



DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. COMMUNITY CENTER

July 24, 2026

"The best day ever" in Summer Camp at Rose Island

Summer Camp continues! Last Friday, a group of **our campers exclaimed that their visit to Rose Island was "the best day ever!"** The kids took the ferry to Rose Island and learned about its history, including the Revolutionary War, World War II, and the lighthouse.

The Island was once known as Fort Hamilton during the colonial period, and it was then used to store torpedoes that were manufactured on Goat Island during World War II. The lighthouse was built in 1870 and was in use until 1970, when the Pell Bridge was built.

In the 1980s, Rose Island was in danger of losing its rich history and natural beauty due to the possibility of real estate development. Thankfully, the presence of nesting seabirds that call the island home allowed Rose Island to become a wildlife sanctuary, saving not only the native animals but the lighthouse and the fort as well.

We are incredibly thankful to the [Rose Island Foundation](#) for hosting us and making this experience possible for our kids (And thanks to [Cruise RI](#) for making the trip more affordable!) Check out the video above to see a glimpse of their trip.



Other Summer Camp highlights include our first harvest at the Great Friends Community Garden right next door at the Great Friends Meeting House. The kids grew a very impressive zucchini and then donated it to our Food Pantry. What an amazing full-circle moment at the MLK! Thank you to **[Aquidneck Community Table](#)** for managing this garden for the community.

One of our campers' favorite activities is going to the **[Friends of Newport Skate Park](#)** for skateboarding lessons. They are absolutely crushing it! Thank you for the lessons!

What's a Newport summer without the beach? Our Campers look forward to going to **[Gooseberry Beach](#)** to swim and play each year. Thank you, Gooseberry, for hosting us!





Special MLK Friends' Dinner on Wednesday 7.29.26

Mark your calendars! Join us at the MLK on **Wednesday, July 29, from 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.** for a special community dinner presented by the [Aramli Foundation](#) and [BedJet](#) and prepared by the wonderful team from [Stoneacre Hospitality](#).

Thanks to the generosity of great friends Mark and Ida Aramli, the team from Stoneacre is preparing an incredible meal: **deviled eggs, Caesar salad, chicken thighs with pan jus, braised beef bourguignon, egg noodles, creamy polenta, glazed rainbow carrots, chocolate chip sea salt cookies, and brownie madeleines.** Is your mouth watering yet? Ours is!

We are thrilled to share this very special meal with our community. We hope to see you there!



MLK Friends Dinner

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 5:30 - 6:30 P.M.
MIÉRCOLES, 29 DE JULIO, 5:30 - 6:30 P.M.

Aramli
Foundation &  **BEDJET**

present a special community dinner
prepared by:



STONEACRE

Enjoy a sit down meal with friends and
neighbors. First come, first served.

*Le invitamos a que se sienten con nosotros y disfrute
de una cena entre amigos. Por orden de llegada.*



DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
COMMUNITY CENTER

For more information, email Erin Patel at
epatel@mlkccenter.org or call 401-846-4828 x124

Para obtener más información, contactar Erin Patel a
epatel@mlkccenter.org y 401-846-4828 x124

“It’s something I look forward to every week”



Volunteers are the backbone of the MLK Community Center. **Everything we do is possible because of our wonderful community members who come forward and dedicate their time to Newport County.** Watch the video below to see why our friend Ron loves to volunteer in our food pantry.

Want to join him? **Click the button below to email our Volunteer Manager,** Hollie Johnson, and they will help you find open shifts in our programs!

Sign up to volunteer now!

**On August 30, let's do the Pell Bridge Run
for Newport County!**



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TEAM MLK

Run and Support Team MLK

Sunday, August 30, 2026

I'M BLOWN AWAY TO SEE THE FOOD THAT I CAN GET IN THE FOOD PANTRY... IT'S REALLY LIKE GOING TO THE GROCERY STORE. YOU DON'T FEEL LIKE YOU'RE LOW AND POOR. YOU'RE NOT TREATED IN A DIFFERENT WAY. IT NORMALIZES SHOPPING AT THE FOOD PANTRY.

Diane, Middletown

Join Team MLK for the 15th Annual **Citizens Bank Bell Bridge Run**.

This beautiful 4-mile race helps support multiple nonprofits like the MLK. When you Join Team MLK, you help ***nourish, educate, and support all Newport County residents to improve their economic, social, and physical well-being.***

We have a limited number of free registrations to offer runners and walkers willing to fundraise for the MLK.

(An easily achieved goal, and we'll support you all the way!)

Ready to race? Email Hilary Goodnow at **hgoodnow@mlkccenter.org** or call 401-846-4828 x125.

