Rules and Information

Sponsors: Missouri National Education Association

Theme: "Leadership and Service": Reflect on the qualities of leadership and service exemplified by Dr. King and how you can apply these qualities in your own life.

Eligibility: Students can compete in six categories based on grade level:
- Written Essay w/Poster: K-2 and 3-5
- Written Essay: 6-8 and 9-12
- Visual Art (spoken word, poem, song, drawing/digital media): 6-8 and 9-12

Process: Your Missouri NEA local association MUST host the initial contest and submit 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners, in any or all categories, with a maximum of 3 per category (up to 18 entries per local association).

Entries will only be accepted from the local MNEA affiliate.

K-5 Criteria: An essay accompanying each poster MUST meet all the criteria listed below.
- K-2: two-three complete sentences
- 3-5: minimum of one-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 and reflect the THEME.
- Use pencils, crayons, paints, markers, or colored 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.

6-12 Criteria: Submissions must achieve all scoring guide criteria related to the following:

**Written Essay**
- Title
- Statement of Purpose/Focus
- Organization
- Elaboration of Evidence
- Language/Vocabulary
- Conventions
- 6-8: Minimum of 4 paragraphs
- 9-12: Minimum of 5 paragraphs

**Visual Art**
- Title
- Description
- Theme
- Creativity/Originality
- Skill

See scoring guides for additional information.

Deadline: All winning entries must be delivered to your local association by ________________.

Prizes: Three winners will be determined in each category at the STATE level: (up to 18 entries per local association, 3 per category)

1st Place: $75 gift card and certificate
2nd Place: $50 gift card and certificate
3rd Place: $30 gift card and certificate

Teachers of student winners will receive a $30 gift card.

**If a teacher has multiple winners, they will only receive one teacher prize.**
2023-2024 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Contest

Entry Form
(Please print legibly)

Due Date for Judging: ____________________________
To be determined by local association.

Grade Level Category (circle):        K-2        3-5        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.
2023-2024 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Contest

Information for Local Associations ONLY!

All entries must be received in the Missouri NEA headquarters office by January 15, 2024

(Up to 18 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

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

Visit www.mnea.org/mlkcontest
2024 Dr. King Contest
K-5 Scoring Guide

Judge’s Initials _______ Entry #_______

Theme: Leadership and Service

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<td>High</td>
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Do the essay and poster convey a sense of originality and creativity?

Do the essay and poster creatively develop the theme?

Do the essay and poster 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?

TOTAL SCORE

2024 Dr. King Contest
K-5 Scoring Guide

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Theme: Leadership and Service

