2012 MLK DAY WORKSHOPS

1. **Brother Outsider: The Life of Bayard Rustin**

   Brother Outsider: The life of Bayard Rustin is the definitive film biography of one of the most controversial figures of the Civil Rights Movement. He was one of the first “freedom riders, an advisor to Dr. Martin Luther King and A. Philip Randolph, organizer of the 1963 March on Washington, Intelligent, gregarious and charismatic, Rustin was denied his place in the limelight for one reason—he was gay. Film runs 83 minutes. Discussion will cover our understanding of both progressive movement and gay life in the 20th century America.

   **Facilitator:** Dina Mordeno, Lawrence Academy NGP Coordinator & co-advisor to the Gay Straight Alliance and Patrick Burns, President of Gay Straight Alliance.

2. **Brave New Voices**

   Brandishing both hip-hop sensibility and immaculate writing, BNV On Tour poets shock and electrify students and youth ever slanted towards apathy. They carry forward the oral tradition while redefining the canon, opening the doors for today’s young writers. Individually, BNV On Tour poets have garnered national attention from *Newsweek* to HBO's *Def Poetry Jam*; collectively, they form a renegade family of artists, activists, and educators – many while still in college themselves!

   **Brave New Voices**

   **Presenters:** Janine Simon and K-Swift of Brave New Voices

3. **A Day on Not a Day Off**

   “January 16, 2012 will mark the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. federal holiday. This milestone is a perfect opportunity for Americans to honor Dr. King’s legacy through service. The MLK Day of Service empowers individuals, strengthens communities, bridges barriers, creates solutions to social problems, and moves us closer to Dr. King’s vision of a beloved community.” Community Service Coordinator Megan Simon will lead a group of students in a community activity off campus. Workshop will be off campus for lunch and both A and B Sessions.

   **Facilitator:** Megan Simon Spanish teacher and Community Service Coordinator

4. **Come meet Monicah Kivaa**

   Come meet Monicah Kivaa, and hear her story. In 2008 Monicah came to the United States from Kenya to escape both her country’s violent unrest and to pursue her dream of an education. Her hope was to escape the cycle of poverty experienced by so many young women and men in her country. A group of women in Harvard Mass, who were determined to make a critical difference in the lives of women beginning one girl at a time, connected with Monicah in Kenya and brought her to the United States. She is now in her fourth year, at Assumption College in Worcester, pursuing her dream studying biotechnology, Mass.
In this workshop we will hear from Monicah about her journey and what it has meant for a young African woman to come to the United States and pursue what would have been impossible for her in Kenya. Dr. King had a dream, and that dream is being realized by this young Kenyan woman decades later in the United States.

Presenters: Monicah Kivaa and Hellie Swartwood.

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world. ...Nelson Mandela
With the help of many family and friends, Monicah has come from Kenya to the States so that she can pursue her dream of studying biology in the United States at Assumption College.

5. Food Not Bombs

Food Not Bombs shares free vegan and vegetarian meals with the hungry in over 1,000 cities around the world to protest war, poverty and the destruction of the environment. With over a billion people going hungry each day how can we spend another dollar on war? Co-founder, Brian Feigenbaum shares history of the non-profit, its impetus, and the work ahead.

Brian Feigenbaum is a graduate of Boston University Law School and a faculty member in the history and dance departments at Lawrence Academy.

6. Hip Hop Dancing

Students will learn basic Hip Hop moves and get a good workout. Athletic wear and sneakers are highly recommended. All levels are welcome and prior dancing training is not required.

Presenter: Jackie Henderson, Hip Hop Choreographer

7. Introduction to Salsa

Beginner class, designed to introduce you to basic salsa dancing footwork and partner work technique. No experience necessary. Partners are not required. Come prepared to move, listen to music, and have a great time! Lyndsay Thomson and Cordell Thorn took up salsa dancing a few years ago and haven’t looked back. They performed together at the Miami Salsa Rueda Congress in 2008, at the Boston Salsa Congress in 2009, and have done workshops at a number of AISNE events.

Presenter: Lyndsay Thomson & Cordell Thorn, Salsa Dancers-

8. Killing Us Softly 4: Advertising's Image of Women

Do you want to teach about portrayals of women in the media?
In this new, highly anticipated update of her pioneering Killing Us Softly series, the first in more than a decade, Jean Kilbourne takes a fresh look at how advertising traffics in distorted and destructive ideals of femininity. The film marshals a range of new print and television advertisements to lay bare a stunning pattern of damaging gender stereotypes -- images and messages that too often reinforce unrealistic, and unhealthy, perceptions of beauty, perfection, and sexuality. By bringing Kilbourne's groundbreaking analysis up to date, Killing Us Softly
4 stands to challenge a new generation of students to take advertising seriously, and to think critically about popular culture and its relationship to sexism, eating disorders, and gender violence. Film- 45 minutes followed by discussion.

