



**Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.  
Writing Contest  
2023 - 2024  
Grades 4 - 12**

*“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.”*

*– Martin Luther King Jr.*

- Theme:** “Leadership and Service”: Identify and reflect on the qualities of leadership and service exemplified by Dr. King and how you can apply these qualities in your own life.
- Eligibility:** Allentown School District students, grades 4 - 12
- Process:** Please return all submissions electronically with a cover sheet to the Office of Learning and Teaching inbox [curriculum@allentownsd.org](mailto:curriculum@allentownsd.org). If submissions are being sent through the inner district mail, please be sure to send them with enough time to be received before the deadline.
- Criteria:**
  - 4-5:** Minimum of one-two paragraphs
  - 6-8:** Minimum of four paragraphs
  - 9-12:** Minimum of five paragraphs
- Deadline:** **March 6, 2024**

<b>Awards:</b>	Elementary Category	Middle School Category	High School Category
	First Place: \$100.00	First Place: \$100.00	First Place: \$100.00
	Second Place: \$75.00	Second Place: \$75.00	Second Place: \$75.00
	Third Place: \$50.00	Third Place: \$50.00	Third Place: \$50.00

**Award**

**Acknowledgements:** March 27, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

**Rules:**

1. Essays, poetry and prose may be submitted as a writing piece. The submission must not exceed two pages in length and a title should appear at the top of the first page. Also, there should be no indication of the student's name in the writing piece.
2. Only one original student entry will be accepted. It should reflect his or her own thoughts and style of writing. Quotations from books or interviews may be used *sparingly*, but exact sources for quotes must be documented. No prize will be awarded if plagiarism is discovered.
3. Although it must be the student's original work, teachers should make sure the spelling is correct and there are no obvious errors in facts.
4. If there is documentation, it may be placed on the same page as the citation or on a third page reserved for that purpose only.
5. Entries will be judged based on thoughtfulness and originality of content, organization, clarity, and correctness of expression.
6. **There must be a cover sheet submitted with the essay** (fillable pdf provided or .docx). Please be sure that the following information is included on the cover sheet and does not appear elsewhere within the essay:
  - Student's name
  - Student's age
  - Student's home address
  - Student's school
  - Student's grade level

Note: Submissions with missing information from the cover sheet will be returned.

7. Please use the "teacher name" entry as acknowledgement that the student's work has been reviewed and that in his/her best judgment, the submission is the original work of the student.
8. Submissions and a list of all participants should be sent to curriculum@allentownsd.org, on or before **March 6, 2024 by 12:00 p.m.** Please be sure students follow all rules on this page or their submissions may be returned and will not be considered for a prize.