

Attention English and History Teachers

Throwing and Growing



The Myrle Mensey Foundation

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Essay Contest 2022

Each year on the third Monday of January we celebrate the life, dream, and courage of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Our community faces serious challenges. Sometimes people say that we cannot change things. Dr. King was living proof that we can.

Students should compose their essays based on this MLK, Jr. quote: "*Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.*"

Contest parameters include:

- Open to students in grades 9 – 12 in Saint Louis City Public Schools
- 250-to-400-word limit, NOT counting the title and inclusion of the quote
- Essay must be typed into the online submission form at <https://form.jotform.com/myrlemensey/2022-dr-martin-luther-king-jr-essay>
- ***All essays are due no later than January 7, 2022.***
- Judging parameters include:
- Content/Development:
 - Addresses quote
 - Responds to three stated questions (see below)
 - Organization
 - Evidence to support position
- Language & Mechanics: Sentence structure, word choice, grammar
- **As you write your essay reflect on the following questions:**
 - How do you feel about this quote?
 - What does this quote mean to you?
 - How can you use these words and Dr. King's example to positively affect your family, school, or community?

The first-place winner (\$250 prize) will read their essay at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Committee Annual Program on January 17, 2022, on the steps of the Old Court House, 11, North 4th St., St. Louis, MO 63102.

Second and third place winners will receive prizes of \$150, and \$100 respectively, at their schools.

Contact Myrle Mensey-Symonds, Executive Director, throwingandgrowing@gmail.com or 314-650-1008