

Interfaith Center for Racial Justice (ICRJ)

“... invoking a community of respect and Justice”



34th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Celebration of Macomb County Elementary School Oratory Contest

Theme: **Be Bold Be Brave Be Courageous**

Who

Elementary School Students

When

Deadline is **Friday, December 4, 2020**. Finalists will be contacted by January 3, 2021. Winners will be announced at the 2021 MLK Holiday Celebration on Monday night, January 18, 2021

What

Submit a video recording of a recitation of a passage adapted from a speech given by the late Congressman John R. Lewis:

Acceptance speech delivered by Congressman John Lewis, recipient of the Profile in Courage Lifetime Achievement Award, May 21, 2001.

.....Courage is a reflection of the heart -- It is a reflection of something deep within the man or woman or even a child who must resist and must defy an authority that is morally wrong. Courage makes us march on despite fear and doubt on the road toward justice. Courage is not heroic but as necessary as birds need wings to fly. Courage is not rooted in reason but rather Courage comes from a divine purpose to make things right.

....In building a new America, we saw a vision then as we do now of the Beloved Community. Consider those two words. "Beloved" means not hateful, not violent, not uncaring, not unkind. And "Community" means not separated, not polarized, not locked in struggle...

Speech Boston University – 2018 – Be Bold and Courageous

<http://www.bu.edu/articles/2018/rep-john-lewis-commencement-address-to-bu-class-of-2018/>

To learn more about Congressman John Lewis and his work with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. go to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Research and Education Institute:

<https://kinginstitute.stanford.edu/encyclopedia/lewis-john>

How

Here is what you need to do:

- Submit your entry by December 4, 2020
- Student will record delivery of the passage from memory
- Time Limitation – Two minutes will be permitted for orations
- Contestants must upload a video recording of the oration to the internet(e.g., YouTube) and forward the link in a single email to both 342021mlk@gmail.com and smcbrady@misd.net

- Only links attached in the email will be considered
 - **In the body of the email**; include your NAMES, AGES, EMAIL ADDRESSES, HOME ADDRESSES, PHONE NUMBERS, TEACHER’S NAME, SCHOOL NAME, SCHOOL DISTRICT NAME.

- Contestants will introduce themselves by stating in complete sentences: “Judges, Ladies and Gentlemen, we are...”
 - Name (first and last)
 - Age
 - Grade
 - Teacher
 - School and city

- Teachers and parents are permitted to assist the contestant during the preparation and with the video recording of the speech, however teachers/parents should avoid offering prompts and assistance in delivery of the speech.

- Contestants will be evaluated on the following criteria:
 - Accuracy
 - Composure (self-confidence, audience appeal)
 - Voice Quality (audibility, articulation, inflection of voice)
 - Posture and physical dynamics (proper use of gestures)
 - Observance of time limit

The Selection Process

- Finalists will be selected by the MLK Holiday Planning Committee
- The decision of the judges is final

Prizes

- \$50 Cash Prize
- There will be three (3) winners

Other Rules

1. All submissions must conform to your school and district policies regarding appropriate content
2. Links submitted after the **December 4, 2020** deadline may not be accepted
3. Entrants agree to be bound by the official contest rules and decisions of the judges

Why Enter

EXPOSURE-

- Your work will be viewed by the Metro Tri-County community
- Featured on ICRJ's Social Media Pages (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn)
- Featured in media releases

VALUABLE EXPERIENCE- Entering a contest is a terrific way to hone your craft and share what you create.

GOOD CAUSE – The **ICRJ** is a not-for-profit organization working to promote social justice, provide education, and build bridges of understanding among people of different cultures. Your photo art will help raise awareness of our work.

Anything Else

- Understanding of Publications:
 - All contest materials are the property of the Interfaith Center for Racial Justice. By submitting your project, you confirm that you understand that your photos become property of the Interfaith Center for Racial Justice and that whether a winning entry or not, it may be used by the ICRJ in whole or in part, royalty free, in any printed or electronic media and in promotional materials, including fundraising and online publications.
- Projects submitted for the contest will remain the property of the ICRJ and may also be used in conjunction with ICRJ promotional material

Questions:

Carol Allen Sullivan, 34th MLK Holiday Celebration Committee, 342021mlk@gmail.com or 586-463-3675

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