The session will start shortly. Please note:

- Your video and audio will automatically turn off.
- You can participate through the Q&A function.
- If you have technical difficulties, please email collectionprograms@gilderlehrman.org so we can assist you.
Our Team

- Sandy Trenholm - Collection Director
- Jermain Corbin - Educator at the Condon K-8 School in South Boston
- Bryson Bruce - Lafayette/ Jefferson in the National Tour of Hamilton
- Meagan Jenkins - Curatorial Intern
- Zoya Siddiqui - Curatorial Intern
During the Session

- If you would like to ask a question, you can use the Q&A feature.
- We will be answering audience questions throughout the session.

For Security and Privacy

- Your microphone is automatically muted.
- Your camera is automatically turned off.
Today’s Documents

- Preparation Packet from Medical Committee for Civil Rights, 1963
- Excerpt from Martin Luther King Jr.’s speech
- Excerpt from John Lewis’s speech
- *In Freedom’s Vanguard, Report for 1963*
- *Pacific Stars and Stripes, August 30, 1963*
1941 - A. Philip Randolph called for a march on Washington to end segregation in defense industry
  ● Cancelled when FDR issued an executive order forming the Fair Employment Practices Commission
1957 - 25,000 participated in Prayer Pilgrimage for Freedom
1958 – 10,000 people participated in Youth March for Integrated Schools
Planning the march

- Organizers knew it had to be highly organized in order to be successful.
- Over 200 people helped Bayard Rustin organize the march.
- Rustin trained marshals to help guide the crowd, created an organizing manual, raised money, and coordinated transportation.
- It took less than three months to plan.
- Sponsored by five main civil rights organizations
  - National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
  - Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)
  - National Urban League
  - Student Non-Violent Coordination Committee (SNCC)
  - Congress of Racial Equality (CORE)
The March on Washington

- Took place on August 28, 1963
- Combined:
  - A. Philip Randolph’s march for jobs
  - MLK’s march for freedom
- Over 250,000 people attended
  - Original estimate was 100,000 attendees
- Speakers included Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., A. Philip Randolph, and a 23-year-old John Lewis
- Event was peaceful
- After the march, organizers met with President Kennedy and Vice President Johnson
Dr. Clayborne Carson

Ronnie Lott Director of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Research and Education Institute & Martin Luther King, Jr. Centennial Professor of History
**Please respond immediately**

**Medical Committee for Civil Rights**  
P.O. Box 999, Madison Square Station  
New York 10, N.Y.

☐ I will participate in the March on Washington, August 28 as part of the medical group. I (will) (will not) need financial help.

☐ I will be accompanied by (my spouse) (one child) (_ children).  
(No children under 16)

☐ (1) (we) will attend the medical group luncheon.

☐ (1) (we) will travel with the MCCB train from Pennsylvania Station, N.Y.C. to Washington.

☐ (1) (we) will travel with the MCCB plane from La Guardia Airport, N.Y.C. to Washington.

☐ I am enclosing $____ to help pay for the transportation costs of those who will need financial help in order to participate in the March.

Send me copies of the March information sheet and form, which I will distribute to other health workers who might like to join the March.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lunch</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>@ $5.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Train fare</td>
<td>@ $9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plane fare</td>
<td>@ $24.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contribution</th>
<th>Total Enclosed</th>
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</table>

☐ I enclose $____ (signature)  
(prof. deg.)

Name: ____________________________  
(please type or print)

Address: ____________________________

Telephone: ____________________________

Please send the March information sheet and form to:

Name: ____________________________  
Name: ____________________________  
Name: ____________________________  
Name: ____________________________  
Name: ____________________________  
Address: ____________________________  
Address: ____________________________  
Address: ____________________________  
Address: ____________________________  
Address: ____________________________

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**INFORMATION FOR THOSE TRAVELLING WITH THE MEDICAL COMMITTEE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Carefully read these instructions, then refer any questions to your group captain.

