

2007 WINNERS OF THE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ART, ESSAY & MULTIMEDIA CONTEST

Each year thousands of Ohio schools from every county participate in the Ohio Civil Rights Commission (OCRC) Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Art, Essay & Multi-Media Contest. The theme of this year's contest is "Living the Legacy." Contest participants in grades 3-12 were asked to submit entries according to grade level in the form of art, essay and multi-media presentations to demonstrate someone in their lives that is continuing the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This year, we received over 900 entries from students across the state.

The purpose of this contest is to encourage children to reflect upon Dr. King's life and work, as well as the civil rights movement, and think about how civil rights and diversity affects their lives. Winning entries were judged on originality, relevancy to theme, effective expression, grammar, and presentation.

We congratulate every student and school who participated in this contest and we are proud to present you with the winners of this year's contest.

Poster Art Contest Winners

Gavyn Partlow, Northwestern Elementary School, *New Carlisle*
Samantha Miller, Whittier Elementary School, *Massillon*
Trevia Mathis, Paul Lawrence Dunbar Academy, *Toledo*

Essay Contest Winners

Chanan Brown, Rubyville Elementary School, *Portsmouth*
Timieka Fips, Hope Academy West, *Cleveland*
Kate Hindrichs, J.A. Smith Middle School, *Chillicothe*

Multimedia Contest Winners

Jazmyne Williams, College Prep. Academy, *Cincinnati*
Phillip Washington, Margaret Ireland Middle/High School,
Cleveland
Ryan Fernandez, Ross High
School, *Fairfield*

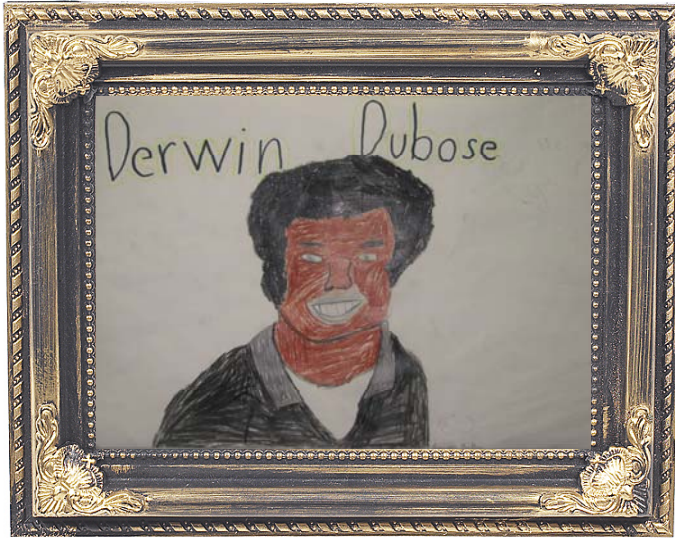


Living the Legacy



2007 Martin Luther King, Jr.
Art, Writing & Multimedia Contest

Art Contest Winners



Art Contest Winner, Grade 3

Gavyn Partlow

Northwestern Elementary School

New Carlisle, OH

Ms. Cynthia Pierson, Principal

Ms. Elaine Garrison, Teacher

"Derwin Dubose is a 19 year old student. He was inspired by the book *"Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?"* He made a difference by taking a leading role in the race relations organization at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. What changed his life was when he spent two weeks in Washington D.C., at a youth leadership development conference where he got to know youth of all races, ethnicities and backgrounds. I think he is continuing Martin's dream."



Art Contest Winner, Grade 4

Samantha Miller

Whittier Elementary School

Massillon, OH

Mr. Matthew Plybon, Principal

Ms. Jennifer Albrecht, Teacher

"Coretta Scott King was the founder of the community outreach program. It has played a vital role in Dr. King's teachings. Through her speeches, writings and messages, Mrs. King has interpreted Dr. King's life and teaching to people all over the world. It is important to educate young people about Dr. King's methods of nonviolence. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated on April 4, 1968."



Celebrate Diversity!

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

January 31, 2007

2007 Martin Luther King, Jr.
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Art Contest Winners



Art Contest Winner, Grade 5

Treva Mathis

Paul Lawrence Dunbar Academy

Toledo, OH

Mr. Thomas Williams, Principal

Ms. Lora Barnhiser, Teacher

"My artwork shows how important diversity is and what is continuing peace. School is one of the main things in a person's life. It shows you about peace, freedom and has many different people. Diversity is important because people wouldn't be able to learn different languages and cultures. Peace and diversity are important in school, life, and everything around us."





**2007 Martin Luther King, Jr.
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6th Grade Essay Contest Winner

Chanan Brown

Rubyville Elementary School

Portsmouth, OH

Tony Piguët, Principal

Ms. Emily Howard, Teacher

“Remembering The King”

“I have a dream.” Does this statement sound familiar? Dr. Martin Luther King recited this speech during a rally to protest equality between blacks and whites. Martin Luther King Jr. was a fighter. A fighter for justice, and a warrior for peace. He fought for blacks to be treated equal. His cause was known and his life is remembered. Eugene Collins is currently following the footsteps of Martin Luther King Jr. down a long and pugnacious road of equality between human beings everywhere.

