



## News Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **44th Annual MLK Commemorative Parade to celebrate Dr. King's legacy on Jan. 16, 2023**

TULSA, Oct. 3, 2022 – “*We Are Stronger When Working Together*” is the theme for the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Parade that will celebrate the revered civil rights leaders’ legacy on Jan. 16, 2023. Each year, over 100 entries participate in the parade featuring themed floats, music and marchers. Thousands of people are expected to attend the parade that begins at the corner of N. Detroit Ave. and John Hope Franklin Blvd. and meanders through historic Greenwood Avenue to Archer, ending near ONEOK Field.

“If there’s one thing that Dr. King and Tulsa’s MLK Parade continues to remind us, it’s that the flame of hope is one that endures and we must work to keep the dream alive,” said Pleas Thompson, president of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration Society. “By coming together on this special day, we honor Dr. King’s message of peace, love and equality and recognize that we are always more powerful when working together. I can think of no better theme for our parade and look forward to seeing everybody there on January 16.”

The goal of the MLK Day Parade is for participants of all ages to have fun, remember Dr. King’s legacy and how they can be a part of keeping his dream alive. Parade floats and various entries are encouraged to convey the theme and be appropriate for viewing by children and adults. Parade marshals, security personnel and volunteers will be posted along the parade route to ensure the safety of participants and guests. Advance registration is required of all parade entries – no “walk-ups” are allowed. Check-in is from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. at sponsors’ designated numbered slots in the staging area. Judging of parade entries begins promptly at 8:30 a.m. For attendees, the parade begins at 11 a.m. and is free to the public.

A map of the parade route is available at [www.mlktulsa.com](http://www.mlktulsa.com). Please visit the website for the latest parade updates.

Entry fees for the parade vary by category – i.e., Non-Profit, Small Business, Corporate and Educational. There is an early bird discount of \$10 for entry fees paid by Oct. 31, 2022. Online registration is available at [www.mlktulsa.com](http://www.mlktulsa.com). No registrations will be accepted after Dec. 31, 2022.

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Sponsorship packages are available ranging from \$500 to \$5,000, with varying levels of recognition and benefits. Potential sponsors are encouraged to act quickly in order to maximize their visibility/exposure. All-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and three-wheelers are strictly prohibited from participating in the parade.

The organization is actively seeking volunteers for Parade Day. Please email for more information at [mlktulsa@gmail.com](mailto:mlktulsa@gmail.com). Volunteer opportunities will be posted on the website as details become available.

### **About the MLK Jr. Commemoration Society**

The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration Society, Inc. is a Tulsa, Oklahoma-based 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization focused on honoring and preserving the works and ideals that Dr. King practiced. The society has provided programming, leadership development, civic engagement and opportunities for artistic expression involving more than 20,000 boys and girls in Tulsa County and the surrounding area since it was founded in 1978. The Society has awarded \$120,000 in scholarships over the past three decades to local high school graduates aspiring to achieve Dr. King's dream.

Tax-deductible donations to the MLK Scholarship Fund or the Celebration may be made without participating in the parade. Any amount is sincerely appreciated. Donations of \$25 or more will receive a special letter of appreciation. Checks should be made out to "MLK Commemoration Society" and mailed to P.O. Box 14025; Tulsa, OK 74159-1025.

For parade information, sponsorship inquiries or volunteer opportunities, please visit [www.mlktulsa.com](http://www.mlktulsa.com), call 918-492-9495 or email at [mlktulsa@gmail.com](mailto:mlktulsa@gmail.com).

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