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:**

- **10 A.M.** Approximate time of arrival at the Willard Hotel in Washington, D.C.
- **11 A.M.** Luncheon at the Occidental Restaurant.
- **12:15 P.M.** Meeting of Medical Committee for Civil Rights.
- **1:15 P.M.** March to join the day's scheduled activities.
- **1:45 P.M.** Rally at Washington Memorial.
- **2:00 P.M.** March to Lincoln Memorial.
- **4:00 P.M.** Rally at Lincoln Memorial.

1. Those marching with MCCB, who are not scheduled to lunch with MCCB, will report to the MCCB headquarters in the Willard Hotel immediately upon arrival, to receive instructions for the 11 A.M. marching time scheduled by MCCB.

**LUNCH & LUNCHEON:** Those travelling by train who have registered for the luncheon/meeting will receive their reservations from their group captains. Those travelling by plane will report to the desk in our headquarters to receive their reservations. Those who have brought their lunches and who are marching with the Medical Committee for Civil Rights may eat their lunches in the MCCB headquarters, and join the meeting at the Occidental Restaurant at noon.

2. **PAPER WORK DURING TRAVEL TIME:** In order to avoid registrations, etc. in Washington, your group captains will ask you to do the following: You will be given two index cards, one blank, and one with Medical Committee for Civil Rights stamped on it. You will fill each out with the following information: NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, PROFESSION. And, (if you have) A.M.S. If you are not A.M.S., please PRINT. One set of these index cards will go to March on Washington headquarters for their mailing list, and the other will be for our records and mailing list.

**MCCB HEADQUARTERS IN WASHINGTON** The Willard Hotel, Pennsylvania Avenue 5th Street, (202) NA 4420, will be staffed continuously from 8:00 P.M. August 27th until 8:00 A.M. August 28th. Questions may be addressed to Miss Green Russell, or Mrs. Gertrude Barron-Russell at the office. We will have on hand a listing of medical doctors licensed to practice in Washington, D.C., who will be available for emergency situations. Call the office if any situation comes up wherein this service is needed.

**MEETING AT THE OCCIDENTAL RESTAURANT:** We will discuss the future role of the health professions in the civil rights movement, and briefly describe projects both planned and in progress. Among the speakers will be: Dr. Kenneth Clement, President of the National Medical Association, Dr. Mathews, President of the National Dental Association, and representatives of the various health fields from the Medical Committee for Civil Rights. The meeting will be chaired by Dr. John L. Holland, Chairman of the MCCB.

At 1 P.M. instructions will be given from the chair as to marching procedures and route. We will begin marching at 1:15 to join the first scheduled rally at the Washington Memorial.

**SIGNS:** We have had signs printed which have the professional designations M.D., D.D.S., and R.N. Respectively. You will march under the sign which carries your professional designation. If you are not among any of these categories, you will march under MCCB signs without any designation. Try to stay with the group during the remainder of the day's proceedings.

**SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES:** Rally at the Washington Memorial, March down Pennsylvania Avenue, Main rally at the Lincoln Memorial.
WE SHALL OVERCOME

1. We shall overcome, we shall overcome
   We shall overcome some day.
   Oh, deep in my heart I do believe
   We shall overcome some day.

2. Truth will make us free, truth will make us free
   Truth will make us free some day.
   Oh, deep in my heart I do believe
   Truth will make us free some day.

3. We are not afraid, we are not afraid
   We are not afraid today
   Oh, deep in my heart I do believe
   We are not afraid today.

4. The Lord will see us through,
   The Lord will see us through,
   The Lord will see us through some day.
   Oh, deep in my heart I do believe
   The Lord will see us through some day.

5. We'll walk hand in hand,
   We'll walk hand in hand,
   We'll walk hand in hand some day.
   Oh, deep in my heart I do believe
   We'll walk hand in hand some day.

6. Black and white together,
   Black and white together,
   Black and white together some day.
   Oh, deep in my heart I do believe
   Black and white together some day.

REPRISE:   We shall overcome, we shall overcome
           We shall overcome some day.
           Oh, deep in my heart I do believe
           We shall overcome some day.
Goals of the march

APPENDIX I-B

Demands of the March on Washington

1. Comprehensive and effective civil rights legislation from the present Congress—without compromise or filibuster—to guarantee all Americans:
   access to all public accommodations
   decent housing
   adequate and integrated education
   the right to vote

2. Withholding of Federal funds from all programs in which discrimination exists.

3. Desegregation of all school districts in 1963.

4. Enforcement of the Fourteenth Amendment—reducing Congressional representation of states where citizens are disfranchised.

