



2018 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Essay Contest

Theme: "African Americans in Times of War"

As we celebrate Dr. King's dream for peace and equality, this theme offers students an opportunity to express how African Americans play a part in times of war and/or contributed in times of war. Students should reflect on Dr. King's legacy of service.

Who May Apply? All 6th – 12th grade students are eligible to participate in the essay contest.

Requirements:

- ✗ Participant must be enrolled in a **Smith County** school
- ✗ The essay should be inspired by the theme "African Americans in Times of War"
- ✗ Entries must be **500 words or less** on standard 8½" x 11" white paper **TYPED** with 1" margins, double spaced, and in no creative font (Arial or New Times Roman are recommended). It is **recommended** that you type your essay for ease of reading. Points will be deducted if essays are handwritten and/or hard to read.
- ✗ Students may not use copyrighted materials without proper permission/citation.
- ✗ Videos, films, drawings, etc. will not be accepted

All writing entries will be judged on: **purpose, awareness of audience, idea development, organization** (sentence structure and transition), **language** and **correctness**.

Awards: There will be 6 winners (1st, 2nd and 3rd place from 6th thru 8th grade and 9th thru 12th grade). The winning essays will be presented as part of the Black History Knowledge Bowl the last weekend in February of 2018.

Deadline: Entries **must be received** no later than close of business on **Friday, February 2, 2018**.

Submissions: Students must submit their entries to their school's main office or emailed in PDF format along with cover form to tylertogether@gmail.com. If you are submitting your essay to your local school (not Tyler ISD), please send an email to tylertogether@gmail.com with your name, grade, and school. You will receive a confirmation e-mail that we received your notification.

Information to include with entries:

- Student's name, address and grade level
- Parent's name and phone number
- School district, school name and school phone number
- Teacher's name and e-mail address

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Herwane Sirles at (903) 372-9791 or tylertogether@gmail.com. Please feel free to visit the Tyler Together Race Relations Forum website at www.tylertogether.org for more information about the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day activities.



2018 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Essay Contest Entry Form

Student Name

Grade

School (use full name, not abbreviations)

School District

Student Mailing Address

City

Zip Code

Home Phone #

Cell Phone #

E-mail Address

Parent(s) or Guardian Name

Phone #

Parent's E-mail Address (if different then student's)

Teacher's Name

Phone #

Teacher's E-mail Address

This entry form must be submitted along with your essay in order to participate.

Student Signature

Date

Parent(s) or Guardian Signature

Date

All materials must be received no later than Friday, February 2, 2018.