Support Team MLK

Community Connections with Jamestown Arts Center

Let's come together to inspire art with our community! The **Jamestown Arts Center** will host their Community Connections event at the MLK next ***Tuesday, July 28, from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.***

Participants are invited to bring any of their own art, poems, songs, and writings to express any feelings, challenges, support, and successes that result when community comes together to uplift each other.

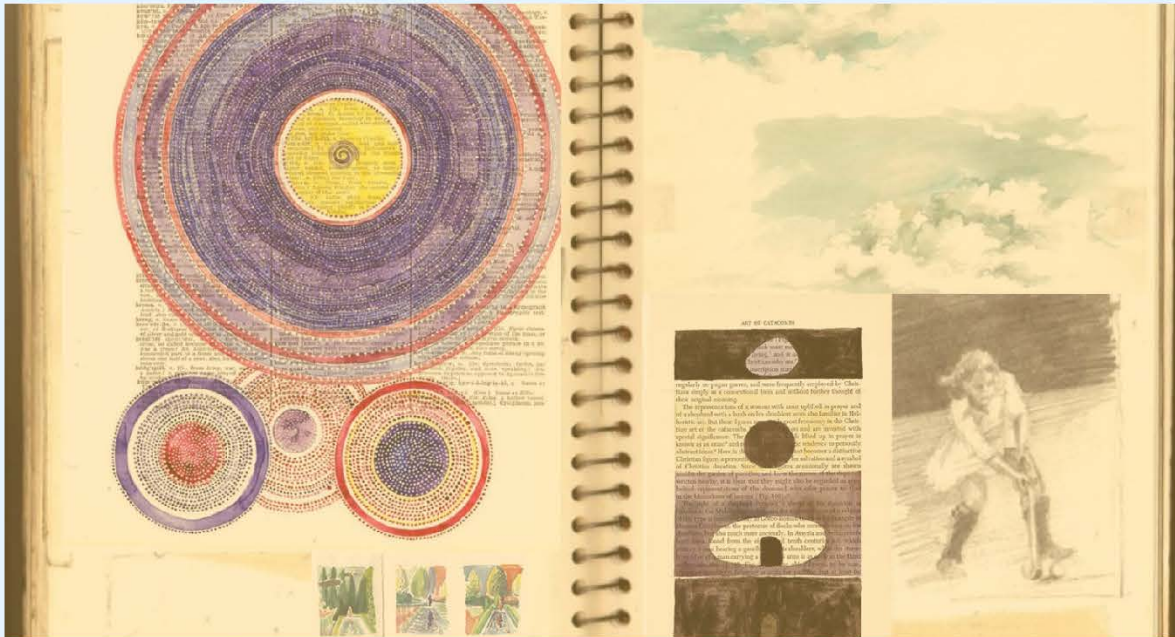
Ceramic Artist and Resident Kelly McDermott will facilitate the program and then use the experience to **create artwork that will be featured at an upcoming art installation in January 2027.**

If this sounds like something you want to be a part of, then we hope to see you on Tuesday!

Community Connections with JAC:

Words of Support:

Poetry & Art Making with Kelly McDermott



Challenges and hardships are lessened when shared with a trusted person or Community. Join us at MLK Center for an opportunity to gather and share stories and words of what it means to support, be supported, be in Community, or navigate life challenges.

Bring a poem, a personal story, or song to share, and be prepared to do some exploratory and experimental artmaking!

Tuesday, July 28 | 4-6 PM | Free, All Ages

Ceramic Artist and Resident Kelly McDermott will use any shared artwork as part of an upcoming art installation that will be on view at Jamestown Arts Center in late January 2027.

