



2012 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ESSAY CONTEST ANNOUNCED



"Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. I can never be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be. This is the interrelated structure of reality."

-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Young writers who are inspired by Dr. King's life and his vision of uniting people for the good of all are invited to enter the 2012 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Essay Contest.

Essay contest winners will have the opportunity to read their essays at the 21st annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration to be held on Monday, January 16, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. in the Lawrence University Memorial Chapel on College Avenue in Appleton. Winners in four brackets will be awarded \$50 from Toward Community: Unity in Diversity, a \$25 gift certificate from IndUS of the Fox Valley, and a \$10 gift certificate to Harmony Café.

The program theme for this year's celebration is, "**Martin Luther King, Jr.: His Life & Legacy.**" Dr. Dorothy Cotton, keynote speaker for the event, worked closely with Dr. King and served on his executive staff. She will share lessons from the historic civil rights movement and her experiences while working for Dr. King.

Contest Guidelines:

- Legacy is defined as "anything handed down from the past as from an ancestor or predecessor." Teachers, administrators and parents are asked to encourage students to write an essay on the following theme: "**What did Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. hand down to you, and what are you going to do with it?**"
- Contest categories by grade are: 2nd and 3rd, 4th through 6th, 7th through 9th, and 10th through 12th.
- Submissions may be in essay or poetry form and should not exceed one page. Do not write names on essays.
- Students should submit their essay along with a separate sheet of paper containing the writer's name, address, telephone number, school, and grade.
- Please do not use staples to attach the name and essay sheets.
- A panel of judges will critique the essays. Originality will be a critical factor in the judging process.

To Apply:

- Contest deadline is **4:30 p.m. Friday, December 2, 2011.**
- Submit entries to:
2012 King Essay Contest, c/o United Way Fox Cities, 1455 Midway Road, Menasha, WI 54952
- Call Gayle Hardt at (920) 954-7211 with questions or if you need to arrange for drop off of an essay before 4:30 on December 2nd.
- Winners will be notified by phone.

The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration is an interfaith, multicultural event sponsored by Toward Community: Unity in Diversity, Lawrence University, and a number of area churches, religious organizations, businesses, social service agencies and individuals. The King Celebration has been a unifying tradition in the Fox Valley since 1992. It is free and open to the public.