

News release

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Gateway to honor Rogers, Frazier, Campbell, Bell at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. event

Khari Bell of Kenosha, Payton Campbell of Burlington, Steve Frazier of Racine and Gloria Rogers of Racine are the recipients of the 2011 Gateway Technical College Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Humanitarian Award.

Rogers and Frazier are the adult division recipients of the honor, while Campbell and Bell are youth division recipients. The four will be honored at the 17th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration noon, Monday, Jan. 17, in the Madrigrano Auditorium of the Conference Center on Gateway Technical College's Kenosha Campus, 3320-30th Ave. The four were selected for exemplifying the daily principles of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

• Khari Bell, Kenosha. Bell is a freshman at Harborside Academy. He has been a special presenter at the Kenosha Unified School District Elementary Black History Bee for the past two years, won a 2007 Youth Kindness Award, was selected for the Kenosha Women's Club Citizenship Award and an Honor Patrol Award. He has worked at the

Holiday House putting together Thanksgiving baskets and worked on the Chicago school supply drive for the past four years.

His nominator says "Mark my words, someday Khari will be the president, a civil rights leader or a minister. I'll be glad to know I was fortunate enough to watch him grow into his position of leadership."

- Payton Campbell, Burlington. Campbell is a student at Dyer Intermediate School in Burlington and participates in the Pay It Forward Club. She is a Job's Daughter, volunteers at ChocolateFest, does highway cleanup work and rings bells for the Salvation Army. Campbell's nominator says she "gives freely of herself without expecting anything in return. She helps others so they may enjoy things that most people take for granted."
- Steve Frazier, Racine. Frazier owns his own painting company and has been the assistant chaplain at the Racine County Jail for the past six years. Frazier says he was a 30-year drug addict until he become a born-again Christian 11 years ago. He believes God has called him to volunteer to minister to inmates at the county jail, helping them to rebuild their lives by providing transportation, food, clothing, employment and counseling.

Frazier's nominator says he would meet any of the inmates he has worked with – current or former – anytime. He works to help them "at 3 a.m. or any other time to help them get the right start, take them to the HALO (Homeless Assistance Leadership Organization), buy them

breakfast, give them a warm coat, give them bus tokens, spend hours and hours a week mentoring, encouraging them and supporting them for the positive change they want to make. ... He has taken great risks to serve those he has compassion for."

Racine County in a number of ways. She is a volunteer for the Racine County Meals on Wheels program, delivering meals to homebound seniors for the past four years. She has volunteered with the Homeless Assistance Leadership Organizations (HALO) since 2005, Toys for Tots since 2006 and has been a volunteer for Big Sisters of Greater Racine Inc. for nearly 40 years. She also was recently elected as president of the NAACP Racine Branch. Rogers owns and operates A-1 Cleaning Service in Racine.

Gloria's nominator said, "Gloria Rogers cares about the less fortunate, about equality for all, and about our democratic principles. She acts on her concern for her neighbors by donating hours to make her community a better place for all. She is a model that everyone – including the disadvantaged – can emulate as she constantly has built her life around the principles that Martin Luther King Jr. fought for."

The keynote speaker for this year's celebration will be Kenosha Unified School District Superintendent Michele Hancock. The 2011 theme is "What are you doing for others?" It comes from one of King's speeches when he

stated, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is: What are you doing for others?"

Doors to the event open at 11:15 a.m., the program begins at noon and a short reception will follow the program. 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.

For more information, contact Janet Days, (262) 619-6754.

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.