

The CEA Voice

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This Year's King Dinner Speaker: Roland Martin

Get ready for an inspiring evening of recognition and remembrance. This year, at our annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards Dinner, we feature keynote speaker Roland Martin. Martin is a nationally syndicated columnist with Creators Syndicate, and is senior analyst for the "Tom Joyner Morning Show," where his daily segment is heard on more than 100 stations by 8 million people daily.



Roland Martin

He is the author of three books: *Listening to the Spirit Within: 50 Perspectives on Faith*; *Speak, Brother! A Black Man's View of America* and *The First: President Barack Obama's Road to the White House as originally reported by Roland S. Martin*.

He has contributed to several others, including: *The Paradox of Loyalty: An African American Response to the War on Terrorism* by Julianne Malveaux and *Black Woman Redefined: Dispelling Myths and Discovering Fulfillment in the Age of Michelle Obama* by Sophia Nelson.

When *Jet Magazine* readers voted in 2012 for who is "King of the Hill" among African-American news sources, Martin was No. 1. In 2013, the National Association of Black Journalists named Martin the Journalist of the Year for his extensive focus on voter suppression and other issues of concern to African Americans during the 2012 election.

Martin is the former executive editor/general manager of the *Chicago Defender*, the nation's most historic Black newspaper. He is a 1987 graduate of Jack Yates High School-Magnet School of Communications, and a 1991 graduate of Texas A&M University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Journalism. In May 2008, Martin received a Master's Degree in Christian Communications from Louisiana Baptist University.

The Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards Dinner is set for Thursday, Jan. 15, at the Hyatt Regency Columbus. During the evening we honor the memory of Dr. King, and we also present awards to individuals who exemplify the spirit of his work. This event is always well attended so make sure you purchase your tickets early. Tickets are \$30 each with tables of eight at \$240. Contact CEA to reserve a seat.

This Week is OUR Week

American Education Week, sponsored by the National Education Association, is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate public education and honor individuals who are making a difference in ensuring that every child receives a quality education.



The first observance was December 4–10, 1921, with

the NEA and American Legion as co-sponsors. A year later, the then U.S. Office of Education joined the effort as a co-sponsor.

Other co-sponsors include the U.S. Department of Education and national organizations such as the National PTA, the American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, the American Association of School Administrators, the National School Boards Association, the American Federation of Teachers, the American School Counselor Association, the Council of Chief State School Officers, the National School Public Relations Association, the National Association of State Boards of Education, the National Association of Elementary School Principals and the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

This is a great time to make the public aware of all that we do in the classroom. You may want to invite parents and community leaders for a special visit.

Let's not forget our OAPSE brothers and sisters who keep our schools running and our students safe and healthy. Go to <http://www.nea.org/grants/53143.htm> to get some great banners and posters.

Honoring the Original 'Americans'

November is National Native American Heritage

Month. It recognizes and honors the original people of the United States and addresses the future of



American Indian/Alaskan Native children. This is the perfect time to teach about these cultures, honoring their contributions and drawing attention to an often-unrecognized group of families within our own school district.

The commemoration began in 1916 after Red Fox James, a member of the Blackfoot tribe, rode horseback from state to state in the hope of gaining support for a day of tribute. The first group to adopt the annual observance was the Boy Scouts of America, followed by the state of New York. In 1976, Jerry Elliott (High Eagle of the Cherokee/Osage tribe) authored congressional legislation that was signed by President Gerald R. Ford.

Below are some well-known people within this culture:

♦ **Graham Greene**, actor, born June 22, 1952, on Six Nations Indian Reserve, Brantford, Ontario, Canada. Greene began his theatrical career as a sound engineer, made his acting debut on the London stage and won fame as Sioux wise man, Kicking Bird, in the film "Dances with Wolves." In the decade that followed, he acted in more than 30 films including, "Die Hard With a Vengeance" and "The Green Mile," and appeared in such television shows as "L.A. Law," "Northern Exposure" and "Wolf Creek." Greene, a full-blooded Oneida, lives in Toronto and does frequent televi-



sion, film, stage and voice work.

✧ **Jim Thorpe** (1888–1953), an American athlete, was born near Prague, Oklahoma. Thorpe was probably one of the greatest all-round male athletes the United States has ever produced. In the 1912 Olympic Games, Thorpe won the broad jump, the 200-meter and 1,500-meter runs of the pentathlon. He also won the shot put, the 1,500-meter run and the hurdle race of the decathlon.

✧ **Jaime Robbie Robertson**, the guitarist and principal songwriter for The Band, has been a major force in rock songwriting. He also has a long association with film director Martin Scorsese, composing for such films as “Raging Bull” and “The Color of Money,” and acting as executive music producer for “Gangs of New York.”

✧ **Maria Tallchief**, an American ballerina of Osage descent, was trained both as a pianist and as a dancer. Deciding on a career in ballet, she studied under Bronislava Nijinska, Ernest Belcher and George Balanchine. She performed with the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo from 1942 to 1947, when she joined the Ballet Society. Through 18 years as that company’s prima ballerina, and through her tours and television appearances with the American Ballet Theatre and other companies in the 1960s, Tallchief contributed greatly to the fame and prestige of American ballet.

Read more at <http://nativeamericanheritagemonth.gov>. Find lesson ideas at <http://nativeamericanheritagemonth.gov/teachers/index.html>.

Enough is Enough

On Monday, Nov. 10, the Operating Standards subcommittee of the State Board of Education voted to send an entire package of revised operating standards to the full board for a vote. Operating standards are a collection of minimum requirements that school districts and nonpublic schools must follow when managing their schools and educating students.

