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Olivet College to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day Jan. 15

OLIVET, Mich. — Olivet College students, faculty and staff will observe Martin Luther King Jr. Day with a celebration “Now and Then,” Monday, Jan. 15.

Activities include a bell ringing and reflection in The College Square at 12:05 p.m. and several guest speakers throughout the afternoon.

Baldemar Velasquez, founder and president of the Farm Labor Organizing Committee, will be the keynote speaker at a 1:30 p.m. presentation in Mott Auditorium. His speech, “Immigrants, The New Civil Rights Movement,” will address migrant workers in the Midwest and immigration in America today, as well as his work with King on socioeconomic issues.

A student session titled “What’s up with that?,” will be held at 3 p.m. in Dole Hall’s Klock Commons featuring guest facilitator Carl Word, director of The Urban League of Southwest Michigan, and Lynn Ward Gray, Olivet’s associate vice president for diversity and community affairs.

All events are free and open to the public. Martin Luther King Jr. Day events are sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Education and Initiatives.

For more information, call (269) 749-7631.

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Established in 1844, Olivet College is a private, liberal arts institution located in south central Michigan. The college remains dedicated to its vision of *Education for Individual and Social Responsibility* by providing a quality higher education to all, regardless of gender, race or financial means. The college is home to more than 1,000 students, who study under *The Olivet Plan*. In this unique educational experience, students engage in both curricular and co-curricular programs that combine real world experiences with lectures and service learning.