

Black History 365

January: The third Monday in January is recognized as Martin Luther King Jr. Day. This day is observed as a national federal holiday and national day of service in honor of his memory.

Readings



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

This [encyclopedia entry from Britannica](#) provides a brief introduction to the life and legacy of this icon.



MLK Day: A National Day of Service

In 1994, Congress passed a bill to dedicate the national holiday as a national day of service. [Learn more in this multimedia PBS article.](#)



Dr. Martin Luther King on Health Care Injustice

Dr. King once said, "Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health is the most shocking and inhuman." Physicians for a National Health Program (PNHP) shares [more on Dr. King's health advocacy legacy.](#)

FUN FACT

Multiple Black Greek Letter Organizations in the "Divine 9" celebrate their Founders' Days in January.

January 5th – Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

January 9th – Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.

January 13th – Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

January 15th – Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

January 16th – Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.



Multimedia

- [A Picture Book of Martin Luther King Jr., read aloud](#) (David Adler)
- [Six Podcasts to listen to for MLK Day](#) (NPR)



TV / Videos / Streaming

- [Roots](#) starring John Amos, Louis Gossett Jr. and Levar Burton (premiered January 23, 1977)
- [Genius: MLK/X](#)



Jams

- [I Wish I Knew How It Would Feel to Be Free](#) (Nina Simone)
- [We Shall Overcome](#) (Larry Goldings)