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## Milwaukee Y to Host 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebration Breakfast in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

*Largest Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day event in Wisconsin*

**January 11, 2017 (Milwaukee)** — The YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee will host its 20<sup>th</sup> annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Breakfast on Monday, January 16, from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. at the Italian Conference Center, located at 631 East Chicago Street in Milwaukee. The breakfast program will celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and recognize local organizations dedicated to serving others, just as Dr. King did.

“The Milwaukee Y is dedicated to strengthening our community by creating the kind of lasting and positive change to which Dr. King dedicated his life,” said Jack Takerian, interim CEO of the YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee. “The Milwaukee Y has been an anchor in this community for 159 years, creating safe and nurturing spaces, delivering life-changing programming, and establishing community partnerships with other mission-driven organizations.”

The event will also honor two local organizations who demonstrate a longstanding commitment to making this city a better place for all, by supporting health, wellness, diversity and inclusion. Next Door will receive the Harley-Davidson Healthy Citizenship Award, which was created to honor an organization or individual who is working to improve the health and wellness of Milwaukee's underserved. Next Door will receive the award for their work toward improving literacy and school readiness for children ages 0–5 in Milwaukee's central city.

St. Ann Center for Intergenerational Care will receive The Potawatomi Hotel & Casino Diversity and Inclusion Award which recognizes an individual or group, committed to supporting and enhancing diversity and inclusion in Milwaukee. St. Ann will receive the award for providing Franciscan-inspired, intergenerational, community-based health and educational services for children, adults, the elderly and people with disabilities.

The breakfast program will also recognize the winners of this year's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Spoken Word Contest, sponsored by Northwestern Mutual Foundation and Jammin' 98.3 Radio. Three finalists in each age category (5-9 years, 10-13 years and 14-18 years) were selected after writing an original spoken word piece based on the theme, “The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.” A panel of judges then voted on the winning pieces. The first place in each category will present their original spoken word piece during the Celebration Breakfast and each will receive a prize.

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Aurora Health Care is the lead sponsor for this event. The cost to attend is \$40 per person or \$400 for a table of 10.

For more information regarding attending or sponsoring this event, please contact Josh Wright at 414-274-0735 or by email at [jwright@ymcamke.org](mailto:jwright@ymcamke.org).

### **YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee**

The YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee is a powerful association of men, women and children of all ages and from all walks of life joined together by a shared passion to strengthen the foundations of community through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Since 1858, Milwaukee YMCAs have helped kids and families live healthy lives in spirit, mind and body. Supported in part through contributions to the Annual Campaign, the Y provides membership assistance and scholarships to programs like summer camp, child care and teen activities, to make sure that everyone, regardless of age, income or background, has the opportunity to be healthy, confident, connected and secure. [www.ymcamke.org](http://www.ymcamke.org).

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