

# 2022-2023 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Essay-Poster Contest

## Rules and Information

**Sponsors:** Missouri National Education Association

**Theme:** "Fulfilling Dr. King's Dream: Reading to Lead and Transform."

**Eligibility:** Students compete in five grade level categories: K-1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-8, and 9-12

**Process:** Your Missouri NEA local association must host the initial contest and submit **1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners**, in any or all of the five grade level categories (**up to 15 entries per local association**). Schools may choose to hold their own contest to decide which entries will be submitted to the local association for judging.

***Entries will only be accepted from the local MNEA affiliate.***

**Criteria:** An essay accompanying each poster **MUST** meet all of the criteria listed below.

**K-1:** one-two complete sentences

**6-8:** at least four paragraphs

**2-3:** at least one paragraph

**9-12:** at least five paragraphs

**4-5:** at least two paragraphs

- The essay **MUST** be written/typed on a separate sheet of paper and taped to the back of the poster.
- Poster and essay **MUST** address the **THEME** and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s vision.
- Use pencils, crayons, paints, markers, or color pencils for posters.
- A completed entry form must be taped to each poster.
- **Posters must be no smaller than 8.5" x 11" and no larger than 11" x 17".**
- Poster lamination is optional.
- Only students' original work will be accepted.
- **ESSAYS WITHOUT POSTERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**
- **POSTERS WITHOUT ESSAYS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**
- Reports will not be accepted.

**Deadline:** All winning entries must be delivered to your local association by \_\_\_\_\_.

**Prizes:** Three winners will be determined in each grade level at the **STATE** level:  
**(up to 15 entries per local association)**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: \$75 gift card and certificate

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: \$50 gift card and certificate

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: \$25 gift card and certificate

Teachers of student winners will receive a \$25 gift card.

**Information:** Local Association \_\_\_\_\_

Local Association Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Local Association Contact Person's Phone Number (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

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## Judging Criteria

(A copy of the criteria should be shared with students.)

### Rules

**K-1:** One-two complete sentences

**2-3:** At least one paragraph

**4-5:** At least two paragraphs

**6-8:** At least four paragraphs

**9-12:** At least five paragraphs

- The essay **MUST** be written/typed on a separate sheet of paper and taped to the back of the poster.
- Poster and essay **MUST** address the **THEME** and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s vision.
- Use pencils, crayons, paints, markers, or color pencils for posters.
- A completed entry form must be taped to each poster.
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### Theme Development and Creativity

**Theme:** *"Fulfilling Dr. King's Dream: Reading to Lead and Transform."*

The following may be used as a scoring guide when judging:

0	1	2	3	4	5
Low					High

- Do the essay and poster convey a sense of originality and creativity?
- Do the essay and poster creatively develop the theme?
- Does the essay contain the writer's personal views and comments which support the theme?
- Do the essay and poster demonstrate good writing skills: proper spelling, sentence structure, grammar, and punctuation?

### Required Items

- **Completed** entry form
- Poster with essay taped to the back

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## Entry Form

(Please print legibly)

**Due Date for Judging:** \_\_\_\_\_

*To be determined by local association.*

**Grade Level Category (circle):**    **K-1**    **2-3**    **4-5**    **6-8**    **9-12**

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street/P.O. Box) (City) (State) (Zip)

Student's Phone#: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Names & Addresses: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

School District: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street/P.O. Box) (City) (State) (Zip)

Student's Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
School Home

Teacher's E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Local Association: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Contact Person's Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

***A copy of this COMPLETED entry form MUST be attached to each winning entry submitted for state level judging.***

# 2022-2023 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Essay-Poster Contest

## Information for Local Associations ONLY!

All entries must be received in the Missouri NEA headquarters office by  
January 15, 2023

*(Up to 15 entries per local association)*

### Mail entries to:

Missouri NEA  
Attn: Roxane Bly  
1810 E. Elm Street  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

### Contact Information:

Lisa Blaha, MNEA UniServ Director  
Phone (800) 392-0236, ext. 501  
E-mail [lisa.blaha@mnea.org](mailto:lisa.blaha@mnea.org)

Roxane Bly, MNEA Governance Secretary  
Phone (800) 392-0236, ext. 606  
E-mail [Roxane.Bly@mnea.org](mailto:Roxane.Bly@mnea.org)

Visit [www.mnea.org/mlkcontest](http://www.mnea.org/mlkcontest)