



King County

Civil Rights Commission

Department of Executive Services
Office of Civil Rights

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Ninth Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Essay Contest Announcement and Rules

The King County Civil Rights Commission is sponsoring its Ninth Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Writing Essay Contest **open to all eighth grade students** attending public and private schools in King County. The purpose of the essay contest is to encourage middle and junior high school students to think critically about Dr. King's legacy of peace and justice.

The essay theme is: "The Beloved Community."

Rules:

- 1) The essay must be between 750 and 1,000 words and must be typed and doubled spaced on white 8.5" by 11" paper.
- 2) Contestants must submit one typed original and one typed copy of the essay, by mail.
- 3) The name, address, home phone number, e-mail address, school, grade and age of student author must be submitted on a cover page, accompanying the essay. Do not place your name on any other page.
- 4) All essays must be in English and include a bibliography, utilizing at least one book source, but no more than one web site source.
- 5) All essays will be judged on the author's: knowledge of Dr. King and his work in the Civil Rights Movement, originality of ideas, development of point of view, insight into the essay theme, clarity of expression, organization, and grammar.
- 6) All essays submitted become the property of the Commission and may be displayed on County web pages, in County publications, in local publications, and in the King County Tunnel. Submitted essays will not be returned.

Prizes:

First Prize: \$100.00, Second Prize: \$75.00, Third Prize: \$50.00.

Deadline:

All essays must be postmarked by Friday, November 30, 2007, and mailed to: King County Civil Rights Commission, 400 Yesler Way, Room 260, Seattle, WA 98104. Essays postmarked after that date will not be considered, nor returned.

Notification of Winners:

Winners will be notified by mail. Awards will be presented to the winners at the Annual King County Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration on January 10, 2008 in downtown Seattle.