

Black History Month Essay Contest

2019 Theme: "Reclaiming Our Time"

"Reclaiming Our Time" is about inspiring our community to reflect on the ways historic wrongs are being corrected and the spaces the Black community has created to celebrate culture, history, and community.

Essay Subject List

I PROMISE School (LeBron James)
James Baldwin
Kimberle Crenshaw
1968 Olympics
The Hate U Give
Ryan Coogler
Maxine Waters

Eunique Jones Gibson
Michelle D. Alexander
Missy Elliott
Serena Williams
Ayanna Pressley
Stacey Abrams
James McCune Smith

Essay Contest Questions

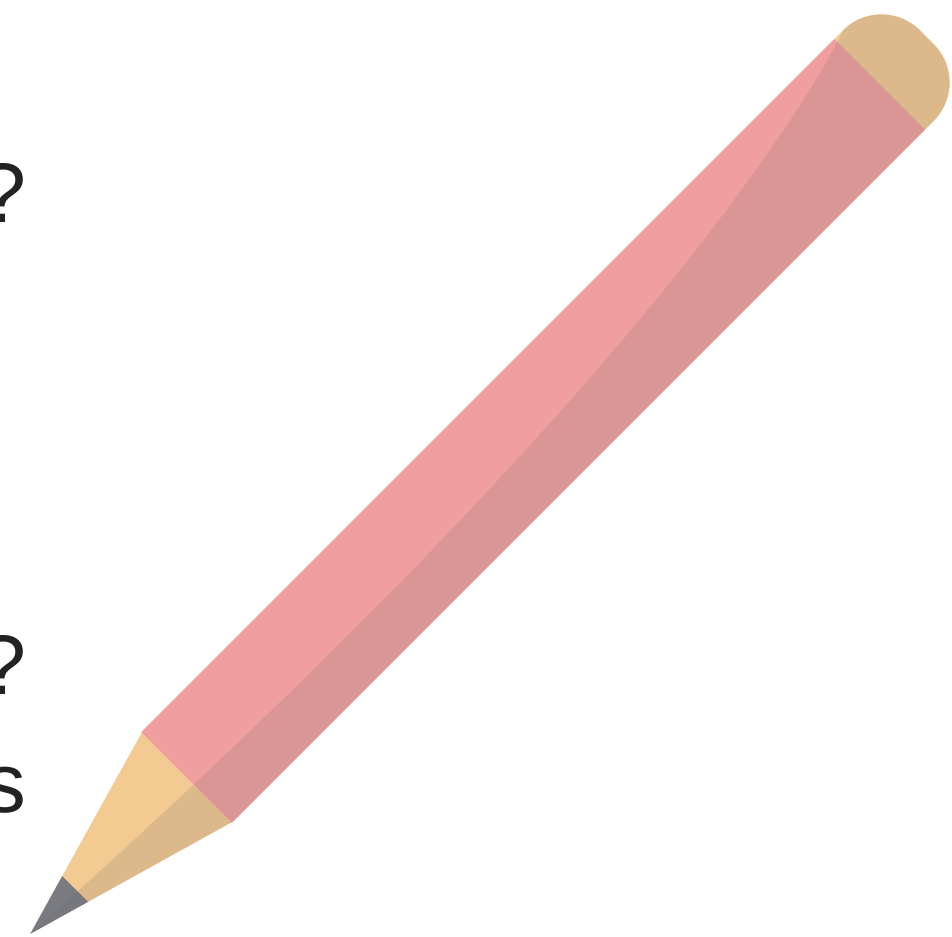
Elementary/Middle School (350-500 words):

Essay must include the following components:

- How has the subject challenged the status quo in our society?
- How has the subject inspired or influenced your own life?

High School Participants (500-700 words):

- How has the subject challenged the status quo in our society?
- What have been the most important outcomes of the subject's impact on our society?
- How has the subject inspired or influenced your own life?



**Click here to submit an entry
or visit bloomington.in.gov/bhm**

**The deadline for submission is January 18, 2019.
See reverse for official contest rules.**

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OFFICIAL CONTEST RULES FOR PARTICIPANTS

- The contest is open to students residing or enrolled in an elementary, middle, or high school in the city of Bloomington. Home-educated students are eligible to participate.
- The essay must focus on a subject from the designated list.
- The essay must be the original work of the student.
- The essay must include a cover sheet that contains the following information: Essay title, student's full name, email address, phone number, school attending, and grade level.
- The essays will be judged on the following criteria: Creativity, Cultural Knowledge, Structure, and Clarity (spelling/grammar/punctuation).
- Essays must be submitted online through the submission page which is located at bloomington.in.gov/bhm, mailed to City of Bloomington Black History Month Essay Contest, Safe & Civil City Program P.O. Box 100 Bloomington, Indiana 47402 or delivered to Showers Building City Hall, Community and Family Resources Department 401 N. Morton Street Suite 260.
- The Essay Contest will be open until January 18, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. EST.
- Submissions cannot be revised or altered once submitted.

AWARDS

Awards will be given to the first, second, and third place winners in each of the categories: Elementary School (4-6), Middle School (7-8), and High School (9-12). First place winners will receive an iPad. Second place winners will receive \$100.00 and third place winners will receive \$75.00.

Essay Contest winners and their guests will be honored at a reception on Thursday, February 21, 2019 at Fairview Elementary, located at 500 W. 7th Street. The reception is free and open to the public. First place winners will receive their awards at the reception. Second and third place winners will receive their prize through electronic fund transfer.

The Black History Month Essay committee will notify winners by phone or email no later than February 8, 2019. Essays not selected for first, second, or third prize will be informed by email on Friday, February 11, 2019.