

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Essay and Poster Contest

2018-2019 TOPIC FOR THE ESSAY AND POSTER CONTEST:

“Out of a mountain of despair, a stone of hope.”

Essay criteria:

Three categories: Students in grades 4-5, Grades 6-8, and Grades 9- 12

The essay contest is designed to create awareness among students in grades 4 -12 of the efforts by Dr. King. Students’ writing should focus on the aforementioned topic.

The essay must be typed or handwritten in ink by the student (exception - students with special accommodations, if student has an IEP – please note this on the cover sheet after the student has submitted it to teacher). A cover sheet containing the name of the participant, complete home address, school, grade, teacher, and telephone number must accompany the essay. Use word count to include the number of words on your cover sheet.

The writing should be focused, on topic, have a logical, organized pattern; and have ample development of supporting ideas using a mature command of the language for appropriate grade level. The essay must be the student’s original work.

Length of Essay

Students in Grades 4 – 5: 200 - 400 words with bibliography (if applicable)

Students in Grades 6 – 8: 400 - 600 words with bibliography (if applicable)

Students in Grades 9 – 12: 600 - 800 words with bibliography (if applicable)

Prizes include gift cards to Barnes and Noble in the following amounts:

	4 th -5 th Grade	6 th -8 th Grade	9 th -12 th Grade
First Place:	\$40.00	\$50.00	\$75.00
Second Place:	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$50.00
Third Place:	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$25.00

Teachers, please send the top 4 essays and posters from each class to SJEA (address at the bottom of this document)

Poster Criteria:

Poster contest is for students in grades K-3. First, second, and third place awards will be given. The poster contest is designed to create awareness among students in Grades K-3 of the efforts by Dr. King to help make the United States of America a land of equality.

All essays and posters will be due Tuesday, January 22, 2019, by 5:00 p.m., to the SJEA office: 1260 N. Ponce De Leon Blvd., Suite D, St. Augustine, 32084. Late essays and posters will not be accepted.

Our awards ceremony for the essay and poster contest winners will be held **Wednesday, February 13, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.** at the Fullerwood Auditorium with special guest and motivational speaker, Dr. Primrose Cameron. **SJEA will contact each teacher and student winner. Questions? Contact Lori Burchfield, SJEA 2nd VP, at Lori.Burchfield@stjohns.k12.fl.us**

