

Official Contest Rules

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE November 1, 2010

**MAIL ENTRIES TO:
YWCA- MLK ESSAY CONTEST
1100 Chapline Street
Wheeling, WV 26003**

We join with the West Virginia State Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Celebration Commission in extending an invitation to all school aged children in WV to participate in the YWCA "Project on Racism Essay Contest". Each year we provide students with a venue to share their vision and views of Dr. King's lessons and teaching.

This year's quote: *"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education". Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Grades 1-5 Essay topic: How is your schooling helping you be a better person?

Grades 6-12 Essay topic: Using Dr. King's teachings describe how your education is molding your character.

Any student in grades one through twelve (1-12) attending public, private, parochial or home school in the state of WV may enter.

- Teachers should discuss quote and topic with students before assigning essay
- All essays must be handwritten, typed, or computer generated in black ink on white paper, double-space, one-side only
- Maximum length: 500 words
- Do NOT include photographs, images, illustrations, etc.
- Do NOT send binders, portfolios, or report covers
- Include an official entry form with your original, unpublished essay
- Parents/teachers may type students work

Winners will be selected according to the following criteria: originality-20%; grammar-20%; relevancy to theme -30%; effective expression-30%.

First, Second and Third Place winners will be chosen in four categories: grades 1-2, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12. Winners will receive a monetary reward. First place winners will be given the opportunity to read their essays at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards Luncheon in January 2011. All winning students and teachers will receive recognition certificates. No responsibility can be assumed for lost or late mail. Entries will not be acknowledged or returned. Please address all questions to Diana Bell, State Coordinator MLK Essay Contest, YWCA Wheeling, 304-232-0511. Entries can be faxed to 304-232-0513 or e-mailed to ywcadiana@aol.com.

Copy form as needed