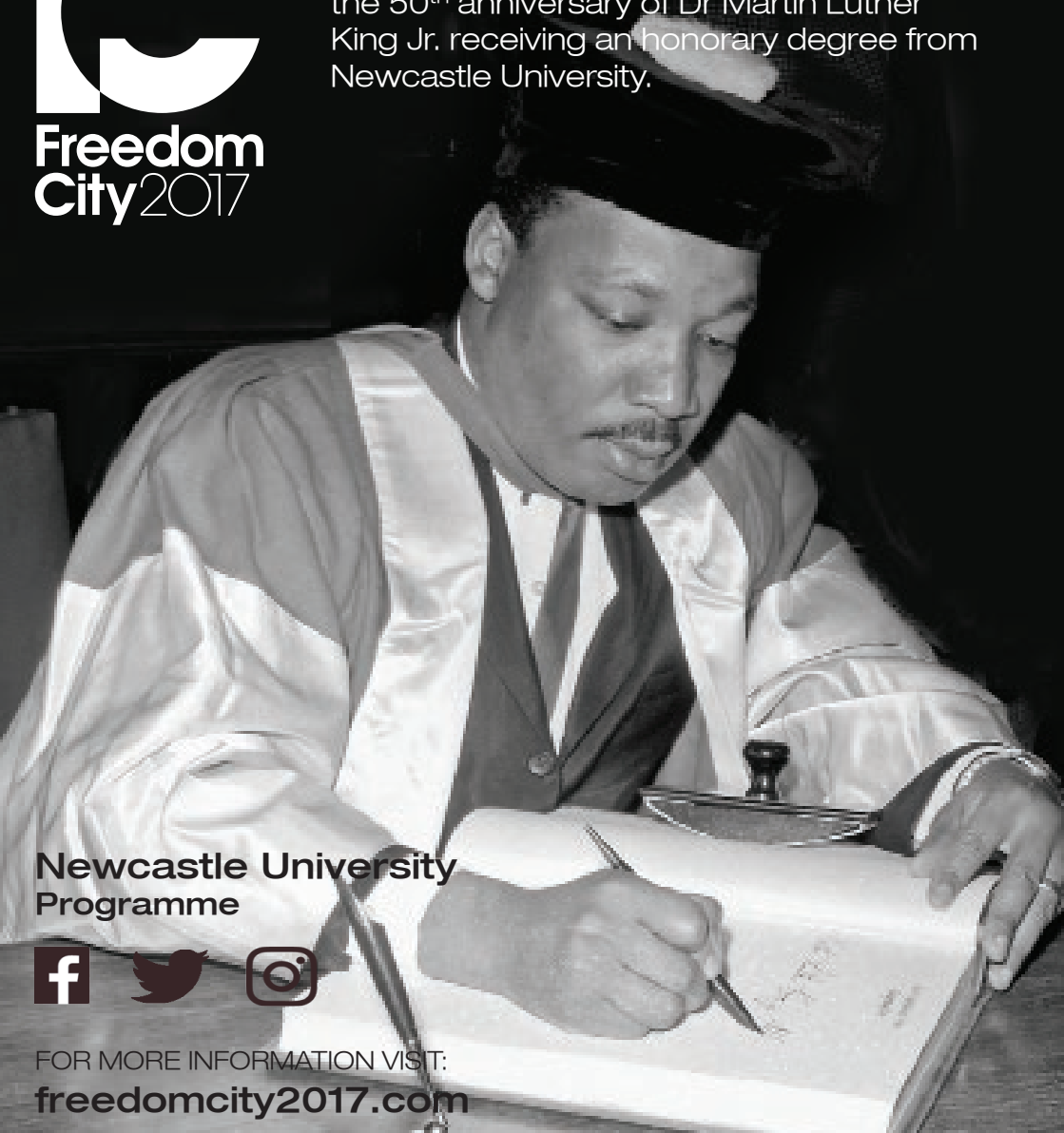




**Freedom
City**2017

Freedom City 2017 is a city-wide programme across Newcastle marking the 50th anniversary of Dr Martin Luther King Jr. receiving an honorary degree from Newcastle University.



**Newcastle University
Programme**



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:
freedomcity2017.com

Funded by



In addition to the city-wide cultural and engagement programmes, Freedom City 2017 includes a range of events as well as research and teaching projects led by Newcastle University, including:

June



Alumni Memories Project

Newcastle University alumni who were present at Dr King's honorary degree ceremony in 1967 have provided their memories of the occasion in a series of short films. Current students have also provided their views on the relevance of Dr King today and why it is important to remember his visit 50 years ago.

17 June



Insights Public Lecture

Dr Martin Luther King Jr. - his legacy in 2017 Curtis Auditorium, Newcastle University

Professor Tony Badger, Professor of American History, Northumbria University will deliver the Convocation Lecture 2017.

July



School's Educational Resource Pack

Working with school partners, academics at Newcastle and Northumbria universities have created a set of educational resources for primary and secondary schools to inspire a new generation to think about Dr King's legacy and the challenges of overcoming war, poverty and racism.