These standards were first created in 1957 and have been updated multiple times since their creation. However, this is the first time in many years they have been updated—and one proposed change is very troubling.

Of immediate concern is the proposal to eliminate the requirement of certain services in Section 5 of the Ohio Operating Standards, called the “Five of Eight” rule. Currently, the standard requires that “Educational service personnel shall be assigned to at least five of the eight following areas: counselor, library media specialist, school nurse, visiting teacher, social worker and elementary art, music and physical education.”

If the Board removes rules requiring Ohio’s schools to provide specific services that meet the needs of the whole child, school districts will have the incentive to focus personnel and other resources only on tested subjects.

What would Ohio’s schools look like without art, music, physical education, school counselors, school nurses, library media specialists or school social workers? The removal of this language would further reduce the educational opportunities available to Ohio’s students. Children from the poorest school districts—the ones who need these services the most—would be disproportionately affected. The State Board of Education is scheduled to vote on the Operating Standards revision at its meeting on Dec. 8–9.

CEA calls on every member to go to <http://bit.ly/keep5of8> and contact the members of the State Board of Education, asking them to preserve the “Five of Eight” rule.

It’s time to stand up for our students, their families, our communities and our profession. Keep reading *The CEA Voice* for updates on the “Five of Eight” rule.

Gainsharing Service Agreements Due

Gainsharing bonuses are awarded to schools that meet the criteria set forth by the Joint Gainsharing/PAS committee. The administrator and the Senior Faculty Representative verify the eligibility of CEA bargaining unit members for awards.

Teachers who are on special assignment and itinerant teachers who rotate to one or more schools may opt into the building goals by

preparing service plans. Note that the deadline for submitting Gainsharing service agreements for the 2014–2015 school year is Wednesday, Dec. 3, for members not assigned to schools on a full-time basis. This form is available on the CCS intranet and the CEA website in the “Forms” section.

We All Grow Together

We thank our Faculty Representatives for attending the FR workshop. You are all serving a very important role within the Association. You are the voice of our members. The workshops are a great opportunity to grow in your knowledge and skill as you help CEA members understand and protect their negotiated rights. You are also advocates for improving the quality of teaching. We are delighted to help you further develop your skills at problem-solving, mobilizing and advocating on behalf of CEA. We can’t do it without you. The following buildings/units attended the workshop:

Alpine ES, Art, Berwick K–8, Briggs HS, Broadleigh ES, Burroughs ES, CAHS, Cassady ES, CEA, Cedarwood ES, Centennial HS, Colerain ES, Columbus Africentric EC SS, Columbus Downtown HS, Columbus International HS 7–12, Como ES, East Columbus ES, East HS, Eastgate ES, Easthaven ES, Eastmoor Acad. HS, École Kenwood K–6, Fairmoor ES, Fairwood K–6, Forest Park ES, Ft. Hayes Arts & Academic HS, Gables ES, Guidance Counselors, Hilltonia MS, Hudson St. Warehouse, Indianola Informal K–8, Johnson Park MS, Linden STEM Acad. K–6, Linden-McKinley STEM 7–12, Livingston K–6, Marion-Franklin HS, Medina MS, Mifflin HS, Mifflin MS, Music, Neil Avenue Ctr., Northland HS, Northtowne ES, Nurses, Oakland Park ES, Oakmont ES, OT/PT, PAR, Psychologists, Salem ES, Scottwood ES, Sherwood MS, Starling K–8, Walnut Ridge HS, Watkins ES, Weinland Park ES, West HS, West Mound ES, Westmoor MS, Whetstone HS, Windsor STEM Acad. PreK–6, Winterset ES, Woodcrest ES and Woodward Park MS.

United Way Campaign Schools

We are humbled by the support you have shown United Way of Central Ohio during the current annual campaign. Listed below are the buildings/units that have contributed as of Nov. 12:

270 E. State Street, 5th Street Annex, Beechcroft HS, Briggs HS, Broadleigh ES, CCS Food Services, CEC, Central Enrollment Ctr., Columbus Global Academy, Columbus Spanish Imm. K–6, East HS, École Kenwood K–6, Fairmoor ES, Ft. Hayes Arts & Academic HS, Ft. Hayes Bus Compound, Hamilton STEM Academy K–6, Independence HS, Kingswood Center, Moler K–6, Neil Avenue Ctr., Olde Orchard ES, Parkmoor ES, Scottwood ES, Siebert K–6, Social Workers, Special Ed. Transition Coordinators, Stewart ES @ Beck, Sullivant ES, Trevitt ES, West HS, West Mound ES, Westgate ES, Westmoor MS and Whetstone HS.

The Fairfield Challenge

The Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens has joined a growing consortium of partners offering a program launched in 2002 by The Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden in Miami, Florida: The Fairchild Challenge. This free, multidisciplinary, standards-based, STE(A)M-focused environmental education program provides teachers with another tool to deliver core curriculum. By appealing to students’ innate sense of creativity and curiosity about the world around them, the Challenge invites learners to investigate environmental issues, devise imaginative and effective responses to these issues and to take action, at any level, to address them.

Call Dr. Mark Miller, Fairchild Challenge Coordinator, at 715-8030 or email him at mmiller@fpconservatory.org to arrange a meeting at your school. Visit the Fairchild Challenge website for details, stories and images about this program:

- General information: <http://www.fairchildchallenge.org/>
- Photos of student entries: www.flickr.com/fairchildchallenge

Special Note

☐ CEA salutes additional members who served in the U.S. Armed Forces. We wish to add these names to our recent article thanking them for their service:

Army: Thomas Clapham ★ Renee Hushour ★ Melissa Willis
Air Force: Deborah Strouse