a half and listen to these issues, so I started going out and looking at what the problems were,” Stewart said in December when asked how he got started as an advocate. “I wanted to clean up Pacheco and get people services, it was really just meant to help the residents of Pacheco, but it grew into so much more. I didn’t realize I was filling a void the county doesn’t cover, which was providing services at night for the homeless community.”

Before long, it started taking large amounts of money to meet the needs of the growing homeless population. What started out being completely funded by Doug and his wife Bailey, soon exhausted their resources and it was time to look for help from concerned and caring people in the community. In 2011, with the help of Joe Tully, an attorney with his office on Main Street in downtown Martinez, the Pacheco/Mtz Homeless Outreach, Inc. was incorporated in the State of California and became a bonafide IRS 501 (C)(3) charitable organization.

In January of 2012, a “dba” name of Central County Homeless Outreach was established to better reflect the cities served such as Concord, Pleasant Hill, Pittsburg, Antioch, Martinez, Pacheco, Richmond and others.

It is because of his determination and commitment to our homeless population that we are happy to recognize Doug Stewart as the recipient of the 2013 Contra Costa County Humanitarian of the Year Award.



Casey
Leonard
2013 Student
Humanitarian
of The Year

High school senior Casey Leonard has his eye on a teaching career in the future, but his influence on school kids now is already evident in the hallways of Las Lomas High School. Faculty members at his school describe him as a natural collaborator and powerful leader who is responsible for making positive change at the school and in the greater community.

A Boy Scout since 5th grade, his Eagle Scout project resulted in renovations for an outdoor theater at Mt. Diablo State Park. He can often be found outdoors representing Las Lomas in a variety of sports, including swimming, water polo, wrestling and cross country.

It's what he's done inside the school that garners acclaim from his principal, counselor, teachers and countless others. Casey has been active in his school's Gay-Straight Alliance since his freshman year, and currently serves as President. The group works to promote tolerance on and off campus for LGBT youth, and to create a safe place for them at school. Through this club, he gathers kids still trying to find their voice during what can be a trying time for any student. He leads the 30 student members in weekly meetings, and coordinates and presents classroom workshops to promote tolerance and acceptance.

His counselor Kara Bloodgood notes that Casey exhibits leadership in a respectful, non-aggressive manner, demonstrating both authority and empathy. She says he is recognized widely for his kind heart and compassion. English teacher Wendy Reeves Hampton adds that he showcases a disciplined and dedicated approach to learning without sparking resentment from fellow students. Instead, he's seen as a role model.

Casey goes out of his way to help second language learners at school and others who need an extra hand or a sympathetic ear. He led a group of 5th grade students from his old elementary school, Walnut Heights, during an outdoor education trip last year as a student counselor. That reinforced his desire to pursue teaching and working with younger kids.

His leadership extended to a stint as a county judge during Boys State last summer. "It was an incredible window to see how our government works and how officials are elected," Casey said. "It inspired me to be more politically involved, and opened my eyes to the problems that we face today in California." Casey's political reasoning has been put to the test in speech and debate for Las Lomas. He has been active in parliamentary debate, several individual speech events, and mock trial.

The Southern California native lived in Massachusetts for several years, moving to Walnut Creek when he was a third grader. He's the oldest of five kids, with one younger brother and three younger sisters. He's in the midst of college application time, with George Washington University at the top of his wish list.

Casey's high school principal, Matt Campbell, has spent time with thousands of high school students over the years, and says that he is one of the kindest and most tolerant students he has encountered during his time as an administrator. He exhibits many of the characteristics of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in his daily actions on campus. For his part, Casey is thrilled to receive the honor associated with Dr. King. "To me, receiving this award means that I have given back and am marked as a leader

in my efforts to benefit the community," Casey states. "Dr. King believed that we are not white or black, and that we are united as Americans and as human beings, and that we owe one another respect."

Clearly, Casey Leonard takes that belief to heart in his relationships with fellow students and community members at large, leaving a legacy of compassion and caring at Las Lomas High School.

The Black Liberation Flag - 1920

The Black Liberation Flag, also known as the Afro-American Flag, Pan-African Flag, and the UNIA Flag, is a symbol of African and African-American unity and pride. In the 1960s this flag became a symbol of Black liberation in the United States.



This design was first adopted in 1920 as the official banner of the African Race at a meeting of the Universal Negro Improvement Association and African Communities League (UNIA) held in New York City.

This flag uses what is known as the pan-African colors (red, black and green). The red represents the blood that was shed in the struggle for liberation. The black color represents the Black race; the green color represents the natural resources of Africa from where the Black race comes from. The flag has also been called at various times the Marcus

Garvey flag, the Black Nationalist Flag, the African National Flag, the New African Liberation Flag, the African-American Flag, the Universal African flag, and the International African Flag.

In 1971, the school board of Newark, New Jersey, passed a resolution permitting the flag to be raised in public school classrooms. Four of the board's nine members were not present at the time, and the resolution was introduced by the board's teen member, a mayoral appointee. Fierce controversy ensued, including a court order that the board show cause why they should not be forced to rescind the resolution, and at least two state legislative proposals to ban ethnic or national flags in public classrooms other than the official U.S. flag.

In the United States, the flag is presently widely available through flag shops or ethnic specialty stores. It is commonly seen at parades commemorating Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, civil rights rallies, and other special events.

2013 Humanitarian of the Year

Doug Stewart

Past Recipients of the Humanitarian of the Year Award

Guillermo "Bill" Muniz, 1984	Mary Perez & Neil & Carol Wilson, 1998
Donald Fibush, 1985	Orin Allen, 1999
Charles Spears, 1986	Eddie Menosse, 2000
John "JJ" Johnson, 1987	Troy Greer Grove, 2001
Rev. Malcolm & Jo Lee, 1988	Robin Poindexter, 2002
Lonnie R. Bristow, M.D., 1989	Reverend Phillip Lawson, 2003
Yoshiye Togasaki, M.D., 1990	Mr. Walter Ruelig, 2004
January Fredenburg, 1991	Bishop Curtis Timmons, 2005
Lucy Donly, 1992	Jerrold L. Hatchett, 2006
Bessanderson McNeil, 1993	Veronica Pope, 2007
Lloyd Madden, 1994	Charles D. Tinsley, Dr., 2008
Perfecto Villarreal, 1995	Larry Lewis, 2009
Charles Wilson, 1996	Della Randolph, 2010
Helen Troxel and	Laura Johnson, 2011
Rollie Mullen, 1997	Corrine Sain, 2012

2013 Student Humanitarian of the Year

Casey Leonard

Past Recipients of the Student Humanitarian of the Year Award

Edgardo Cervano-Soto, 2007
Jessa Mabellin, 2008
Brittany Watson, 2009
Shae Hughes, 2010
Mario Alvarado, 2011
Andrew Gonzales, 2012

2013 Committee Members

Glenn E. Howell – Chair	Derrick West
Maceo Trotter	Betsy Burkhart
Tiffany Lennear	Nancy Zandonella
Vincent Manuel	