



In 1944, 15-year old Martin Luther King, Jr. entered Morehouse College, where he published an article in the student newspaper: “We must remember that intelligence is not enough,” he said. “Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education.”

Armed with newfound knowledge and a moral compass pointed due north, he graduated from Morehouse College and spent the next two decades convincing a nation to believe in the possibility of things, sometimes even when visible reality contradicted his articulated dream. Amid segregation and racial strife, he told us “we must live together as brothers or perish as fools,” and when pressured to pursue that aim through violence and anger, he so rightly taught us that “darkness cannot drive out darkness: Only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: Only love can do that.”

Knowledge and character were the hallmarks of Dr. Martin Luther King’s influence - not one without the

other, a life best lived with both. One of our greatest orators, ambassadors, leaders - these traits were the backbone of his inspirational, peaceful approach to social change, and the differentiator between his successful reconstruction of a nation's perspective and the failed attempts of others.

On this holiday, we celebrate Dr. King's accomplishments. Infinitely more far-reaching, we honor his legacy at Pepperdine every day as we pursue academic excellence and Christian values - developing in our students an expanding intellectual capacity and the character and judgment to use this newfound knowledge for good.

Nicolle Taylor

Vice President & Chief Business Officer

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