

DATE: October 11, 2023

TO: School Administrators, Guidance Counselors & Community Leaders

FROM: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission of Mid-Michigan Essay Committee

RE: Essay Contest: An Opportunity for Your Students

We are pleased to announce our **2024 Essay Contest!!!** Please assist us in informing and encouraging Greater Lansing Area Students (**6th – 8th and 9th – 11th** grades) to participate in the celebration by entering the contest. Submissions must be reflective of this year's theme:

“The Measure of a Country’s Greatness is its Ability to Retain Compassion in Times of Crisis.” -Thurgood Marshall

Monetary awards and certificates will be presented to the First (\$500), Second (\$350), and Third Place (\$150) winners at the Luncheon.

Please ensure that contest participants strictly adhere to the following criteria:

1. Parental Permission Slip (supplied) must be completed for each contestant
2. Essays must be typed (double spaced) or printed neatly in black ink
3. Essay length must be in the range of 250 to 300 words.
4. Essays should speak to the Luncheon theme
5. Essays presented using creative language styles are acceptable (i.e. poetry)
6. Submission **Deadline Date** is **December 1, 2023**
7. One copy of the parental permission slip, cover page and essay should be submitted via email to:

mlkcommissionscholarship@gmail.com

8. Please e-mail **mlkcommissionscholarship@gmail.com** if you have questions. This essay contest is proudly sponsored by:



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission of Mid-Michigan

2024 Essay Contest Permission Slip

I hereby grant _____ permission to
(Child's Name - Printed)

Participate in the Greater Lansing Area Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Commission's Essay Contest. I understand that if my child's essay is selected as a winning entry, he/she may be expected to read aloud his/her's composition at the **MLK Holiday Luncheon Celebration on Monday, January 15, 2024**. I further authorize the Commission to capture photos/video of my child for marketing/promotional purposes. Additionally, I certify that my child's submission is his/her's original work and does not contain plagiarized content. I understand that my child's entry may be disqualified if his/her's entry is in violation of this agreement.

_____ School
_____ Teacher/Sponsor
_____ Parent or Guardian (signature)
_____ Parent or Guardian's name
(printed)
_____ Street Address
_____ Grade
_____ Date

City, State ZIP

Telephone Number

****This form *must* be completed****