



Join the Central Michigan University community in celebrating and honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with these special presentations and activities.

Jelani Cobb writes about the enormous complexity of race in America. In 2015, he received the Sidney Hillman Prize for Opinion & Analysis Journalism for his New Yorker columns, in which he combined “the strengths of an on-the-scene reporter, a public intellectual, a teacher, a vivid writer, a subtle moralist, and an accomplished professional historian.”

Cobb teaches in the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. He is also a staff writer at The New Yorker, where he has penned a remarkable series of articles about race, the police, and injustice. His articles include “The Anger in Ferguson,” “Murders in Charleston,” and “What We Talk About When We Talk About Reparations.” In awarding him the Hillman Prize for Opinion and Analysis Journalism, the jury wrote, “No one has done a better job of placing [the events in Ferguson, MO]—and similar happenings in other places like Sanford, Florida, Cleveland, Ohio and Staten Island, New York—in their broader context than Jelani Cobb.” Further: “Cobb met the challenge of describing the turmoil in Ferguson in a way that cut through the frantic chaos of ‘breaking news’ and deepened readers’ understanding of what they were seeing, hearing, and feeling. Ferguson was not an aberration, he showed, but a microcosm of race relations in the United States—organically connected to the complicated legacy of segregation and the unpaid debts of slavery itself.”

Cobb was formerly associate professor of history at the University of Connecticut, where he was director of the Africana Studies Institute. He has received Fellowships from the Fulbright and Ford Foundations. He is the author of *Substance of Hope: Barack Obama and the Paradox of Progress*, *To the Break of Dawn: A Freestyle on the Hip Hop Aesthetic*, and *The Devil & Dave Chappelle and Other Essays*. His forthcoming book is *Antidote to Revolution: African American Anticommunism and the Struggle for Civil Rights, 1931*.

Keynote Speaker

Jelani Cobb

MONDAY, JANUARY 16

- 10AM** Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. CommUnity Peace Brunch
Finch Fieldhouse
- 12PM** MLK Day of Service, Bovee University Center
Sponsored by the Mary Ellen Brandell Volunteer Center
- 3PM** Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. CommUnity Peace March & Vigil
Starting at the Bovee UC

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17

- 12PM** Movie Showing & Discussion: “Selma”
Center for Inclusion & Diversity (UC 108)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18

- 7PM** Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Keynote Speaker, **Jelani Cobb**
“Half Life of Freedom”
Bovee University Center Rotunda

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19

- 6PM** A Night of Reflection: Inspired Poems and Spoken Word
Center for Inclusion & Diversity (UC 108)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20

- 6PM** Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Staff/
Student Charity Basketball Game
Student Activities Center (Small Sports Forum)
Donations Accepted