



# 2016 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Art, Writing, & Multimedia Contest

## Savannah Fitzgerald 12th Grade Writing Winner Streetsboro High School, Streetsboro

Maria Judd, Teacher  
James Hogue, Principal

I once saw a social experiment online. You may have seen it. A well-dressed man parked his car in front of a parking meter. He then, purposely, walked away without paying it. A young, homeless, man saw this, and for 2 hours he paid the meter with the few coins he had in his cup. The well-dressed man then went up to him and asked, "Why did you do that?"

The homeless man replied, "After all I've been through, I can't do anything else but to help somebody."

This spoke to me, and it brought up so many emotions. I just cried and thought of how selfless this man was. For someone who practically has nothing, to give all he has left in order to help someone he's never met. His actions made me want to do more for the community. It made me think of all the things we are doing wrong as a society. This man can teach us to right the wrongs. One quote I found that can help us to do so states this, "...if we all did at least one selfless act everyday in our communities, just think how we could elevate the human condition in every corner of the globe" (UNICEF – Voice of the Youth).

Some people believe they can't change the world because they're just one person, but one social experiment proves one man can start a chain reaction. A chain reaction of peace and kindness. All it takes is for us to come together as a community, and do things to help those who need it most. I've always wanted to do things no one would ever think of doing. For example, paying for someone's groceries, other than my own, or give my paycheck to someone who isn't fortunate enough to have a home.

It's always been my dream to inspire people to do great things. I want to spread the message of love and peace by being a role model to young kids. I want to teach them that they can have a better life if they are kind, because good things will always come to those who give back to others, it's my job as a young adult to keep the chain of reaction of kindness going, so, the kids of the future can succeed in a world where they can all come together as one community and be united.

In the end, the lesson is that it is possible for one person to change the world. We all can become united again as long as we are willing to do our part. I know I will do mine. So, let's come together and spread goodwill, in order to make the world a better place.

## Beloved Community

