

News release January 6, 2010

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Jeremy Ponds keynotes

Martin Luther King Jr. celebration

National civil rights activist and motivational speaker Jeremy D. Ponds will keynote Gateway Technical College's Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration on noon, Monday Jan. 18, in the Madrigrano Auditorium of the Conference Center on Gateway Technical College's Kenosha Campus, 3520-30th Ave.

Ponds has committed his life to following in the footsteps of King and other civil rights leaders. In 2001, Ponds made history within the Southern Christian Leadership Conference by being one of the youngest to start an adult chapter in Panama City, Fla., at age 16. He is currently the youngest person on the SCLC National Board of Directors and is the SCLC Collegiate Organizer.

Ponds started his speaking career at age 7 and his speaking engagements included presenting orations of King at numerous churches in Panama City.

This year's celebration theme is "And the Dream Lives On." Doors to the event open at 11:15 a.m. and a short reception will follow. The program is free and open to the public.

Audio and video of the event will be streamed at Gateway Technical College's Web site www.gtc.edu. The program will be carried on WGTD live at noon. WGTD, based out of Gateway Technical College, can be heard in Kenosha/Racine at 91.1, in Elkhorn at 101.7 and in Lake Geneva at 103.3.

Gateway Technical College collaborates with communities in Kenosha, Racine and Walworth counties to ensure economic growth and viability by providing education, training, leadership and technological resources to meet the changing needs of students, employers and communities.