

NCCU
NORTH COUNTY CHURCHES UNITING
FOR RACIAL HARMONY AND JUSTICE
13200 New Halls Ferry Road
Florissant, MO 63033
October 12, 2018

Covenant Churches
A **GROWING** List

Bellefontaine United
Methodist Church

Bethel-Providence Christian
Church

Black Jack Baptist Church

Christ Ministries@The
Community Church

Christ Our Redeemer
A.M.E. Church

Church of the Master
United Church of Christ

Florissant Presbyterian
Church

Immanuel United Church of
Christ

John Knox Presbyterian
Church

Lutheran Church of the
Atonement

Lutheran Church of the
Living Christ

Most Holy Name of Jesus
Catholic Church

Most Sacred Heart
Roman Catholic Church

New Creation in Christ
Church

Olivet Missionary Baptist
Church

Our Lady of Guadalupe
Catholic Church

Our Lady of the Rosary
Catholic Church

St. Andrew United
Methodist Church

St. Barnabas Episcopal
Church

St. Ferdinand Roman
Catholic Church

St. Mark's United
Methodist Church

St. Norbert Roman
Catholic Church

St. Rose Philippine Duchesne
Roman Catholic Church

Third Presbyterian Church

Dear Educator:

NCCU, North County Churches Uniting For Racial Harmony and Justice, is hosting our annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Oratory Contest. This contest offers students the opportunity to write and present a speech celebrating the life and values of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We ask for your consideration in distributing the enclosed information to your students or possibly adding the project as a writing assignment or an optional project for your students.

Applications and essays must be postmarked by November 14, 2018 or delivered to the address in the heading or emailed to NCCUSTL@gmail.com by November 16, 2018. Those who are chosen to present in the oratorical contest will be notified by December 1. The oratorical contest finalists' presentation is scheduled for **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2018, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at John Knox Presbyterian Church, 13200 New Halls Ferry Road, Florissant 63033.**

The first place winners of each category on December 15 will receive \$100 and will present their oratory essays at the Dr. Martin Luther King Celebration on **Tuesday, January 22, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. at the Terry M. Fischer Theatre at St. Louis Community College--Florissant Valley.**

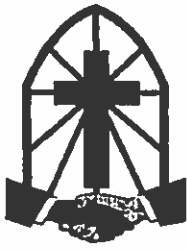
Enclosed please find a flyer, contest application, written speech scoring guide, contest suggestions, and contest rules, which may be duplicated. If you are interested in building this opportunity into your curriculum, please contact us and we will be happy to forward additional copies of the materials for your entire classroom. Please notice that there is an adult category, so we hope that you will consider submitting a speech also.

Should you have any questions or need additional materials, please contact Dr. Barbara Thompson (314.567.7016) or Dr. Rance Thomas (314.921.7364).

Sincerely,

Rance Thomas
Dr. Rance Thomas
NCCU President

Barbara K. Thompson
Dr. Barbara Thompson
Chair, Oratory Contest



North County Churches Uniting For Racial Harmony and Justice
 13200 New Halls Ferry Road, Florissant, MO 63033
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. 2018 Oratory Contest Application

Only essays on the following topic will be eligible entrants in the oratory contest: **“Standing for the truth, knowledge, and unconditional love.”**

Contestants must submit word-processed essays (double-spaced) with this completed application. ALL blanks on the form must be completed. The **essay & application must be postmarked by November 14, 2018 or delivered or emailed on or before November 16, 2018.**

Mail/Deliver: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Oratory Contest, 13200 New Halls Ferry Rd., Florissant, MO 63033 **OR Email to NCCUSTL@gmail.com**

Entries will be acknowledged by email. If you do not receive an acknowledgment, contact Dr. Barbara Thompson at 314-567-7016 or Dr. Rance Thomas at 314-921-7364.

First Place prizes valued at \$100 and certificates awarded in each category.

Finalists will be notified by **December 1, 2018**. Finalists will perform oratories before judges **Saturday, December 15, 2018, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** at John Knox Presbyterian Church, 13200 New Halls Ferry Road, Florissant 63033.

First place winners will present their oratories at the Dr. Martin Luther King Celebration Tuesday, January 22, 2019~~6:00 P.M., Terry M. Fischer Theatre, St. Louis Community College-Florissant Valley

Please mark category	Category	Essay Length	Oratory Length	Subject
	Senior (60 or older)	500-650 words	4-5 minutes	“Standing for the truth, knowledge, & unconditional love.”
	Adult	500-650 words	4-5 minutes	
(Fill in grade) ____ Grade ____ ____ Grade ____	Youth Grades 9-12 Grades 6-8	300-500 words	3-5 minutes	
____ Grade ____	Grades 1-5	125-300 words	2-3 minutes	

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Street Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Birthdate _____

Sponsor Name _____ Email _____ Phone _____

School _____ Church _____

I grant permission for publication of my essay if I am a winner.