**Facilitators:** Real Talk founders Emily Denault and Sydney Bagley and Ms. Alyssa MacMeekin Science Teacher and faculty advisor to Real Talk.

**9. Leadership 101**

Do you have what it takes? This interactive workshop discusses what every leader needs to know to be effective. The workshop provides students with essential skills and thinking needed to strengthen your leadership skills.

**Presenter:** Kimberly Poulin, Director of Academic Support

**10. Prom Night in Mississippi**

In 1997, Academy Award-winning actor Morgan Freeman offered to pay for the senior prom at Charleston High School in Mississippi under one condition: the prom had to be racially integrated. His offer was ignored. In 2008, Freeman offered again. This time the school board accepted, and history was made. Charleston High School had its first-ever integrated prom - in 2008. Until then, blacks and whites had had separate proms even though their classrooms have been integrated for decades. Canadian filmmaker Paul Saltzman follows students, teachers and parents in the lead-up to the big day. This seemingly inconsequential rite of passage suddenly becomes profound as the weight of history falls on teenage shoulders. We quickly learn that change does not come easily in this sleepy Delta town. Freeman's generosity fans the flames of racism - and racism in Charleston has a distinctly generational tinge. Some white parents forbid their children to attend the integrated prom and hold a separate white-only dance. "Billy Joe," an enlightened white senior, appears on camera in shadow, fearing his racist parents will disown him if they know his true feelings. PROM NIGHT IN MISSISSIPPI captures a big moment in a small town, where hope finally blossoms in black, white and a whole lot of taffeta. -David Courier, Sundance Film Festival

**Facilitator:** Maritza Menjiver, LA Coordinator of Student Activities

**11. The Real Deal about Stereotypes**

How do stereotypes impact our lives? This interactive workshop examines the power stereotypes have and provides tools to diffuse their power. By beginning the conversations on how to increase diversity awareness, this workshop explores how we most effectively coexist in a growing diverse world. This will be a highly interactive session, and attendees will be expected to participate to get the most benefit out of the workshop.

**Presenter:** Luigi Solla, Associate Director of College Counseling, Lawrence Academy and Courtney Cronin, a French teacher at Lawrence Academy.
12. The Truth over Fear:
In a globalized world where we are connected more easily than any other period of history, our mutual understanding of one another and our beliefs are the most important means to achieve peace and stability. Yet, 55% (Pew Research 2009) of the people in this country know nothing about Islam or have ever met a Muslim. Is it any wonder that Islamophobia dominates our thoughts, giving power to fear over the truth about Islam and the Muslims? In this workshop, expect to:
* Explore the basis for that fear
* Learn who are the radical Muslims and what the Qur'an says about violence
* Learn about the code words, "jihad" and "infidel"
* Address the issues surrounding the oppression

Mary Lahaj, Muslim Chaplin at Groton School

13. “Vincent Who?”
"Vincent Who?", a documentary that looks at the historic hate crime murder of Vincent Chin in Detroit and the current state of Asian American political empowerment. It has been screened at over 200 colleges, corporations and federal agencies (in four countries) and won the 2009 Media Award from the National Association for Multicultural Education.

Presenter: Curtis Chin is an award-winning writer and producer who has written for ABC, NBC, Fox, the Disney Channel and more. As a community activist, he co-founded the Asian American Writers Workshop and Asian Pacific Americans for Progress. In 2008, he served on Barack Obama's Asian American Leadership Council where he participated in helping the campaign reach out to the AAPI community. He has appeared on MSNBC, CNN, NPR, Newsweek and other media outlet.

14. Using Social Media Activism to Realize your Own Dream
This workshop will help students to understand how social activism is used across sites such as Facebook, Twitter and YouTube by organizations such as the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service. Students will use this model to help realize their own dreams through the creation of their own unique social media activism campaigns.

Presenter: Tomeeka Farrington is the founder and principal of Spotlight Communications, a full-service marketing communications corporation. She has led integrated marketing and public relations campaigns for corporate leaders such as Parsons Corporation, Wilbur Smith Associates, Design Continuum, The Massachusetts Health Data Consortium, The Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, and Reebok. As a result of her work, she has been called "Boston’s Public Relations Princess,” by the Boston Herald. She is the recipient of the Boston Business Journal’s “40 under 40,” award and was named one of “30 Extraordinary Bostonians” by the Boston Event Guide, and recently received the "Vision and Promise Award" by the National Council of Negro Women. She was also appointed by Governor Deval Patrick to the Board of the Massachusetts Children’s Trust Fund.