

Martin Luther King Memorial Community Reading

“Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break Silence”

Public, Shared Readings in 16 Parts

Tuesday, April 5 at 12 noon, 2 pm and 4:30 pm

**The day after the anniversary of this prophetic speech (1967)
and his assassination (1968)**



Oscar Grant/Frank Ogawa Plaza (Oakland 12th St. BART)

**Join us for an intergenerational mosaic of voices,
reawakening King's power for the here and now.**

**“I knew that I could never again
raise my voice against the
violence of the oppressed in the
ghettos without having first
spoken clearly to the greatest
purveyor of violence in the
world today--my own
government.”**

-Martin Luther King Jr.

“Sounds like he's talking now, but he was assassinated in 1968!”

***-Comment by walk-on participant from a previous year's
reading of this fierce MLK gem***

Martin Luther King Jr.'s prophetic voice is as relevant today as when he preached half a century ago about the power of nonviolence.

In loving memory, may we all be inspired to read his words, reflect on his radical vision, and take action in service of justice and peace.

“Our only hope today lies in our ability to recapture the revolutionary spirit and go out into a sometimes hostile world declaring eternal hostility to poverty, racism, and militarism.”

“A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death.”

“The Western arrogance of feeling that it has everything to teach others and nothing to learn from them is not just.”

“In international conflicts, the truth is hard to come by because most nations are deceived about themselves.

“Rationalizations and the incessant search for scapegoats are the psychological cataracts that blind us to our sins.”



All quotes are from Martin Luther King Jr., “Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break Silence,” April 4, 1967.

This event is part of the Global Days of Action Against Military Spending (GDAMS), April 5 to 18 <demilitarize.org>.



To see “Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break the Silence” as it's rendered into the sixteen reading segments, go to <tinyurl.com/MLKSpeechInSections>.

***For more information:
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Sponsoring Organizations

Asian-Americans for Peace & Justice; BAY-Peace: Better Alternatives for Youth; Bay Area Black Worker Center; Bay Area Women in Black; Black Alliance for Just Immigration (BAJI); East Bay Peace Action; East Point Peace Academy; Environmentalists Against War; Haiti Action Committee; Jewish Voice for Peace-Bay Area; Labor Committee for Peace & Justice; Nafsi Ya Jamii; Peace & Solidarity Committee of SEIU 1021; Priority Africa Network; United for Peace & Justice-Bay Area; Western States Legal Foundation; Women's Int'l League for Peace & Freedom (SF & East Bay)