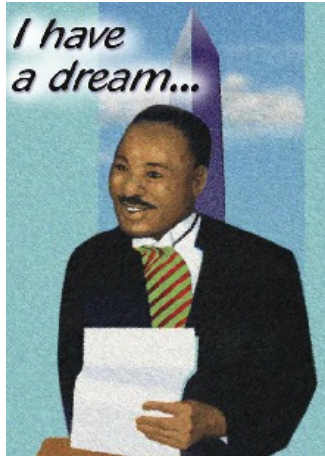


19th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. March, Celebration and Student Contest

THEME: "Love transforms enemies into friends!"



Monday, January 16th, 2017, is Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Day. He is a leader who was committed to justice and non-violence. To help honor his life and his work, you are invited to participate in the **Martin Luther King, Jr. Student Contest.**

This contest is open to **ALL SPRINGFIELD STUDENTS grades K – 12.**

This event is coordinated by Springfield Alliance for Equality and Respect (SAfER), Springfield Public Schools, the City of Springfield, Willamalane Parks and Recreation District and Springfield Education Association.

Submit an **ESSAY, POEM, LETTER, SPEECH, POSTER, VIDEO** or **ART WORK** in response to this quote:

QUOTE:

"Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend."

Full text of the section for the 2017 MLK Student Contest theme:

"A third reason why we should love our enemies is that love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend. We never get rid of an enemy by meeting hate with hate; we get rid of an enemy by getting rid of enmity. By its very nature, hate destroys and tears down; by its very nature, love creates and builds up. Love transforms with redemptive power". **The quote can be found in this book:** *Strength to Love (Harper & Row, 1963, reprinted by Beacon Press in A Gift of Love: Sermons from Strength to Love and Other Preachings, 2012). Chapter 5 - Loving Your Enemies*

- Create a poster, video, photographic display or other artwork illustrating your interpretation of Dr. King's words.
- Write an essay or poem.
- Compose a letter to a local elected official, congressperson or the U.S. president.
- Develop a commentary or speech related to Dr. King's above quote. (High School speech entrants to be judged separately under direction of Alyssa Dodd, THS and Scott Crowell, A3).

Deadline: 4th to 12th entries due Tuesday, **January 10th, 2017**, before 6:00 p.m.
K to 3rd entries due by Friday, **January 13th, 2017** before 6:00 p.m.

Where: All entries should be delivered to Willamalane, 250 S. 32nd Street, Springfield

Prizes: **All participants** will be honored at a community celebration on January 16th, 2017.
Grades K – 3 participants will receive ribbons and class recognition.
Grades 4 – 12 winning entries will receive cash prizes or gift certificates.

19th Annual MLK March, Celebration and Student Contest, January 16th 2017, 2 to 4 p.m. at Springfield High School. MLK March for Justice and Equality (beginning in front of Springfield Justice Center) at 1:30 and the student reception is from 2 to 2:30 in the SHS Cafeteria and Program and Awards follows in SHS Auditorium.