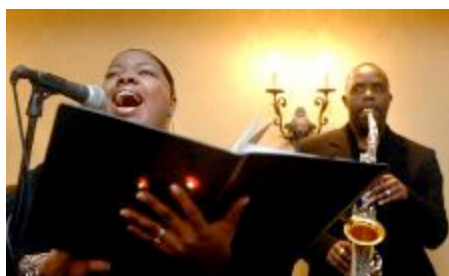


## 'Visions' of MLK for all to see at Lyndon

### Exhibition part of volunteer celebration



Kara Waters, accompanied by Jonathan Kilgore on saxophone, sings Friday morning at the Martin Luther King Jr. Freedom Breakfast in the Magnolia Room in the University of Georgia's Center for Continuing Education Conference Center. Honored at the breakfast were Patricia Clifton for work with the Young Scholars Program at the University of Georgia, Derrick Floyd for service with the Boys & Girls Club, UGA professor Robert Hill for his leadership example and Esther Sherman of UGA's physical plant for volunteer efforts. Georgia Supreme Court Justice Robert Benham delivered the keynote address.

**Tricia Spaulding /Staff**



By [Beth Jones](#) | beth.jones@onlineathens.com | Story updated at 10:52 PM on Friday, January 18, 2008

Artist Emmanuel Taati created a gouache and graphite rendering of Martin Luther King Jr. where the civil rights leader's arms are stretched out like Jesus on the cross.

Taati was inspired by thinking about how King's 1968 assassination reinforced the urgency of the civil rights movement.

"In addition to being a tribute to 20th century America's foremost ethical, spiritual and political voice, this work is a meditation on martyrdom," Taati wrote.

Taati's work is part of the exhibit "Visions of Martin Luther King Jr. II" that will be displayed at Lyndon House Arts Center through Friday in observance of Monday's holiday.

The exhibit will be featured during a celebration for volunteers who participate in King Day of Service projects on Monday. The celebration will also include music and spoken-word performances.

Montu Miller was helping to plan last year's Day of Service when someone mentioned that Lyndon House had open exhibition space around the holiday.

"Let's do a Martin Luther King show," Miller said.

The artists from last year's show returned this year with new pieces.

Nancy Lukasiewicz, curator of exhibitions at the Lyndon House, could see a difference in their work.

"I think it's more developed," she said. "I think they might have spent from last year to this year thinking about this show."

"They've grown so much style wise," Miller agreed. "There's a little more depth to their pieces now."

Zederick Wilson painted fabric with bold acrylic paints for "The Meeting," which shows King with Malcolm X, a Black Muslim leader who also was assassinated.

"(Wilson) always does something with a different medium," Miller said. "It's not going to be normal. When he puts it all together, though, it makes sense."

An artist who goes by the name of Geometric Man created a lion with ink on fabric, which, according to Miller, represents King possessing the heart of a lion. Artist Jeff Gregory has several ink on paper pieces in the show, titled "The Royal Court Series." One depicts King, another features Betty Shabazz (Malcolm X's wife) and Coretta Scott King and the third features Malcolm X.

While the image of Malcolm X appears to be a photocopy of a photograph, Miller pointed out it was actually painstakingly created by Gregory, who made hundreds of small dots.

"Each one of the artists have their own style," Miller said. "You get a variety of local art. It gives you a good feeling about Martin Luther King."

For the duration of the exhibit, visitors will be invited to post their thoughts responding to a quote by King that discusses what causes divisions among humans.

One second-grader wrote, "We are so separated because of all the differences we have in each other. But we really don't have any different. The different is all imagined."

A grown-up visitor posted this comment: "Fear ironically separates us and yet it is the one thing we all have in common."

"They're pretty heavy," Lukasiewicz said about the visitor statements.

"It's an interactive show," Miller said. "You feel like you're part of what's going on."

## **MLK EVENTS**

Events for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day include:

- ▶ **MLK Day of Service:** 9 a.m. to noon; visit [www.AthensMLKDay.org](http://www.AthensMLKDay.org) or call (706) 353-1313 to register for service projects; volunteers will be honored with lunch and a celebration of service at the Lyndon House, including a chance to study the exhibit, once the service projects are complete.
- ▶ **Martin Luther King Jr. Academic Bowl:** 10 a.m., Blackwell Cultural Center, 375 Mill St., Elberton; (706) 245-7893, (706) 206-7893 or (706) 283-9732.
- ▶ **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ecumenical Service:** noon, Oconee Street United Methodist Church, 717 Oconee St.; the Rev. Lisa Caine of Oconee Street United Methodist, Dr. Roy L. Wade Sr. of Mount Zion Baptist and Rabbi Ronald Gerson of Congregation Children of Israel will speak.
- ▶ **Voter registration drive:** 1-4 p.m., Wal-Mart, Lexington Road; offered by Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority in celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

- *Tricia Klein*

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