There have been many civil rights leaders in the United States, but Martin Luther King Jr. was by far one of the greatest. Many people in society over the years have contributed to a civil rights cause. Jesse Jackson, Ruby Bridges even Oprah Winfrey are fine examples of this contribution. Civil rights includes many different issues but they all involve rights of people. Martin Luther King Jr. was a just man who led rallies, wrote speeches and led America into the beginning of equality between blacks and whites. His famous speech “I have a dream” was a genuine article that triggered the white community to let the black people through their terrible walls of hatred.

Martin Luther King Jr. led the fight for blacks and whites to be equal. He was one of the greatest leaders in American history. He helped racism through all of America. He opened our nations eyes to see what cruelty was taking place. He was a true patriot of freedom.

Eugene Collins is a local man of Portsmouth, Ohio who helps children that are interested in business to become entrepreneurs and create their own private business. He helps children to expand in the corporate world. The children get help and support from their personal mentor who owns a local business. This is a great way for kids to make a living throughout their whole lives. There are currently thirteen businesses in the program. The program normally supports under-privileged children who have less of a chance of going to college.

Mr. Eugene Collins is also the former president of an organization called the NAACP. This is an organization of black people that helps African-Americans to be heard just as white people are. He is also part of his local community action program that helps all throughout the community and has programs such as “meals on wheels” that helps people with low or no income to get food.

Martin Luther King Jr. and Eugene Collins are the same in many ways. They both are highly respected leaders. Eugene Collins has carried on this journey in which Martin Luther King Jr. started, a journey of equality. In my opinion Eugene Collins is a strong, thusworthy man who deserves respect and honor, just as Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was a husband and a father of civil rights, and it’s cause. He left his life, and his mark in 1968.





2007 Martin Luther King, Jr.
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7th Grade Essay Contest Winner

Timieka Fips

Hope Academy West
Cleveland, OH

Sharon Durant, Principal
Sharon Washington, Teacher

“Continuing the Journey”

My Aunt, Dr. Lorrie Oldham has continued the journey of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. She has “overcome” and has put herself in a position to be admired, looked up to and to be a role model to all of us who follow in her footsteps.

Aunt Lorrie was born on May 5, 1958 in a Chevy Bellaire automobile on Euclid Avenue in Cleveland, Ohio. Those witnessing her journey may have said that this was an appropriate entrance for a person who would continue a forward movement in her life.

As a child, Aunt Lorrie walked to school everyday. She attended Brooklawn Elementary, Carl F. Shuler Middle School and John Marshall High School. In middle school she learned to sew and was very proud of this new skill. Aunt Lorrie learned there was no money for college so she began to run track to earn scholarships for college. She worked hard in school and could often be found reading and studying while other children played outside. Aunt Lorrie told her parents that she wanted to be a doctor. They were very proud of her and had high hopes for her to be the first female black doctor.

While running track, she found that she was an excellent runner and had hopes to compete in the 1976 Olympics. This goal was not accomplished as the Olympics were boycotted that year. Running track did earn her college scholarships. She attended Ohio State College where she studied medicine. Early on she set high standards for herself and she promised to never earn less than a “B” in her studies. Her lowest grade ever earned was a “C”, and she only got one. After Medical School, Aunt Lorrie joined the United States Army. In the Army she paved the way for other black females. Aunt Lorrie was the first burn surgeon in the Army. In 1981 aunt Lorrie became the first black trauma surgeon in the Army. Aunt Lorrie says that one of the best things she enjoys about her accomplishments is being the first black females to tell people what to do.

Aunt Lorrie recently served in Iraq and currently works in a hospital in Michigan. Aunt Lorrie says that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Made it possible for her, a black person to attend college and become the “first” in her field at many things. Aunt Lorrie says that the message she wants today’s youth to understand is that a person should always strive to be the first. The first person in the family to attend college is always remembered in the family’s history. There are still many opportunities that a person can be the “first” at. Always set high standards for yourself. As far as those firsts go, there still has not been a black U.S. President yet. Someday even I can be the first black female President of the United States.





2007 Martin Luther King, Jr.
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8th Grade Essay Contest Winner

Kate Hindrichs

J.A. Smith Middle School

Chillicothe, OH

Mr. Robert Crabtree, Principal

Ms. Lisa Clark, Teacher

“Seeing Is Not Always Believing”

“I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become reality...I believe that unarmed and unconditional love will have the final word.”

Imagine having to use a separate bathroom from everyone else because of the color of your skin. Imagine having to send your children to a different school because of your ethnic background. What about getting stiffed on your rights because of your sexual preference? Can you imagine it? It shouldn't be that hard. In our nation today, the same nation that has been called “the Land of the Free”, we are the bearers of prejudice for anything and everything from our opinions to our hair color.

