

## MLK day: a day of diversity

▼ iJag teacher Carolina Kaufman stands with Mario Canon and Daryl Stuggis in the session "The Music Empire Part 1."



PHOTO BY MADDY SMITH

▼ Phoebe Burt '21 practices in preparation of singing to the residents of Melrose Meadows.

▼ "Black isn't a weapon, it's something that protects us actually. It's kind of our armor, and [...] it's something that's precious to us," said Jestin Wiseman-Inman '22.



PHOTO BY MADDY SMITH



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"People that aren't African American, black, they get to see where color came from and what us black people have been through, and where we are now and how much progress has been going on."

ANIYAH FLYNN '22



PHOTO BY CAMERON REIMERS

## giving back

**SPREADING THE WORD** On Jan. 23, the students at West spent the day celebrating and talking about equality in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



PHOTO BY CAMERON REIMERS



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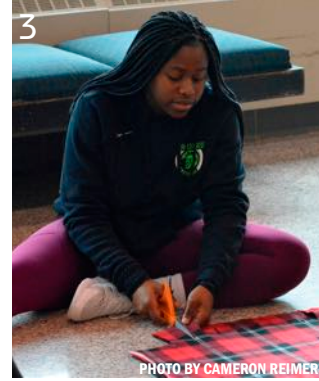


PHOTO BY CAMERON REIMERS

2 Niyati Deshpande and Mary Ruppenkamp '21 act in a scene involving racial bias. "It's fun to tie in two passions that are important to me, theater and equality, and also educate ourselves to bring them together," Deshpande said.



PHOTO BY CAMERON REIMERS

3 Talyia Ochola '22 cuts soft fabric to make a blanket to donate. "It sounded like a really fun way to give back," she said.

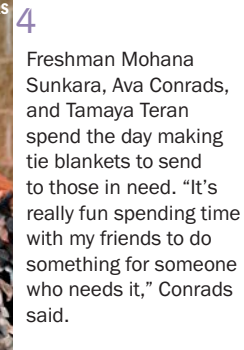


PHOTO BY CAMERON REIMERS

4 Freshman Mohana Sunkara, Ava Conrads, and Tamaya Teran spend the day making tie blankets to send to those in need. "It's really fun spending time with my friends to do something for someone who needs it," Conrads said.

## ears up!

Sidney Nash '22 Bianca Lekwa '23, Jaidon Lowman '23, and Tess DeGrazia '23 listen attentively to a student asking a question during the "LGBTQA: Coming Out" session moderated by Sydney McDermott.



PHOTO BY ABDUL AHMED

▼ English teacher Jeff Finn hosts a session called "Redlining Monopoly," where he teaches students about social classes and redlining through the board game Monopoly.



PHOTO BY ABDUL AHMED



PHOTO BY MADDY SMITH

## martin luther king junior day

▼ Senior Lilli Duncan was very involved in this year's MLK day sessions, being on the panels for "Voices of West" and "What is Feminism?" "I think it's a really good experience for people to learn more about other people that they might not have had the opportunity to learn about," Duncan said.

▼ Senior Ronan Smith and sophomore Samantha Croco perform a scene from "The Breakfast Club" for the "Social Justice Theater" session.



PHOTO BY MADDY SMITH



PHOTO BY ABDUL AHMED

▼ Elijah Eskridge '22, Weiling Lin '22 and Fernanda Perez-Barrera '21 practice kicking during the "Where Martial Arts Meets ICU Nursing" session in Room 102. Students got to meet with assistant instructor Shannon Perteit from the University of Iowa Taekwondo and practice a variety of different martial arts techniques.