1 September - 30 November



To honour a Great and Good Man

Philip Robinson Library, Newcastle University

Archives from the University's Special Collections tell the story of Dr King's visit to Newcastle: what led to his nomination, the preparations for the visit and what happened on the day itself.

September - November



Freedom City Comic

Drawing on the expertise of academics at Newcastle University, a comics anthology will depict the people and stories associated with the civil rights history of the North East, from John Lilburne in the 17th century through to Dr King's honorary degree ceremony in Newcastle in 1967.

3 October



Insights Public Lecture

Curtis Auditorium, Newcastle University

Baroness Floella Benjamin OBE, working peer, children's campaigner, author and actress, will discuss 'Facing adversity with a smile'.

6 October - 1 December



Freedom!

Great North Museum: Hancock

Great North Museum: Hancock will host a film installation created by Newcastle University's Dr Ian McDonald and Dr Geetha Jayaraman, inspired by Dr King's visit to Newcastle.

6 October - 1 December



Not as it is written: Black Pittsburgh in voice and image

Great North Museum: Hancock

Newcastle University academic, Dr Ben Houston, has gathered hundreds of spoken recollections of race relations and the civil rights struggle in Pittsburgh, USA. These will be presented alongside historic photographs from the Charles 'Teenie' Harris archive held by the Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh.

October - November



Student Exhibition

School of Arts and Culture, Newcastle University

A multimedia exhibition on the theme of social justice, curated by and featuring the work of students from across the School and held on campus. The exhibition will build on the work of a student-led discussion group and a cross-school module on social justice in the arts.

1 November



The Austerity Playbook

Northern Stage

Can fairness be achieved in an age of austerity? A work-in-progress performance of a new musical based on research by academics at Newcastle and Durham universities, this project will highlight the challenges raised by austerity measures and the questions around the use and allocation of public resources.

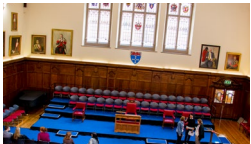
11 November



The Mighty Stream - poems in celebration of Martin Luther King

The launch of a new anthology of poems addressing the themes of Dr King's speech at Newcastle in 1967. This will be published by Bloodaxe Books and edited by Jackie Kay and Carolyn Forché.

13 November



Honorary Degree Ceremony

King's Hall, Newcastle University

On the anniversary of Dr King's visit to accept his honorary degree, a formal event will take place involving a leading advocate for civil rights who will deliver a speech responding to the themes that Dr King highlighted 50 years ago.

Mid November



Public art on campus

Newcastle University

Renowned sculptor, Nigel Boonham has been commissioned to create a stunning bronze statue of Dr Martin Luther King Jr. which will be unveiled on the Newcastle University campus.

16 November



Multi-faith Observance St Nicholas' Cathedral

In keeping with Dr King's view that love is 'the unifying principle in life', leaders of different faiths will come together in Newcastle city centre for a public demonstration of togetherness, followed by a service at St Nicholas' Cathedral. This is being co-ordinated by Newcastle University Chaplaincy.

26 November



Diverse Voices? Curating a national history of children's voices

Seven Stories, The National Centre for Children's Books

This one-day symposium, jointly hosted by Seven Stories and Newcastle University's Institute for Social Renewal, will consider issues around children's literature and race.

Looking back

Since we launched Freedom City 2017 on Martin Luther King Jr Day we've hosted an inspiring series of events, talks and conferences commemorating the themes of Dr King's speech. Highlights include:

- The University's hugely popular **Insights Public Lecture** programme has welcomed Reverend Jeffrey L Brown, Dame Vera Baird and Sara Bryon, Citizens UK.
- The **Inspirational BAME Women of the Law** event at Newcastle Law School heard from a range of speakers including Funke Abimbola and Professor Diamond Agiabor.
- **The Law & War Debate** explored if it is possible to honour Dr King's legacy of non-violence by using the power of the law to challenge new warfare practices and bring about a culture of peace.
- Freedom City 2017 featured at a special event in the Houses of Parliament to mark the **UN International Day for the Eradication of Racial Discrimination**.
- Prominent civil rights activists including Muzoon al-Mellelan and Dr Kehine Andrews took part in the **Martin Luther Who? conference** organised by students of the International Development Society.

FREEDOM ON THE TYNE SUNDAY 29 OCTOBER



A great drama will engulf NewcastleGateshead, inspired by Dr Martin Luther King Jr. and epic civic rights struggles from across the globe, both past and present. Out of the buildings and through the streets of NewcastleGateshead will come a unique afternoon of theatre, music, dance, circus and art to celebrate the courage and sacrifice of those who have led the long march for civil rights.

Starting from different locations across the city, the stories from Alabama 1963, India 1919, South Africa 1961, Manchester 1819, and Tyneside 1936 will be woven together in a unique immersive performance featuring a local cast of hundreds that will develop throughout the day. As night falls, an uplifting climax will bring the city to a standstill for a memorable moment of light, sound and theatre.

Find out more information at www.freedomcity2017.com