Signature (Parent/Guardian signature for student) _____

Printed Parent/Guardian Name(s) _____

Parent/Guardian Email & Phone# _____

Sponsor and Parent/Guardian name & contact information required for communication purposes.

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NORTH COUNTY CHURCHES UNITING
FOR RACIAL HARMONY AND JUSTICE

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Oratory Contest Rules 2018

Oratory (Speech) Subject and Preparation:

1. Contestants must prepare their own speeches, and the speeches must be substantially original. Written essay should be submitted typed and double spaced with the contest application. Any quoted material must be identified in the written essay and during the speech presentation.
2. References to Dr. King throughout the oratory should be phrased as "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.," "Dr. King," or "he."
3. Contestants will speak from the platform or area designated by the contest chairperson. Contestants may speak from any position within the designated area and are not limited to standing at the lectern/podium.
 - A lectern/podium will be available; however, the use of the lectern/podium is optional.
 - Amplification will be made available.
 - Area, lectern/podium, amplification will be made available prior to contest. Contestants may arrange area in quiet manner before being introduced.

**The speech should reflect the values of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and fit the contest theme
"Standing for the truth, knowledge, and unconditional love."**

4. Dr. King's legacy includes his famous speeches, his work in civil rights, his use of non-violent protests, his work in politics, and his work on behalf of social issues, such as labor and poverty. The speech should address ways of celebrating Dr. King's work in 2019, fifty-one years after his assassination. Information about Dr. King's legacy is available at www.thekingcenter.org and on other Internet sites, such as www.wikipedia.com. How did he stand for truth, knowledge, and unconditional love and encourage others to do the same? How can you continue his work? *Note: Any speech that is a simple retelling of the events of Dr. King's life will not be chosen as a finalist.*

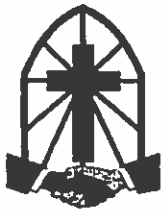
General Procedure:

1. A contest chairperson, judges (3 minimum), and timers shall be appointed.
2. The contest chairperson will brief contestants on the rules and will brief judges on their duties.
3. Contestants will present by age category in alphabetical order.
4. Each contestant shall be introduced by announcing the contestant's name, school, and/or church or other sponsoring organization, and title of speech.
5. There will be silence between contestants while the judges will mark their ballots.
6. Contestants may remain in the same room throughout the duration of the contest.

Disqualification/Protest:

1. Prior to announcing results, the chair should announce if timing disqualification occurred.
2. Protest shall be limited to judges and contestants. Protest shall be lodged with the chief judges and/or chair. The contest chair shall notify the contestant of the disqualification regarding originality or eligibility prior to the announcement of results.
3. Majority of the judges must concur in the decision for disqualification.
4. Winners must present their oratories at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration at St. Louis Community College~Florissant Valley on January 22, 2019.
5. All decisions of the judges are final.

***Please contact Dr. Barbara Thompson, 314-567-7016, or
Dr. Rance Thomas 314-921-7364 with any questions regarding contest rules.***



North County Churches Uniting For Racial Harmony and Justice
13200 New Halls Ferry Road, Florissant, MO 63033

Suggestions for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Oratory Contest 2018

Only oratories on the topic of **“Standing for the truth, knowledge, and unconditional love”** will be eligible entrants in the oratory contest. Please make sure that the oratory **stays** on that topic.

