Columbus Education Association's

45th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Awards Dinner

Thursday, January 15, 2026 Social hour-6 p.m. • Dinner-7 p.m.

Columbus Convention Center • Battelle North • 400 North High Street, Columbus, Ohio (Parking: South Garage located off Nationwide Blvd.)

Keynote Speaker

Roland S. Martin

Journalist, Author, and Commentator

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 was a senior analyst for the "Tom Joyner Morning Show." 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. Martin is the former executive editor/general manager of the *Chicago Defender*, the nation's most historic Black newspaper.

Martin 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.

