

The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration 2018

Essay Contest

Dear Parents, School Administrators, Teachers and Guidance Counselors:

The Martin Luther King Association is pleased to announce its annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Essay Writing Contest 2018. The purpose of this contest is to encourage students to reflect upon Dr. King's life and the impact of his work during the Civil Rights Movement and in present day America. It challenges students to think about how civil rights and diversity affect their lives and how they can continue the work of Dr. King by making a difference in their own communities.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. studied many of the world's great leaders and philosophers when framing his own beliefs. One of the most influential of those philosophers was Mahatma Gandhi, who Dr. King called, "the guiding light of [the] technique of nonviolent social change." In 1959, Dr. King travelled to India to walk in Gandhi's footsteps and learn from Gandhi's followers there. Dr. King and Gandhi shared the belief that love and peace are the best way to change the hearts and minds of the public. Both men understood that if they wanted to inspire their community to change, they had to make the same changes themselves. Gandhi said, "If we could change ourselves, the tendencies in the world would also change. As a man changes his own nature, so does the attitude of the world change towards him." Dr. King lived this philosophy by practicing peaceful protests instead of trying to counter hatred and violence with more of the same.

Contest entries: Dr. King was inspired by Mahatma Gandhi's message to **be the change** he wished to see in the world. Each participant in the essay contest is invited to participate by writing an essay in responds to the following question: *What change have you made or will you make in yourself to make the world a better place?*

All students, grades K-12 including home schooled students are invited to enter. All contest entries must be accompanied by a clearly written and completed entry form.

Deadline for essays is Thursday, January 4, 2018. There will be first and second place winners in each grade category. Winners will receive recognition and cash prizes. Top winners will read their essays at the Martin Luther King, Jr. community celebration at Steubenville High School on Monday, January 15, 2018. All winners will receive their awards at the celebration.

Please encourage students to enter. The contest is intended to honor the legacy of a great man who believed that to change the world you must first change yourself.

Enclosed are essay contest entry rules and forms. Please duplicate any of the enclosed materials. Students may also enter the Ohio Civil Rights Commission 2018 Martin Luther King, Jr. Art, Writing and Multimedia Contest. Details can be obtained by logging onto www.crc.ohio.gov Click the "Public Affairs" tab and choose "MLK Contest".

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding the essay contest, please call me at 740.346.9925. For information concerning the Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration 2018, please contact Dr. Jim Baber at Eastern Gateway Community College, 740 264.5591, ext 1902.

Thank you for helping to make this Martin Luther King Jr. 2018 celebration a great success.

Sincerely,

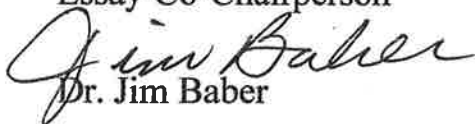


Asantewa Anyabwile

Essay Chairperson

Sandy Williams

Essay Co-Chairperson



Dr. Jim Baber

MLK Assoc. President

Sponsored by Eastern Gateway Community College, Huntington Bank, and Franciscan University

**Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Birthday Celebration 2018
~ Essay Contest ~**

ENTRY FORM

In framing his beliefs, Dr. King, studied many great leaders and philosophers. One of the more influential philosophers was Mahatma Gandhi, who Dr. King called, "the guiding light of [the] technique of nonviolent social change." Dr. King and Gandhi shared the belief that love and peace are the best way to change the hearts and minds of the public. Both men understood that if they wanted to inspire their community to change, they had to make the same changes themselves. Gandhi said, "If we could change ourselves, the tendencies in the world would also change. As a man changes his own nature, so does the attitude of the world change towards him."

Dr. King was inspired by Mahatma Gandhi's message to be the change he wished to see in the world. Please write an essay in response to the question: *What change have you made or will you make in yourself to make the world a better place?*

ENTRY FORM

Please attach this form to your essay as the cover page. Deadline is
Thursday, January 4, 2018 - submit to your local school
Or MLK Essay, P.O. Box 301, Steubenville, OH. 43952

Student's Name _____
Student's address _____
City, State, and Zip _____
Home Phone Number _____
School _____ Grade _____ Teacher _____

Grade Categories

Kindergarten:	one page-double spaced
Grades 1 - 3	one page-single spaced
Grades 4 - 6	250 words
Grades 7 - 8	500 words
Grades 9 - 12	550 words

Contest Rules: Essays can be neatly handwritten or typed.

They must be legible. Illegible entries will be disqualified.

Each entry **must** be accompanied by a completed entry form.

Deadline is Thursday, Jan. 4, 2018

Prizes

Each essay category will have a 1st place winner Award \$100.00

Each essay category will have a 2nd place winner. Award \$ 50.00

Winners will be notified the following week.

Essay contestants will be asked to attend the Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration on Monday, January 15, 2018, 11:00 a.m., at Steubenville High School to receive their awards. First place winners will be asked to read their essays.

For additional information concerning the essay contest please contact Asantewa Anyabwile at 740.346.9925

Those interested in entering the Ohio Civil Rights Commission Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Art, Writing, and Multimedia Contest 2018, log onto www.crc.ohio.gov. Click the "Public Affairs" tab and choose "MLK Contest".

For additional information concerning the Martin Luther King, Jr.

Celebration Schedule of events,

Please contact

Dr. Jim Baber at (740) 264-5591 x 1902