

Michael B. Elkins (director) is Chair of the Notre Dame de Namur Theatre Arts Department. He has been a part of NDNU since 1978. He has directed and produced over 250 stage productions at NDNU and throughout the Bay Area and Northern California. His most recent projects include *Lysistrata*, *The 1940's Radio Hour*, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Dead Man Walking*. He has performed the role of Ebenezer Scrooge for 20 years in the NDNU and Performance Group's annual productions of *Scrooge* and *The Music of Dickens' A Christmas Carol*. In recent years he has been awarded the George M. Keller Teaching Excellence Award and The Sister Catherine Julie Cunningham Teaching Projects Award at NDNU. In 2002 he received the Hillbarn theatre BRAVO award for outstanding service to the peninsula theatre community and the City of Belmont's William Chapman Ralston award for Outstanding Service to the Community.

Louis Jackson (Stokely Carmichael) graduated from Stanford University (91) with a BA in History and African and Afro-American Studies. He is currently a Research Assistant at the King Institute while moonlighting as a local spoken word artist and actor.

Thom Massey (Malcolm X) Thom Massey is the Associate Dean of Student Affairs at Stanford University. He manages Stanford's community centers and develops programs in mediation, communication, and affiliation within the Stanford student community.

Melvin Payne (Daddy King) started his acting career as a singer, performing with acts such as Stevie Wonder and the Whispers. He trained as an actor at ACT in San Francisco, and acted in plays in the Bay Area and New York, including New York's Henry Street Theater. He has appeared in commercials and co-starred in the feature film *Me & Mrs. Jones*, which won first place in the Hollywood film festival and was recently released on DVD.

September Penn (Alberta Williams King a.k.a. "Bunch") is a 1993 graduate of Virginia Tech. She is a singer and a songwriter and has been a praise and worship leader for about 10 years. She has coordinated and directed several youth and children's choirs in Maryland and Virginia and is currently singing with the University Singers and the Stanford Gospel Choir.

Special thanks to the Office of Religious Life for their co-sponsorship of this and other King Institute events.. The Rev. Joan Sanders, Associate Dean of Religious Life; Elena Yujuico, Operations Coordinator; Pam Bergman and Lyman Miller, Sound Engineers; Brandon Hunter, videographer; Ilya Arbatman, Robert DeSpain, and Alison Root, ushers; Louis Jackson, lead organizer; and Jake Dorman, layout.

Cover photo courtesy of Stanford News Service.



Passages of Martin Luther King **A Dramatic Reading**

Written by Clayborne Carson
Directed by Michael Elkins

Memorial Church, Stanford University

Sunday, January 15, 2006
Noon

Passages of Martin Luther King
A Dramatic Reading

Program

Musical Invocation	Guy and Candie Carawan
Introduction	Clayborne Carson
Dramatic Reading (excerpts)	<i>Passages of Martin Luther King</i>
Musical Selection	Guy and Candie Carawan

About the Performers:

Aldo Billingslea (Dr. King) is an Associate Professor of Theatre Arts at Santa Clara University and a professional actor. A member of Actor's Equity, Aldo has performed locally at Theatre Works, Marin Theatre Company, the Magic Theatre, Center Repertory Theatre, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, PlayGround, the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, and Marin Shakespeare Company. In addition, he has performed at the Dallas, Utah, Illinois and Oregon Shakespeare Festivals. While Aldo is a Backstage West, Dean Goodman Choice Award, and Bay Area Critic's Circle Award winner, one of the highlights of his career has been to work with Dr. Carson to deliver the words of Rev. Dr. King with Joan Baez in Stanford's Memorial Church as an act of protest in 2003.

Guy and Candie Carawan (musicians) are noted folksingers of the modern civil rights movement. Longtime activists for social justice, they are credited with popularizing "We Shall Overcome," the song that became the anthem of the movement. Throughout the 60s, 70s, 80s and 90s, the Carawans organized cultural workshops at Highlander and in the field, focused on civil rights, citizenship education in the Sea Islands, and coalfield and environmental organizing in Appalachia. They documented in recordings and in books Southern and Appalachian musical traditions, especially as they related to community struggles for justice.

Clayborne Carson (writer) is Professor of History at Stanford University and Director of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Research and Education Institute. He has been an author or consultant on many films, textbooks, and multimedia projects, and is the author of numerous books on Dr. King and the civil rights movement, including, *In Struggle: SNCC and the Black Awakening of the 1960's* (1981) and *The Autobiography of Martin Luther King, Jr.* (1998).

The Cast

Cast

Alberta "Bunch" King	September Penn
Daddy King	Melvin Payne
Coretta Scott King	Cristala Carter
Martin Luther King, Jr.	Aldo Billingslea
Malcolm X	Thom Massey
Stokely Carmichael	Louis Jackson

Cristala Carter (Coretta Scott King) is a graduate of Notre Dame de Namur University where she studied communication and theatre under the tutelage of Michael Elkins. Favorite past roles include Hippolyta in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and Carolyn in Harold Pinter's *The Problem*. Currently, Cristala is expressing her flare for the dramatic in the field of marketing and advertising, although her love for theatre remains close to her heart. She would like to thank her family and friends for their continued love and support, as well as Dr. Clayborne Carson and Michael Elkins for the opportunity to participate in this production.

Kay Carter (pianist) is a resident of the East Bay where she teaches 2nd grade in the Oakland Public Schools. She is the mother of Cristala, who plays Coretta, and a pianist at Saints' Rest Missionary Baptist Church.

(continued)