Living out the Dream: Developing a framework for moving forward with an action plan

January 15, 2018 — 10 a.m.
Honorary Degree Recipient and Guest Speaker—

Freeman Hrabowski

Dr. Freeman A. Hrabowski, president of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County since 1992, is a consultant on science and math education to national agencies, universities and school systems. He was named by President Obama to chair the President’s Advisor Commission on Educational Excellence for African Americans. He also chaired the National Academies’ committee that produced the report, “Expanding Underrepresented Minority Participation: America’s Science and Technology Talent at the Crossroads” (2011). Named one of the 100 Most Influential People in the World by TIME (2012) and one of America’s Best Leaders by U.S. News & World Report (2008), he also received TIAA-CREF’s Theodore M. Hesburgh Award for Leadership Excellence (2011), the Carnegie Corporation’s Academic Leadership Award (2011), and the Heinz Award (2012) for contributions to improving the human condition. His most recent book, “Holding Fast to Dreams: Empowering Youth from the Civil Rights Crusade to STEM Achievement” (Beacon Press, 2015), describes the events and experiences that played a central role in his development as an educator and leader.

A child leader in the civil rights movement, Hrabowski was prominently featured in Spike Lee’s 1997 documentary, “Four Little Girls,” on the racially motivated bombing in 1963 of Sixteenth Street Baptist Church. Born in 1950 in Birmingham, Alabama, Hrabowski graduated from Hampton Institute with highest honors in mathematics. He received his MA (mathematics) and PhD (higher education administration/statistics) from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Master of Ceremonies—

Courtney Bryant

Courtney Bryant, KMOV reporter

Prelude

Thomas George, chancellor, piano
James Widner, director of Jazz Studies, bass

Greeting

Deborah Burris, director and chief diversity officer,
Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Master of Ceremonies

Courtney Bryant, KMOV reporter

Invocation

Mufti Asif Umar, Islamic Foundation of Greater St. Louis

Music Presentation

“National Anthem”
“Lift Every Voice and Sing”
St. Louis Children’s Choirs, Chorale Ensemble
Whitney Cairns, director of chorale & Linda Radick, accompanist

Welcome

Thomas George, chancellor

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Presentation

Charles Piller, presenter, past president,
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Epsilon Lambda Chapter

Scholarship Recipients

Naomi Russell
Myrina Otey
Katherine Bluemel

Music Presentation

Brian Owens, soloist and St. Louis Symphony artist in residence

St. Louis Children’s Choirs

Honorary Degree Presentation to Freeman Hrabowski

Thomas George, chancellor
Kristin Sobolik, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs

Guest Speaker

Freeman Hrabowski, president of University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Music Presentation

“The Score”
Brian Owens
Compositions for LIFE and the MLK Festival Ensemble, presented in association with Maryville University

Acknowledgments and Announcements

Deborah Burris

Closing

“We Shall Overcome”