Celebrating the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

In collaboration with Knoxville’s Martin Luther King Commemorative Commission, UT hosted the annual city-wide MLK leadership symposium and awards luncheon on January 13. The luncheon featured Nona Jones as keynote speaker and was sponsored by the Chancellor’s Office, Division of Diversity and Engagement, and Division of Student Life.

MLK Annual Skate Day

The Division of Diversity and Engagement and Office of Community Engagement and Outreach sponsored the annual MLK Skate Day on January 17 at the Change Center. Middle and high school
students were invited to skate and enjoy pizza during the MLK services at Overcoming Believers Church.

**Running into the New Year**

The Division of Diversity and Engagement was a contributing sponsor for the YWCA’s 26th Annual Diversity Day and Race Against Racism on Saturday, January 15. Community members gathered at the Phyllis Wheatley Center to celebrate diversity alongside local cultural and religious organizations, and once again join as a community to stand against racism.

**MLK Days of Service**

Each year the Jones Center for Leadership and Service celebrates the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. with opportunities for volunteering and supporting the Knoxville community. This year’s Days of Service will take place from January 31 to February 11. Volunteers will go to various service sites in the greater Knoxville area in either a morning or afternoon session to serve, reflect on the meaning of King’s legacy, and make meaningful connections with nonprofits in our area. Register for service opportunities. 

Subscribe to our email list.
Lonnie Brown Jr. Named Dean of College of Law

Lonnie Brown has been named dean of the College of Law and Elvin E. Overton Distinguished Professor of Law. Brown currently serves as the Josiah Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professor and A. Gus Cleveland Distinguished Chair of Legal Ethics and Professionalism at the University of Georgia School of Law. Read the full story here.

FUNDING AND AWARDS

Chancellor’s Excellence in Academic Outreach Award

The University of Tennessee Academic Outreach and Engagement Council (AOEC) is soliciting nominations for the Chancellor’s Excellence in Academic Outreach Award. This award recognizes extraordinary contributions to the public that occur as an outgrowth of academic pursuits that are related to the university’s academic and engagement mission. The award will be presented to a faculty member for outstanding contributions to the public at the Chancellor’s Academic Honors Banquet in spring 2022. Nominations are due February 10. Learn more about the award or submit a nomination here.

Tennessee Doctoral Scholars Program: Call for Nominations

The Graduate School and the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) are continuing programming in support of PhD students through the Tennessee Doctoral Scholars Program. A goal for this program is to increase the number of minority students who earn a PhD and to encourage these students to seek faculty positions after graduation. The program provides financial assistance and mentoring support for up to three years of graduate study. Nomination letters should be sent by March 1, 2022 to GradSchoolDean@utk.edu.

The ITGA 2022 Conference Registration is Open

The International Town-Gown Association (ITGA) 2022 City & University Relations Conference will be held June 6-8 in Clemson, South Carolina. ITGA is collecting proposals on topics that provide insight on the continuously evolving relationships impacted through a variety of challenges faced by students, community members, and other stakeholders. Click here to learn more about this opportunity.

Subscribe to our email list.
Chancellor's Grants for Faculty Research
Applications are due January 28, 2022. Awardees will receive a course release for fall 2022 or spring 2023.

Tennessee Opportunity Act
The Tennessee Department of Human Services will accept applications through February 4.

Carl Cowan Scholarship 2022-2023 Application
This scholarship is available to any full-time student, either undergraduate or graduate, who demonstrates financial need and/or outstanding achievement and involvement.

ENGAGE! Call for Journal Submissions
ENGAGE! editors invite you to submit manuscripts, as well as pieces reflecting the visual and performing arts, for the next volume to be published in 2022 in three issues. Submission dates begin in February 2022.

Research Opportunity: Food Security and Waste
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is seeking applications for reducing consumer food waste in the U.S. Deadline for applications is February 9, 2022, and the total maximum award is $750,000.

Research Opportunity: Youth and Children
The Caplan Foundation for Early Childhood (CFEC) deadline for letters of intent to the sponsor is January 31, 2022. Awards range from $30,000 - $100,000 but average about $50,000.

Other Research Opportunities:
Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation – 2022 Knowledge Challenge
The deadline for Stage 1 applications is February 28, 2022. Total maximum award is $200,000 for single PI projects and $400,000 for team projects.

Human Animal Bond Research Institute – Addressing Evidence-Based Health Benefits of Human-
The deadline for applications is February 22, 2022, and the total maximum award is $45,000.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

Community Engagement Seminar Series
Open to all members of the campus community.

Best Practices in Community Engagement
Thursday, January 27 | Zoom

Building Partnerships with Social Capital
Thursday, February 24 | Zoom

A Multidisciplinary Systems Approach to Community Engagement
Thursday, March 31 | Zoom

Frederick Douglass Day
Douglass Day is celebrated each year on February 14 in honor of Frederick Douglass. On this day, collections of Black history and culture are transcribed nationwide. View a list of related events at UTK.

Vols Abroad
Join the Programs Abroad Office for the spring 2022 Programs Abroad Fair which will be held Thursday, February 3 from 1–4 p.m. in the Student Union Ballroom (Room 272). Students can browse faculty-directed programs abroad options for the spring and summer of 2022, speak to faculty to find out more about each program, and learn more about what it takes to study abroad! Visit the Programs Abroad website to learn more.

OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Subscribe to our email list.
College students and graduates can apply to be a servant leader intern this summer with East Tennessee Freedom Schools. This is a paid internship from May 23- July 22. Visit the link to apply.

Collaboration: How to Build Strong Partnerships to Expand Capacity and Build Community (Virtual)

Learn how to explain your purpose beyond your mission, identify potential partners based on your purpose, and know the key steps to addressing the barriers holding your organization back from collaborations. The event is Wednesday, January 26, 2-4 p.m. Register to attend.

Creating an Organizational Culture of Care (Virtual)

Examine the concept of care and learn how vital and transformative it can be for nonprofits seeking to retain staff, sustain programming, and live their mission during health, climate, and political crises. Explore what a vibrant culture of care might look like in your organization and how to make that vision a reality. The event is Tuesday, February 8, 9-10 a.m. Register to attend.

Faculty Women of Color in the Academy Conference

Faculty Women of Color in the Academy is a unique educational and professional opportunity for Indigenous and women of color in higher education to network, engage, and learn with colleagues from around the country. The conference will take place April 1-3, 2022 on the campus of Virginia Tech.

Reimagining Community Engagement for a Post-COVID World

Read the article by INSIDE HIGHER ED regarding lessons learned about community engagement during the COVID-19 pandemic here.

CALL FOR ARTICLES AND PHOTOS

We hope you enjoy OCEO's monthly newsletter and learning about the many ways UT faculty, staff, and students positively impact our community. We are seeking news articles, photos and content that you think our readers would enjoy. Email submissions to communityengagement@utk.edu.

Subscribe to our email list.