


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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“Our lives begin to end  
the day we become silent  
about things that matter.”

– Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



Amplifying youth voices  
through respect, understanding,  
and compassion.

MLK VOICE 4 YOUTH Planning Committee is pleased & grateful to announce our judges for 2022.  
They are:

Donald Blakey, *Director, DonDel Theatre Company*  
Maria De Los Angeles Cabrera, *Councilwoman at Large & President Pro-Tem*  
Bebe Coker, *Black Heritage Educational Theater Group*  
Kaamilah Diabaté, *2016 MLK VOICE 4 YOUTH Winner*  
Vernita Dorsey, *Senior Vice-President, Director of Community Strategy, WSFS Bank*  
Shannon Griffin, *Senior Policy Advocate, ACLU, American Civil Liberties Union, Delaware*  
Dr. Guillermina Gonzalez, *Professor, College of Business, Wilmington University*  
Edwin Hernandez-Vargas, *Community Relations & Outreach Director, Office of the Lt. Governor*  
The Rev. Dr. Marta Illueca, *Brandywine Collaborative Ministries, the Episcopal Church in DE*  
Jesse Johnson, *Chair, Social Sciences, Delaware Technical Community College*  
The Rev. Dr. Lawrence M. Livingston, *Assist. Prof. Africana Studies, University of Delaware*  
Senator Elizabeth “Tizzy” Lockman, *Third District*  
Senator Sarah McBride, *First District*  
Dr. John Moore, *United Way of Delaware*  
Nana Ohemaa Asante, *2017 MLK VOICE 4 YOUTH 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize Winner, University of Delaware*  
Deborah Olatunji, *2019 MLK VOICE 4 YOUTH Winner, University of Pennsylvania*  
Dr. Keith Pettiford, *Gamma Theta Lambda Education Foundation, Inc.*  
Luis Santiago, *Vice President, Bank of America*  
Nyani Scott, *2020 MLK VOICE 4 YOUTH Winner, Howard University*  
Ian Smith, *Parks & Recreation Director, City of Wilmington*  
Jea Street, *Youth Advocate, Singer-songwriter, Educator*  
Dr. Freeman L. Williams, *Newark NAACP Branch President*

Thank you judges for taking on the task of selecting our 7 final performances and ultimately the winners who will receive cash prizes of: \$2,000 first prize; \$1,000 second prize; & \$500 third prize.

Online Registration Opens - International Peace Day - September 21<sup>st</sup> through the YWCA Delaware.

For more information and/or to register visit:

YWCA DELAWARE @ [www.ywcade.org/homepage/events/mlk-voice-4-youth-2022](http://www.ywcade.org/homepage/events/mlk-voice-4-youth-2022)

OR

VISIT FACEBOOK @ [www.facebook.com/mlkvoice4youth](http://www.facebook.com/mlkvoice4youth)

Thank you to our sponsors:



### ABOUT MLK VOICE 4 YOUTH

Presented by the YWCA Delaware and Christ Church Christiana Hundred, MLK VOICE 4 YOUTH is a statewide, spoken word contest for high school students, grades 9 - 12. The contest challenges students to reflect and creatively share how Dr. King's legacy guides their response to today's challenges. In 2022, MLK VOICE 4 YOUTH will celebrate its 7<sup>th</sup> year encouraging youth to SPEAK UP for social change through respect, understanding, and compassion.

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