Martin Luther King Jr. had a dream. He dreamt that one day our nation set aside their differences and unite in a county of freedom. Freedom, whether is is of religion, opinion, body mass, skin color, or income. Everyone in this nation has someone in his or her life that passes on Dr. King's words of wisdom. For me that just so happens to be a former teacher of mine.

Aside from teaching us how to conjugate verbs and how to recognize the plot of a story, Mrs. Hall taught us about Prejudice. Prejudice. For a word so small is possesses great value and meaning. While she made sure we knew its meaning: Intolerance or hatred toward other races, religions, opinions, etc. Mrs. Hall was never prejudiced to anyone. She didn't even show when she was biased about a topic that came up in class. While other teachers could go on and on with arguing an opinion, she lets us debate amongst ourselves while she sat back and watched us express ourselves. She was also never cross with us and she never held a grudge. Sure, she might get upset with you for, lets say, cheating on an AR test bu she was very forgiving. Forgiveness. Now there's a word that our nation doesn't know the definition to. For a nation that can so easily be forgiven they can't seem to return the favor.

“He who passively accepts evil is as much involved in it as he who helps penetrate it.”

One lesson that I feel I will remember for the rest of my life is the



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one about fighting in the halls. Mrs. Hall came in to the room very upset. Apparently there had been a fight in the halls and someone ended up getting hurt because no one said anything to anyone about it. Most people just stood around and watched as two kids beat the crap out of each other. I remember her telling us that standing there watching and egging on makes you just as guilty as if you were in the fight yourself. I can relate that to so many things that go on in the nation every single day. While this fight for world peace goes on there are people who see hatred being spread but do nothing about it. Some people even go along with it, making them just as guilty as everyone else.

This is where prejudice is brought up again. As it goes on outside the walls of our school, it also goes on inside. The hating that goes on inside the school is equal to half the actual amount that goes on through the U.S. Imagine being made fun of because your slightly over weight. Imagine getting your books knocked out of your hands in the hall every day because of what you ear. Imaging being called a slut because you have more guy-friends than girl-friends, or being accused of being gay because you haven't had a girlfriend lately. Sure your thinking "oh its just a little bullying." Well duh! What do you think was happening when blacks had to give up their bus seats when a white wanted a place to sit instead of standing while the bus drove a whole block to their stop? It's bullying of a different matter but its all basically the same.

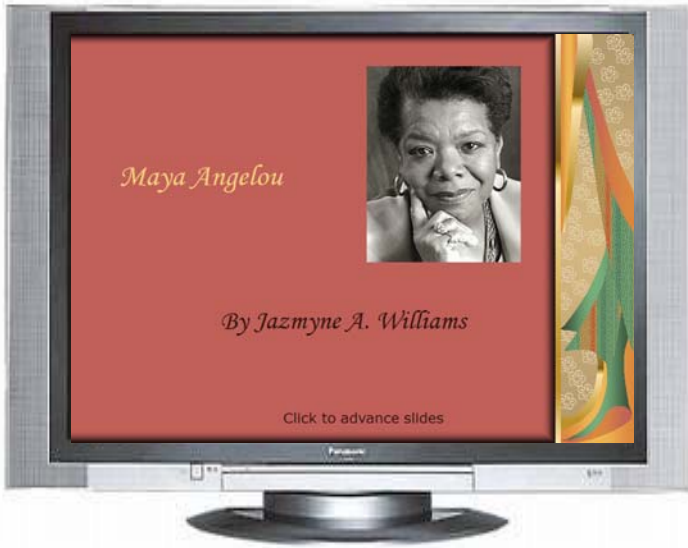
"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

Mrs. Hall not only taught us the meaning of prejudice, but she also voluntarily did her best to make sure that it ceased to happen. Sure it might happen behind her back without her knowing, but if she saw it she said something about it. Not only did she pass on the peace, but also she is still passing in on everyday that she teaches. If it weren't for Mrs. Hall I wouldn't be able to pass on the words and dreams of Martin Luther King Jr. (I also wouldn't get the good grade that I might possibly get in language.) So thanks, Mrs. Hall for all you've done and taught. I feel that there need to be more people like Mrs. Hall in our world.



2007 Martin Luther King, Jr.
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Multimedia Contest Winners



Jazmyne Williams

International College Preparatory Academy
Cincinnati, OH

Mr. Derrick Shelton, Principal
Ms. Crystal Collier, Teacher

Media Type: PowerPoint Presentation

Title: Maya Angelou

Phillip Washington

Margaret Ireland Middle/High School
Cleveland, OH

Ms. Deborah Franklin, Principal
Ms. Cynthia Beachum, Teacher

Media Type: Song/Rap

Title: Dr. King



Ryan Fernandez

Ross High School
Hamilton, OH

Mr. Keith Klinefeltzer, Principal
Ms. Robin Baker, Teacher

Media Type: Video/DVD

Title: *"The Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Lives"*

