

# 12th Annual MLK Breakfast

## World of Wellesley to Celebrate Diversity on January 18

BY DAVE HALPERIN

January 18, 2012 will mark the 28th time that Martin Luther King Jr. Day has been celebrated as a national holiday. It will also feature the 12th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day Breakfast, hosted by World of Wellesley (WOW) and taking place at Sun Life Financial, 1 Sun Life Place from 8:30-10 a.m.

The 2012 Breakfast features guest speaker Fayneese Miller, dean of the college of Education and Social Services and professor Human Development, Educational Leadership and Social Policy at the University of Vermont. She is also Chair of the Vermont State Board of Education.

The choice of Miller relates to a theme of education for this year's Breakfast, which coincides with an overall celebration of education in Wellesley because of the opening of the new high school. Additional Breakfast appearances include performances by the Wellesley High School Thunder Step Squad dancers and the Wellesley Choral Society; and WOW will present their annual Advancing Race Re-



Fayneese Miller is the MLK Breakfast featured speaker.

lations Award. Past recipients include Roche Bros. and Wellesley METCO.

Overall it's a chance to celebrate the message of Dr. King.

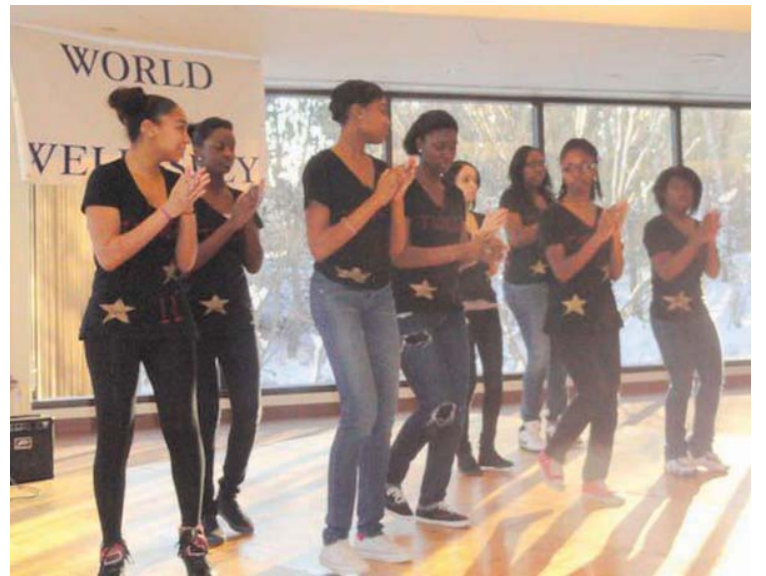
"It really fits very well with the mission of the World of Wellesley, which is to recognize and celebrate diversity and civil rights," said Breakfast committee member Melissa Clemence, "and Martin Luther King Jr. was obviously a hero in that regard."

Adds Chairman of the World of Wellesley Board of Directors Richard McGhee, "We are all about diversity... and [Martin Luther King Jr.] was the person who led the nation in understanding the ills of discrimination and prejudice and he also pushed hard for most, if not all, of the civil rights legislation that came about in that period of time."

McGhee himself has been a part of that movement for many years, having worked with the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination, for whom he coordinated the Human Rights Commission program. Moreover, he met Dr. King back in 1963 during a march sponsored by the United Auto Workers in Detroit.

Times have changed since the '60s, but the focus for World of Wellesley echoes that era. In addition to the Breakfast, the group will contribute to the community that day through a service project. Service projects from past years include volunteering at the Wellesley Food Pantry and painting a women's shelter.

Tickets for the annual MLK Breakfast are \$25, and are available at the door only.



The Wellesley High School Thunder Step Squad dancers at a previous year's MLK Breakfast.



The Wellesley Choral Society will perform on January 18.

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