



Dear Pacifica Community,

I hope the quarter is off to a good start. Thank you all for supporting our community in navigating the recent rainstorm that affected our area and campuses. Please continue to be vigilant and treat each other with the kindness, compassion, and soul that have always characterized this community.

On Monday, January 16, 2023, Pacifica Graduate Institute will be closed in recognition of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., whose dedication to equality and human rights for African Americans, the economically disadvantaged, and all victims of injustice served as a model for building a movement for change through the power of the collective.

As I reflect on and celebrate the world-changing movements of Dr. King, I am especially inspired by what it means to honor the life and legacy of a civil rights role model and leader whose soul-stirring message mirrors Pacifica's values of *logos, eros, consciousness, integrity, service, and stewardship*. The work started by Dr. King is not done. Pacifica's work is not done.

While many may enjoy days off from school or work, we hope that you will spend time honoring Dr. King's legacy in the ways that are most meaningful to you while also recognizing that some activities can be a "day on" to volunteer and give back to our communities and causes. Here are some ways to honor and celebrate Dr. King's legacy:

- [MLK Celebrations 2023](#) – list of events around Southern California and online from our PGIAA. Our Sr. Director of Alumni Relations, Dianne Travis-Teague, is once again closely involved in [Santa Barbara's Community MLK Celebration](#)
- [Santa Barbara MLK Day volunteer opportunities](#)
- [MLK Day AmeriCorps National Volunteer Opportunity Search](#)
- Learn more about Dr. King and the Civil Rights Movement – Additional resources, including links to Online King Records Access Databases, his speeches, and other activity/volunteer information, can be found [HERE](#)

As an organization and educational institution dedicated to these values of equality, justice and service, Pacifica continues to ask ourselves how we can best model and uplift them forward. Assessing the DEI climate, progress, and needs has been a focus of my first 100 days as President & CEO. I look forward to sharing more in the near future about how we will review and evaluate our progress, identify opportunities for greater impact, share and elevate best practices and resources and establish a plan that could have a transformative impact on the institute.

I am also pleased to share the attached MLK Day quotes and reflections from our faculty and community members, which we encourage you to read and share on social media or with others as you may like

May we all take time to reflect, act, and honor both the person celebrated by this holiday and all that he stood for.

In recognition and respect,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lee Mathison". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Lee
President & CEO