CELEBRATING THE LIFE, LEGACY, AND DREAM OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Featuring Sheyann Webb Christburg

The Morris College family gathered to celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The student body and local community filled the Neal-Jones auditorium to hear the firsthand accounts of Sheyann Webb-Christburg, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s youngest freedom fighter. Webb-Christburg was born in 1956 in Alabama, Sheyann Webb became involved with the Civil Rights Movement when she was 8 years old, and grew even more dedicated after her continuous encounters with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. She is the author of "Selma, Lord, Selma," a book chronicling her experiences which later became a television movie produced by Disney.

Webb-Christburg thanked all the student participants for being active on the campus and standing tall. She went on to express her admiration for the unselfish love and amazing man that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was. Sheyann considers herself a product and testimony of the inspiration of which Dr. King bestowed upon her as a child. As she began to recount her experiences, the Neal-Jones auditorium fell silent. She recalled playing with her best friend Rachel playing outside when they became mesmerized by the presence of Dr. King and his entourage. As she spoke about her experiences of walking hand in hand into the Brown Chapel AME Church with Dr. King, being treated like a member of the movement and not just a child, and gaining a desire to actively be a part of Dr. King’s dream, she gave the Morris College campus a moment to dive into history and the moments leading up to her feet approaching the Edmund Pettus Bridge on that Bloody Sunday (March 7, 1965).

She engaged listeners as she explained her growing fear as racism unleashed its brutality on the peaceful protesters. Despite the hatred, the fear, and the trauma she remains grateful for her experiences. She remains appreciative of the motivation Dr. King gave her to not only do her best but be her best and not be ashamed. “I knew I was someone special because someone special had told me so,” she said when recanting the way in which he motivated her to remain dedicated to service. 52 years after that Bloody Sunday, the struggle is not over. She encouraged our students to remain dedicated to the institutions motto: “Enter to Learn, Depart to serve”, because there is someone, somewhere, that can benefit from your contribution to this world.
Morris College junior, Emmanuel Lee, gave a rousing poetic presentation entitled “This King”. His words pierced the hearts of students, faculty, and community members as he chronicled the journey and work of Dr. Marin Luther King, Jr ending with his assassination. Lee, recently won the state wide oratorical contest for South Carolina chapters of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated. He will go on to compete on the regional level in April, representing the Xi Epsilon chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., South Carolina area chapters, and most importantly Morris College. 

"I knew I was someone special, because someone special had told me so.”

-- Sheyann Webb Christburg

Early completion of the Free Application of Federal Student Aid can assist in ensuring students have a smooth process with paying for college. Please visit www.fafsa.gov to complete your application of Federal Student Aid as soon as possible to receive the maximum amount of funds available to pay for the 2018-2019 academic year.

President's Travel Calendar

Sunday, January 14, 2018
5:00 PM
Galilee Missionary Baptist Church
Wateree Baptist Association, Lower Division
Greetings: Dr. Leroy Staggers

Monday, January 15, 2018
8:00 AM
West Columbia’s Brookland Baptist Church
Columbia Urban League Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. “Keeping the Legacy Alive” prayer breakfast

Saturday, January 20, 2018
9:30 AM
Neal-Jones Auditorium
Baptist State Usher’s Department planning meeting
Greetings: Dr. Leroy Staggers

REM I N D E R!

Morris College will be closed on Monday, January 15, 2018 in observation of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. Classes will resume on Tuesday, January 16, 2017.
Everyone is encouraged to participate in the annual co-sponsored MLK Walk and program held at USC Sumter on Monday, January 15, 2018. This event is a joint venture involving Morris College, USC Sumter, and Central Carolina Technical College. Registration for the walk will begin at 8:30 a.m. at USC Sumter in the Nettles Auditorium on Monday morning. The program will begin at 11:00 a.m. and will feature the Morris College Gospel Choir. Please plan to come out and participate in this very worthwhile and meaningful event! Refreshments will be provided for everyone.

The Lady Hornets basketball team will host Fayetteville State University, Wednesday, January 17, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the gym. Please come out and show your Hornet Spirit!

Pi Theta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. and Iota Zeta Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. will have their annual Founder’s Day Assembly on Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. in the Neal-Jones Auditorium. The speaker of the hour will be the South Carolina State Director of Zeta Phi Beta, Sorority Incorporate, Latorsha M. Murray

The South Carolina Bankers Association’s Young Bankers Division coordinates an annual educational banking program. Banking Careers 101 is designed to help students with banking, finance, and accounting interests to learn more about the world of banking. The goal is to recruit and attract bright, young talent to become part of this rewarding career.

This year’s program will be held on Wednesday, February 7, 2018, at Seawell’s in Columbia, SC. Students who would like to participate in this event please stop by the Career Services Center in the Brawley-Starks Building, Room 209 to register for the event no later than Wednesday, January 17, 2018

The Homecoming Week Celebration will kick off on Sunday, January 21, 2018 with the Gospelfest at 6:00 p.m. in the Neal-Jones Auditorium. Everyone is invited to attend. Additional information on other Homecoming Week activities are forthcoming.