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TOTAL SCORE
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<th>0</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title</strong></td>
<td>The artwork includes a written title.</td>
<td>The artwork does not include a written title.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
<td>The piece includes a written description that fully complements the artwork, creating a cohesive whole.</td>
<td>The piece includes a written description that partially complements the artwork but does not fully support it.</td>
<td>The piece includes a written description that is disjointed or unrelated to the artwork.</td>
<td>The piece does not include a written description.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Theme</strong></td>
<td>Clearly communicated understanding of the theme with insightful explanations articulated in the artist’s statement and/or demonstration in the artwork.</td>
<td>Partially communicated understanding of the theme with moderately developed explanations articulated in the artist’s statement and/or demonstration in the artwork.</td>
<td>Did not communicate understanding of the theme with few explanations articulated in the artist’s statement and/or demonstration in the artwork.</td>
<td>A response gets no credit if it provides no evidence of understanding of the theme and/or gives no artist statement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Creativity/Originality</strong></td>
<td>Created a unique or original piece of artwork representing their individual style and/or technique.</td>
<td>Created a piece of artwork with some originality representing their individual style and/or technique.</td>
<td>Created a piece of artwork by replicating another artist with little or no originality representing their individual style and/or technique.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Skill</strong></td>
<td>Created an original work of art emphasizing effective use of the elements of art related to the media of choice (i.e. use of color and techniques for drawings/digital media, lyrics for songs, words for poems and spoken word)</td>
<td>Created an original work of art which demonstrates an emerging use of the elements of art related to the media of choice (i.e. use of color and techniques for drawings/digital media, lyrics for songs, words for poems and spoken word)</td>
<td>Created a work of art that shows little or no understanding of the elements of art related to the media of choice (i.e. use of color and techniques for drawings/digital media, lyrics for songs, words for poems and spoken word)</td>
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**TOTAL POINTS ___ /15**
# MLK Essay Scoring Guide (Grades 6-12)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title</strong></td>
<td>The piece includes a title.</td>
<td>The piece does not include a title.</td>
<td>A response gets no credit if it provides no evidence of the theme, a focus, or use of conventions.</td>
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</table>
| **Statement of Purpose/Focus** | The response is fully sustained, clearly and consistently, and purposefully focused:  
- Central theme or main idea is focused, clearly stated, and strongly maintained.  
- Central theme or main idea is introduced and communicated clearly within the context. | The response is partially sustained and inconsistently focused:  
- Focus is clear but is insufficiently sustained.  
And/Or  
- Central theme may be unclear and occasionally unfocused. | The response may be related to the topic but may provide little or no focus:  
- May be very brief.  
- May have a major drift.  
- Focus may be confusing. | A response gets no credit if it provides no evidence of the theme, a focus, or use of conventions. |
| **Organization**        | The response has a clear and effective organizational structure creating unity and completeness:  
- Use of a variety of transitional strategies.  
- Logical progression of ideas from beginning to end.  
- Effective introduction and conclusion for audience and purpose  
- Strong connections among ideas, with some syntactic variety | The response has an evident organizational structure and a sense of completeness, though there may be minor flaws and some ideas loosely connected:  
- Inconsistent use of transitional strategies with some variety.  
And/Or  
- Inconsistent progression of ideas from beginning to end.  
And/Or  
- Weak introduction and conclusion.  
And/Or  
- Inconsistent, connection among ideas | The response has little or no organizational structure:  
- Few or no transitional strategies are evident.  
And/Or  
- Frequent extraneous ideas may intrude. | A response gets no credit if it provides no evidence of the theme, a focus, or use of conventions. |
| **Elaboration of Evidence** | The response provides thorough and convincing support/evidence for the central theme or main idea that includes the effective use of sources, facts, and details. The response achieves substantial depth that is specific and relevant:  
- Use of evidence from sources is smoothly integrated, | The response provides uneven support/evidence for the central theme or main idea that includes the use of partial sources, facts, and details:  
- Some evidence from sources is integrated, though citations may be general or imprecise.  
And/Or | The response provides minimal support/evidence for the central theme or main idea that includes little or no use of sources, facts, and details.  
- Use of evidence from sources is minimal, absent, in error, or irrelevant. | A response gets no credit if it provides no evidence of the theme, a focus, or use of conventions. |
| Language and Vocabulary | The response clearly and effectively expresses ideas, using precise language:  
- Use of academic and domain-specific vocabulary is clearly appropriate for the audience and purpose. | The response partially expresses ideas, employing a mix of precision with more general language:  
- Use of domain-specific vocabulary is inconsistent for the audience and purpose. | The response expression of ideas, is vague, lacks clarity, or is confusing:  
- Uses limited language or domain-specific vocabulary.  
And/Or  
- May have little sense of audience and purpose. |
| Conventions | The response demonstrates a strong command of conventions:  
- Few, if any, errors in usage and sentence formation  
- Effective and consistent use of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling | The response demonstrates a partial command of conventions:  
- Some errors in usage and sentence formation may be present.  
And/Or  
- Inconsistent use of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling. | The response demonstrates a lack of command of conventions:  
- Errors are frequent and severe and meaning is often obscure. |

**TOTAL POINTS ___ /18**