

Office of Communications

14 E. Cache La Poudre St. Colorado Springs, CO 80903

For Immediate Release

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ALL PEOPLE'S BREAKFAST, UNITY MARCH, DANCE PERFORMANCE AT CC TO HONOR MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

Community gathers around 2023 theme "It Starts with Me: Cultivating a Beloved Community Mindset to Transform Unjust Systems"

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. – Jan. 12, 2023 – Colorado College is continuing its tradition of hosting a community-wide celebration in honor of Martin Luther King Jr., gathering in-person for the first time in three years.

On Monday, Jan. 16, the community is invited to begin the day with the All People's Breakfast and social hour from 7:30-8:30 a.m. in Ed Robson Arena. The breakfast is followed by this year's keynote presentation featuring speaker Mike Edmonds and focusing on the theme "It Starts with Me: Cultivating a Beloved Community Mindset to Transform Unjust Systems." There are ample seats available around the arena to enjoy the presentation at 8:30 a.m. Additional information can be found at <u>Eventbrite</u>.

Edmonds currently serves as the senior vice president at Colorado College, where he has been since 1991. He served as acting co-president for the 2020-21 academic year, making him the first Black person to lead CC. Edmonds has been a dedicated change agent in the Colorado Springs community and served on numerous nonprofit boards.

At 10:15 a.m., participate in a Unity March, hosted by the Pikes Peak Diversity Council, from the CC campus at the corner of Cache La Poudre and Tejon St., to Acacia Park, where the program features local dance and musical performers and guest speaker Sharon Tunson.

A long-time Colorado Springs native, Tunson graduated from William J. Palmer High School and earned an M.A. from the University of Northern Colorado. Tunson's family has been integral in the growth in Colorado Springs and she continues the movement. She is the assistant dean of High School Programs at Pikes Peak State College.

The world-renowned Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble will wrap up the day's



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events at 7 p.m. in the Mohrman Theatre in Armstrong Hall, with special guests, the Colorado Springs Chapter Choir of the Gospel Music Workshop of America, also performing.

All events are free and open to the public. The All People's Breakfast is presented free of charge thanks to the generous support of Bon Appetit Food Service, Colorado College, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce and EDC, The Edmondson Foundation, UC Health, and USAA. <u>The full program of events and additional information is available here</u>.

About Colorado College

Colorado College is a nationally prominent, four-year liberal arts college that was founded in Colorado Springs in 1874. In 1970 the college created the Block Plan, in which its approximately 2,300 undergraduate students take one class at a time in intensive 3¹/₂-week segments. A master of arts in teaching degree also is offered. Creativity & Innovation, The Arts at CC – which also encompasses the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College – and the college's antiracism commitment are among key initiatives. For more information, visit <u>www.coloradocollege.edu</u>