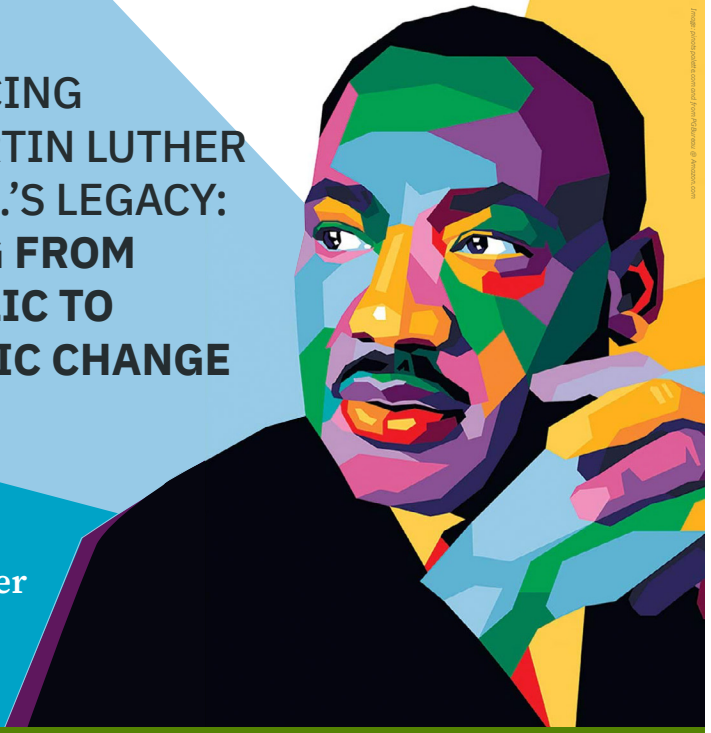


The Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at VLGS  
Presents a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration

**EMBRACING  
DR. MARTIN LUTHER  
KING JR.'S LEGACY:  
MOVING FROM  
SYMBOLIC TO  
SYSTEMIC CHANGE**

Featuring  
Guest Speaker  
**Mia Schultz**



**Tuesday, January 16**

**12:45 to 2 p.m. ET**

Chase Community Center  
and Watch Live at  
[vermontlaw.edu/live](https://vermontlaw.edu/live)



# DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION

## WELCOME

LISA RYAN

Associate Dean, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

## MUSICAL SELECTION

“LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING”

The Black National Anthem

*(poem by James Weldon Johnson, music by J. Rosamond Johnson)*

VERMONT LAW AND GRADUATE SCHOOL FACULTY,  
STAFF, AND STUDENTS

## OPENING REMARKS

RODNEY A. SMOLLA

President, Vermont Law and Graduate School

## GUEST SPEAKER PRESENTATION

MIA SCHULTZ

Commissioner, Vermont Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and  
President, Rutland Area NAACP

## PRESENTATION OF APPRECIATION

SERENA NELSON JD'24

President, Black Law Students Association (BLSA)

## MUSICAL SELECTION

“WE SHALL OVERCOME”

*(hymn by Charles Albert Tindley)*

VERMONT LAW AND GRADUATE SCHOOL FACULTY,  
STAFF, AND STUDENTS

GUEST SPEAKER  
MIA SCHULTZ



**Mia Schultz** (she/her)—a mixed-race Black woman and commissioner for the Vermont State Truth and Reconciliation Commission—is a devoted advocate for truth, healing, and reconciliation in Vermont’s diverse communities. Originally from Arizona, Mia’s transformative journey led her to Bennington, Vermont, in 2016. Recognized as a human rights champion by both the American Civil Liberties Union and National Education Association, Mia currently serves as president of the Rutland Area NAACP. She also made history as the first Black woman to assume the role of chair for the Bennington Democratic Party. Her leadership extends to engaging in community organizing, empowering individuals from diverse backgrounds, and addressing systemic issues for positive change.

# DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to everyone who helped make this event successful, especially:

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**BLACK LAW STUDENTS ASSOCIATION**

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**EBEN BROCK**, Executive Chef and Food Service Director, and **CAFÉ STAFF**

**DANIEL BROMBERG**, Dean, Vermont Graduate School

**BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS TEAM**

**MAGGIE DAKIN**, Executive Assistant to the Vice Dean of Students and Associate Dean of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

**SUE FOLGER**, Chief of Staff, Office of the President

**SHIRLEY A. JEFFERSON JD'86**, Vice President, Community Engagement and Government Relations

**THERESA JOHNSON**, Assistant Director, Student Affairs

**MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS TEAM**

**BETH MCCORMACK**, Dean, Vermont Law School

**KARI MILLSTEIN JD/MARJ'25**

**MIA MONTOYA HAMMERSLEY**, Director, Environmental Justice Clinic

**SERENA NELSON JD'24**, President, Black Law Students Association

**STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION**

**COURTNEY POTTER**, Events and Commencement Coordinator

**JENNIFER RUSHLOW**, Dean, Maverick Lloyd School for the Environment

**MIA SCHULTZ**, Commissioner, Vermont State Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and President, Rutland Area NAACP

**RODNEY A. SMOLLA**, President, Vermont Law and Graduate School

**EMILY STAROBIN JD'25**

**JOHN STOCKHAM JD/MERL'26**

**VERMONT LAW AND GRADUATE SCHOOL STUDENT AMBASSADORS**

**WHITE RIVER VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL**

**MAIA YOUNG JD'24**, President, Student Bar Association

**ASHLEY ZIAI**, Director, Student Affairs