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Community Celebrating Diversity (CCD)

Join Us in Advancing Unity Through Diversity

At the heart of our mission is a belief in the power of human connection. The Community Celebrating Diversity (CCD) exists to **enhance the understanding and perception of diversity**, create space to **recognize both our shared humanity and our meaningful differences**, and build a culture grounded in **respect, inclusion, and unity**.

Through initiatives like the **MLK Celebration**, **Youth Voices**, **Diversity Champion awards**, **Youth Scholarships**, and **Scottsdale Leadership Diversity Day**, we celebrate the voices, stories, and contributions that strengthen our communities. We also proudly collaborate with other local diversity and inclusion programs to amplify our collective impact.

This is more than a program -it's a mission. One that calls each of us to show up, listen, learn, and lead.

Join us. Be part of building a future where every voice is heard, every difference is respected, and every person belongs.





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32nd Annual MLK Celebration | January 15, 2026

Theme: Shaping our future with courage and compassion

Community Celebrating Diversity's (CCD) 32nd annual **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration** is one of Scottsdale's most meaningful signature events, born from the vision of founders Sandra Rembrandt, Art DeCabooter, Cindy Slick and Don Logan. What began as a local alternative to valley-wide celebrations has grown into a powerful evening that brings together civic leaders, educators, students, and community members to honor Dr. King's legacy of equality, justice, and peace. The celebration features **nationally recognized speakers**, dynamic cultural presentations, and the honoring our Diversity Champions. CCD recognizes individuals who exemplify Dr. King's principles by empowering others and promoting equity in our community. This year's event structure has been intentionally designed to create space for community leaders to connect and collaborate. with small plates served before the program and dessert offered afterward, **allowing for valuable dialogue and relationship-building around advancing diversity and inclusion in our community.**

Proceeds from the event directly support CCD's **\$2,500 youth scholarships**, awarded annually to up to six high school and SCC students who demonstrate academic achievement, leadership, and a commitment to community service. To encourage innovation and scientific achievement, two scholarships are dedicated to students pursuing STEM careers. Since 2007, **more than \$165,000 in scholarships** have been awarded to over 69 deserving students.

Youth Voices

CCD partners with the Scottsdale Unified School District to present the Youth Voices program, giving area students a chance to hear from our MLK keynote speaker and engage in meaningful conversations about civil rights, social justice, and leadership. Over the years, more than 28,000 middle and high school students have participated, making it one of the largest youth-focused diversity education events in the region.

By bringing Dr. King's message directly into schools, Youth Voices helps inspire the next generation of change-makers and ensures that the principles of inclusion and equity remain a priority in our educational institutions.

students receive consideration without regards to race, color, national origin, sex, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or economic background.



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Youth Scholarship

Community Celebrating Diversity also provides a scholarship, which is funded by the corporate sponsors of the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. celebration. CCD sponsors up to six \$2,500 scholarships to high school graduates and SCC students who show promise of continued excellence in academics and community service. Since 2007, over 69 students have been awarded a total of \$165,000 in scholarships. Awards will be granted based on academic achievement, demonstrated community service, financial need, and an essay on the importance of respecting diversity. The selection criteria and procedures are designed to ensure that all eligible students receive consideration without regards to race, color, national origin, sex, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or economic background.

Diversity Champions

Each year, CCD honors **Diversity Champions**. These are individuals who embody the spirit of Dr. King and actively enrich their communities by advancing inclusion, equity, and empowerment. More than **63 champions** have been recognized for their work across education, public service, and advocacy. Their stories serve as powerful examples of how ordinary citizens can make extraordinary contributions.

Diversity Dialogue Event

In addition to MLK events, CCD is expanding its community engagement through the **Diversity Dialogue Community Event**, an interactive public forum designed to foster open conversations, shared understanding, and actionable solutions around topics of race, equity, and belonging.

Where do we go from here? CCD invites you to be part of our journey, as these events reflect our year-round commitment to diversity and inclusion, not just in words, but through meaningful action.



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SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

Gold Sponsor –\$20,000

- Representative gives welcoming remarks at the **MLK Celebration Event** *January 15, 2026*
- Premier recognition in all printed and electronic materials for both the **MLK Celebration Event** and **Voices event**
- **2 Scholarships** awarded in their name at the scholarship event
- Prominent logo placement on the **CCD website** and **social media**
- Premier logo recognition on-site at both events
- **30 guest passes** for the MLK Celebration Event
- Verbal recognition and Banner placement during CCD remarks at the Celebration Event

Silver Sponsor – \$15,000

- Representative gives welcoming remarks at the **MLK Celebration Event** *January 15, 2026*
- Recognition in all printed and electronic materials for both the **MLK Celebration Event** and **Voices event**
- **2 Scholarships** awarded in their name at the scholarship event
- Logo recognition on the **CCD website** and **social media**
- Prominent logo visibility at both events
- **20 guest passes** for the MLK Celebration Event
- Verbal recognition during CCD remarks at the Celebration Event

Bronze Sponsor – \$6,000

- Recognition in printed and electronic materials for both the **MLK Celebration Event** and **Voices event**
- **1 Scholarship** awarded in their name at the scholarship event
- Logo featured on the **CCD website** and displayed at both events
- **10 guest passes** for the MLK Celebration Event

Program Sponsor – \$4,250

- Recognition in printed and digital materials for either the **MLK Celebration Event** *or* the **Voices event**
- **1 Diversity** award winner
- Logo on **CCD website** and displayed at the selected event
- **10 guest passes** for the MLK Celebration Event

Supporter Sponsor – \$2,250

- **10 guest passes** to the **MLK Celebration Event**
- Logo included in the printed program for the event

Please contact Travon Sawyer and Ebony Kizzee at tsawyer@axon.com or ekizzee@axon.com to secure sponsorship opportunities.