5. A new Executive Order banning discrimination in all housing supported by Federal funds.

6. Authority for the Attorney General to institute injunctive suits when any constitutional right is violated.

7. A massive Federal program to train and place all unemployed workers—Negro and white—on meaningful and dignified jobs at decent wages.

8. A national minimum wage act that will give all Americans a decent standard of living. (Government surveys show that anything less than $2.00 an hour fails to do this.)

9. A broadened Fair Labor Standards Act to include all areas of employment which are presently excluded.

10. A Federal Fair Employment Practices Act barring discrimination by federal, state, and municipal governments, and by employers, contractors, employment agencies, and trade unions.
Martin Luther King Jr.’s Speech

“Five score years ago, a great American, in whose symbolic shadow we stand today, signed the Emancipation Proclamation. This momentous decree came as a great beacon light of hope to millions of Negro slaves who had been seared in the flames of withering injustice. It came as a joyous daybreak to end the long night of their captivity.

“But one hundred years later, the Negro still is not free. One hundred years later, the life of the Negro is still sadly crippled by the manacles of segregation and the chains of discrimination. One hundred years later, the Negro lives on a lonely island of poverty in the midst of a vast ocean of material prosperity. One hundred years later, the Negro is still languished in the corners of American society and finds himself an exile in his own land. And so we've come here today to dramatize a shameful condition.

“In a sense we’ve come to our nation’s capital to cash a check. When the architects of our republic wrote the magnificent words of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, they were signing a promissory note to which every American was to fall heir. This note was a promise that all men, yes, black men as well as white men, would be guaranteed the ‘unalienable Rights’ of ‘Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.’”

Source: npr.org/2010/01/18/122701268/i-have-a-dream-speech-in-its-entirety
“We march today for jobs and freedom, but we have nothing to be proud of. For hundreds and thousands of our brothers are not here, for they are receiving starvation wages, or no wages at all. While we stand here, there are sharecroppers in the Delta of Mississippi who are out in the fields working for less than three dollars a day, twelve hours a day. While we stand here there are students in jail on trumped-up charges. Our brother James Farmer, along with many others, is also in jail. We come here today with a great sense of misgiving.”

“To those who have said, ‘Be patient and wait,’ we have long said that we cannot be patient. We do not want our freedom gradually, but we want to be free now! We are tired. We are tired of being beaten by policemen. We are tired of seeing our people locked up in jail over and over again, and then you holler, ‘Be patient.’ How long can we be patient? We want our freedom and we want it now.

“We do not want to go to jail. But we will go to jail if this is the price we must pay for love, brotherhood, and true peace. I appeal to all of you to get into this great revolution that is sweeping this nation. Get in and stay in the streets of every city, every village and hamlet of this nation until true freedom comes, until the revolution of 1776 is complete. We must get in this revolution and complete the revolution. For in the Delta in Mississippi, in southwest Georgia, in the Black Belt of Alabama, in Harlem, in Chicago, Detroit, Philadelphia, and all over this nation, the black masses are on the march for jobs and freedom.”

Source: billmoyers.com/content/two-versions-of-john-lewis-speech/#original
“[The March] will be orderly, but not subservient,” they said. “It will be non-violent, but not timid. It will be unified in purposes and behavior, not splintered into groups and individual competitors. It will be outspoken, but not raucous.”

Mrs. Daisy Bates, heroine of Little Rock and NAACP Board member, paid tribute to the Negro women who have been fighters for freedom and pledged their continuing support until full freedom is won. Mrs. Diane Nash Bevel, Mrs. Herbert Lee, Mrs. Rosa Parks and Mrs. Gloria Richardson were cited for their past contributions. Mrs. Medgar Evers, widow of the slain NAACP Field Secretary for Mississippi, also cited, was unable to be present.

