



2024 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Literary & Visual Arts Contest

Celebrating the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was a phenomenal leader who played a pivotal role in the American civil rights movement. His leadership was marked by intelligence, self-confidence, and determination. He recognized that many before him had paved the way for him to take up the fight for freedom and equality.

PROMPT:

Choose one of Dr. King's leadership traits (listed below) that means the most to you. Describe in writing or through visual art why the trait matters to you and how it makes a difference in your school, community or society as a whole.

Courage and Determination: Dr. King demonstrated exceptional courage and determination in the face of adversity. He was unwavering in his commitment to nonviolent protest and civil disobedience, even in the face of violence and threats. His determination played a crucial role in the success of the civil rights movement.

Inspiring Oratory Skills: Dr. King was a gifted and charismatic speaker. His speeches, including the iconic "I Have a Dream" speech, are remembered for their passion and ability to inspire people to take action. His words continue to resonate and inspire generations.

Empathy and Compassion: Dr. King's leadership was characterized by a deep sense of empathy and compassion. He advocated for equality and justice for all, promoting a message of love and unity that transcended racial and social divides.

Leadership: Dr. King was not only a moral leader but also a strategic one. He employed nonviolent resistance as a strategic tool to bring attention to the unjust and discriminatory practices of the time. His approach was instrumental in achieving significant legislative changes, such as the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

ELIGIBILITY:

- You must be a resident of Arlington County or enrolled in APS.
- You must be in grade Kindergarten through 12.



Artwork: Munachimso Nnkemakolam, Wakefield High School

All entries are due by 5 p.m.
EXTENDED DEADLINE! Wed, January 3, 2024
(See back for submission procedures)

CATEGORIES & RULES:

Writing

- Elementary (K-5) entries must be a minimum of 25 words but not more than 150 words.
- Middle School (6-8) entries must be a minimum of 150 words but not more than 250 words.
- High School (9-12) entries must be a minimum of 250 words but not more than 350 words
- All entries must be typed or printed on an 8 ½ x 11" white piece of paper.

Poetry

- Poems must be your original unpublished work.
- All entries must be typed or printed on an 8 ½ x 11" white piece of paper.

Artwork

- Artwork can be produced in any medium, 2D or 3D.

DO NOT PUT YOUR NAME ON THE SUBMISSION ITSELF. Instead, attach this form (next page) to your essay, poetry or artwork and mail or deliver it to the locations on the back of this form.

SUBMISSIONS

AWARDS:

- 2 awards will be given in each group:
 - Grades K, 1 and 2
 - Grades 3, 4, 5
 - Grades 6, 7, 8
 - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12
- Each group will have two first place winners and two runners up in each category: Literary Arts Achievement (Writing or Poetry) and Visual Arts Achievement

Winners will be announced on Monday, January 8, 2024.

- Email your entry to mlkentries@apsva.us; include the form information below, and the essay or poem as an attachment.

OR

- Drop off your entry with this form attached at the Syphax building 1st floor Welcome Center, 2110 Washington Blvd, or at an APS school in the front office.

ENTRY FORM INFORMATION:

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address: _____

Arlington, VA ZIP Code _____

Age _____ Grade _____ Student ID# _____

School _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Parent/Guardian Phone Number _____

Please select your submission type below:

Literary Arts: Writing Literary Arts: Poetry Visual Arts

SUBMISSIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2024.
Postmarks will not be considered and late entries will not be accepted.

**EXTENDED
DEADLINE!**

For more information:
Please contact Dawn Smith at
703-228-2581 or at mlkentries@apsva.us
Download entry forms from apsva.us/mlkentryform
Winners will be recognized in a video tribute at the School
Board meeting on Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024.