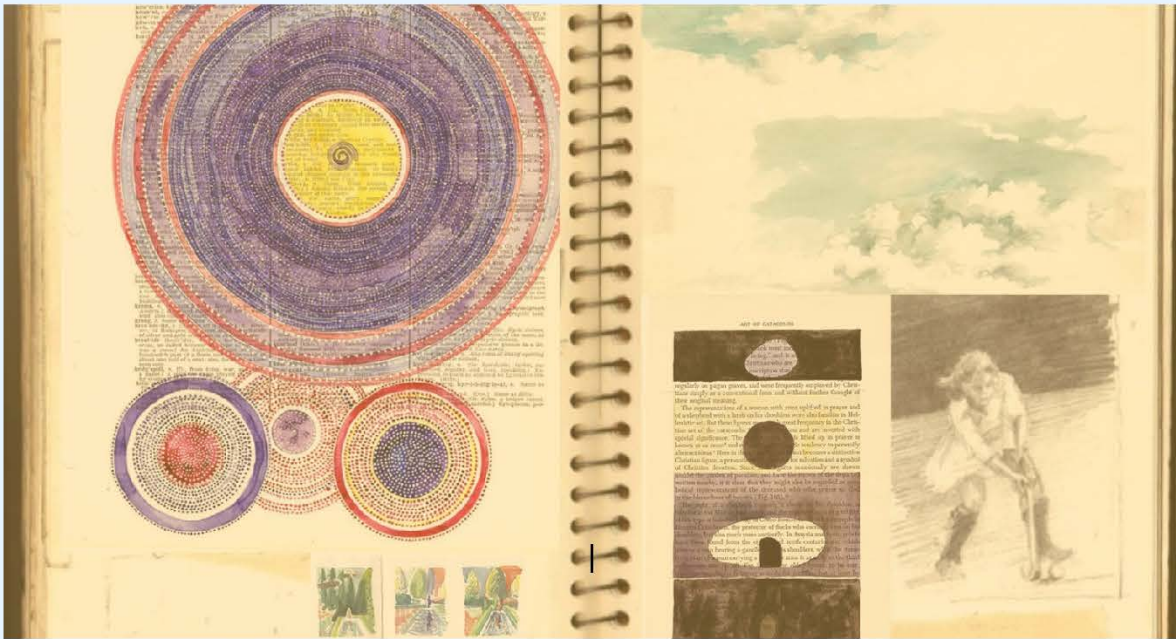
20 Dr. Marcus Wheatland Blvd., Newport RI 02840

jamestownartcenter.org | mlkccenter.org

Conexiones comunitarias con JAC:

Palabras de Apoyo:

Poesía y Creación Artística con Kelly McDermott



Los desafíos y dificultades se reducen cuando se comparten con una persona o comunidad de confianza. Únase a nosotros en el Centro MLK para tener la oportunidad de reunir y compartir historias y palabras de lo que significa apoyar y ser apoyado, estar en la comunidad o navegar los desafíos de la vida.

¡Trae un poema, una historia personal o una canción para compartir, y prepárate para hacer arte exploratorio y experimental!

martes, 28 de julio | 4-6 PM
Libre, para todas las edades

La artista ceramista y residente Kelly McDermott utilizará cualquier obra compartida como parte de una próxima exhibición artística que se verá en el Jamestown Arts Center a finales de enero de 2027.

20 Dr. Marcus Wheatland Blvd., Newport RI 02840

jamestownartcenter.org | mlkccenter.org

Did you catch Chelley Knight and the Dope Things?

We can't stop thinking about how amazing [**Chelley Knight and the Dope Things**](#) were at the Live from the Loading Dock – Parkside concert last week. Check out the video below for some highlights.

Make sure to mark your calendars for Wednesday, August 19 from 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. for [**The Ravers!**](#)

Thanks again to our generous sponsor, [**Teri Degnan Real Estate & Consulting, LTD**](#), for making sure these performances remain free and open to everyone in Newport County. What an incredible way for the community to come together!



Volunteer Spotlight: newportFILM

We were grateful to have friends from [**newportFILM**](#) volunteer in our food pantry this week. The team moved inventory, stocked the pantry shelves, and more.

newportFILM does such great things in the community like making documentary films accessible to all with their [**Outdoors**](#) summer film series. Click the button below to check it out.



Check out the Outdoors summer film series

Kids aren't getting breakfast in school so now we need cereal

Summer is officially here, and that means many children in our community who relied on free breakfast from school every day no longer have access to this resource. Every family who uses the food pantry chooses cereal. We never have enough.

You can help by donating cereal to our Food Pantry. **Our loading dock is open from 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Make sure to let our staff and volunteers know your donation was inspired by the newsletter!**

Don't have the time to drop off a donation? Your cash gift helps us buy the cereal we need. Click the button below to donate.

Help feed local kids this summer

DONATIONS NEEDED

MLK FOOD PANTRY



CEREAL



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COMMUNITY CENTER

Beep! Beep! Here Comes the Mobile Food Pantry!



MOBILE FOOD PANTRY TRACKER



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COMMUNITY CENTER

The Mobile Food Pantry is coming your way! Here are next week's Mobile Food Pantry Locations:

Tuesday 7/28/2026:

- West House, 417 Forest Ave. Middletown RI 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- Lucy's Hearth, 19 Valley Rd. Middletown RI 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

All are welcome. You do not need to reside in the neighborhood to use the Mobile Food Pantry, unless otherwise advised. Please remember to bring your reusable bags.

Download Our Monthly Calendar

Download July Calendar in English

Descargar Calendario de Julio en Español



Our Contact Information

{{Organization Name}}

{{Organization Address}}

{{Organization Phone}}

{{Organization Website}}

{{Unsubscribe}}

Volunteer

Give



You are receiving this email because you opted in to join our email newsletter list.
We promise to never share your information with third parties, or spam you.