At the conclusion of the day’s events, the 10 leaders of the March met with President Kennedy for a 75-minute conference. As with the Congressional leaders, Mr. Wilkins led the group’s discussion on the legislative issue.
200,000 March in Capital

WASHINGTON (AP) — More than 200,000 Negroes and whites staged a giant, orderly march for jobs and freedom Wednesday—a demonstration they hoped would lead to a historic breakthrough all along the American civil rights front.

In balmy 81-degree weather and a friendly breeze, they walked from the Washington Monument to the Lincoln Memorial, forming a $5 million human chain of more than 340,000 people.

Marchers ranged in age from 80 to 15 and included civil rights leaders, religious leaders, union leaders, labor leaders, teachers, bankers, farmers, students, business leaders and others.

They carried signs and banners in support of the movement and were heard chanting: "We shall overcome," "I have a dream," "Free at last!" and "Hey, Hey, LBJ, how many more kids must die?"

August 30, 1963
WASHINGTON (AP)—More than 200,000 Negroes and whites staged a giant, orderly “march for jobs and freedom” Wednesday—a demonstration they hoped would lead to a historic breakthrough all along the American civil rights front.

Marlon Brando was there, too, carrying with him a cattle prod of a type he said has been used in some places to make civil rights demonstrators move on. “This instrument will burn you,” he said. “I’ve seen the scars on people.

“But we must not believe that Southern people are entirely responsible. We are all responsible, East and West too.”

Despite advance predictions by critics of possible wholesale disorder, the marchers—black and white, Protestants, Catholics and Jews—were studiously polite to one and all.
We have witnessed today in Washington tens of thousands of Americans—both Negro and white—exercising their right to assemble peaceably and direct the widest possible attention to a great national issue. Efforts to secure equal treatment and equal opportunity for all without regard to race, color, creed or nationality are neither novel nor difficult to understand. What is different today is the intensified and widespread public awareness of the need to move forward in achieving these objectives—objectives which are older than this nation.

Although this summer has seen remarkable progress in translating civil rights from principles into practices, we have a very long way yet to travel. One cannot help but be impressed with the deep fervor and the quiet dignity that characterizes the thousands who have gathered in the nation’s capital from across the country to demonstrate their faith and confidence in our democratic form of government. History has seen many demonstrations—of widely varying character and for a whole host of reasons. As our thoughts travel to other demonstrations that have occurred in different parts of the world, this nation can properly be proud of the demonstration that has occurred here today. The leaders of the organizations sponsoring the march and all who have participated in it deserve our appreciation for the detailed preparations that made it possible and for the orderly manner in which it has been conducted.
“NOW WHAT? The nation has reason to heave a sigh of relief. The massive Negro march on Washington went off in a peaceful manner, and its smaller counterpart in Austin was a mild affair. Only a handful of whites showed up in Austin for the Indignant White Citizens march. We are pleased that the white people in Austin showed good judgement. In Washington, a number of Negro speakers at the Lincoln Memorial criticized congress and even President Kennedy for not doing more towards civil rights. The crowd was estimated at more than 175,000. Those in charge of that massive march are entitled to congratulations for excellent organization. Now we’ll see what good it does.”

El Paso Times, August 29, 1963
• Registration now open!
• Classes for students grades K-12
  ○ Hamilton Cast Read Along (elementary-age students and families)
  ○ History Camp: Life in Colonial Times (3rd-5th grade)
  ○ Immigration and the American Story (6th-12th grade)
  ○ History in the Making (6th-12th grade)
  ○ The Global Cold War (6th-12th grade)
  ○ APUSH: The Remix (9th-12th grade)
  ○ AP US Government and Politics: Foundational Documents (9th-12th grade)
Upcoming Programs

● **Inside the Vault**, Thursday, June 17 at 7 p.m. ET (4 p.m. PT)
  ○ We will be discussing Fighting for the Rights of Black Lives in the Founding Era.

● **Book Breaks**, June 6 at 2 p.m. ET (11 a.m. PT)
  ○ Carolyn Eastman discusses her book *The Strange Genius of Mr. O: The World of the United States’ First Forgotten Celebrity*