1. Teachers whose students are entering the contest, please consider a brief lesson on *“Standing for the truth, knowledge, and unconditional love.”*
 - a. Explain what “standing for the truth” means, and give examples of Dr. King’s standing for the truth.
 - b. Explain what “standing for knowledge” means, and give examples of Dr. King’s quest for knowledge and his deep respect for knowledge.
 - c. Explain what “standing for unconditional love” means, and give examples of Dr. King’s unconditional love for others, even for those who mistreated him.
2. Sometimes contest oratories merely retell Dr King, Jr.’s life. Oratories should include only details from his life that show how he stood for the truth, knowledge, and unconditional love. The oratory should explain how we can continue standing for the truth, knowledge, and unconditional love, as Dr. King did.
3. Sometimes contest oratories are mostly quotations of Dr. King’s. The oratory should use quotations to make a point about standing for truth, knowledge, and unconditional love.
4. The oratory should be original and written in the orator’s own words.
5. Elementary school teachers who are using this contest as a class assignment might consider opening the unit with a read-aloud. Examples:
 - a. Caldecott Honor Book *Martin’s Big Words* by Doreen Rappaport. Sample lesson: <http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/lesson-plans/martin-words-thinking-about-92.html>
 - b. *My Brother Martin: A Sister Remembers* by Christine King Farris. Sample lessons: <http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/lesson-plans/martin-luther-king-identifying-257.html?tab=4>
6. Middle and high school teachers might consider “Letter from a Birmingham Jail.” The letter and sample lessons are available at
 - a. <https://kinginstitute.stanford.edu/lesson-plan-letter-birmingham-jail>
 - b. <http://edsitement.neh.gov/lesson-plan/martin-luther-king-jr-and-nonviolent-resistance>
 - c. <http://www.webenglishteacher.com/letter-from-birmingham-jail-lesson-plans.html>
7. *Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Legacy of Racial and Social Justice: A Curriculum for Empowerment* (for students in K-8) available at <https://www.nps.gov/malu/learn/education/lessonplansandteacherguides.htm>
8. *The Spirit of Service Lesson Plans* (for students in grades 3-12) available at <http://www.scholastic.com/mlkday/>



Thank you for your support!



NCCU

North County Churches Uniting For Racial Harmony & Justice
13200 New Halls Ferry Road, Florissant, MO 63033



“Standing for the truth, knowledge, and unconditional love.”

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Oratorical Contest

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.”~Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Celebrate the life, work, and values of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

- ✓ Essay (written oratory) and contest application must be postmarked by November 14, 2018, or emailed or delivered on or before November 16, 2018.
- ✓ Finalists chosen to participate in the oratorical contest will be contacted by December 1, 2018.
- ✓ Finalists’ oratorical presentations on SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2018, at John Knox Presbyterian Church, 13200 New Halls Ferry Road, Florissant, MO 63033 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- ✓ All essays should reflect the values of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the theme of “Standing for the truth, knowledge, and unconditional love.”

Contest Categories

Senior (age 60 and over)

Prize: \$100

Adult

Prize: \$100

Youth in Grades 9-12

Prize: \$100

Youth in Grades 6-8

Prize: \$100

Youth in Grades 3-5

Prize: \$100

**Winner of each category will present oratory at the
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration
at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 22, 2019
Terry M. Fischer Theatre
St. Louis Community College - Florissant Valley**

**To reference Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s values, please visit
www.thekingcenter.org**

For contest application and rules, please call Dr. Barbara Thompson 314.780.4464

or *Dr. Rance Thomas* 314.921.7364

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Written Speech Scoring Guide 2018

4 Points

The speech

- has an effective beginning, middle, and end.
- contains a clear main idea on the topic of “*Standing for the truth, knowledge, and unconditional love.*”
- clearly addresses the topic and provides specific and relevant details/examples.
- contains words that are specific, accurate, and suited to the topic.
- consistently uses complete sentences.
- clearly shows an awareness of audience and purpose.
- contains few errors in grammar/usage, punctuation, capitalization, and/or spelling.

3 points

The speech

- has a beginning, middle, and end.
- contains a main idea that is related to the topic of “*Standing for the truth, knowledge, and unconditional love.*”
- addresses the topic and uses some relevant details/examples.
- contains some words that are specific, accurate, and related to the topic.
- generally uses complete sentences.
- shows an awareness of audience and purpose.
- may contain errors in grammar/usage, punctuation, capitalization, and/or spelling that are not significantly distracting to the reader.

2 points

The speech

- has evidence of a beginning, middle, and end.
- contains a general sense of direction, but may lack focus on the topic of “*Standing for the truth, knowledge, and unconditional love*”; may tell the story of Dr. King’s life, and/or include irrelevant quotations.
- generally addresses the topic, but may contain some details that are not relevant.
- uses words that tend to be repetitive, imprecise, and ordinary.
- contains some incomplete sentences that may be distracting to the reader.
- shows some awareness of audience and purpose.
- contains errors in grammar/usage, punctuation, capitalization, and/or spelling that may be distracting to the reader.

1 point

The speech

- may lack evidence of a beginning, middle, and/or end.
- is difficult to follow and/or lacks focus on the topic of “*Standing for the truth, knowledge, and unconditional love*”; may tell the story of Dr. King’s life, and/or include irrelevant quotations.
- attempts to address topic, but lacks development.
- uses words that are consistently repetitive, dull, and colorless.
- shows little or no awareness of audience and purpose.
- contains repeated errors in grammar/usage, punctuation, capitalization, and/or spelling that may be distracting to the reader.