

Dear Educators, Parents and Community:

DETROIT BRANCH NAACP, COCA-COLA,
AND THE DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMUNITY DISTRICT
ANNOUNCE



27th Annual

Detroit Branch NAACP
Fight for Freedom Fund Dinner



Art/Essay Contest

THEME:

PLEASE EXPLAIN “WHAT THE CIVIL RIGHTS STRUGGLE MEANS TO ME.” (TELL US HOW THE CIVIL RIGHTS STRUGGLE HAS AFFECTED YOUR LIFE AND/OR THE LIVES OF OTHERS AND HOW IT IS RELEVANT TODAY).

Essay Entries:

- One or two page essay typewritten or neatly handwritten on 8.5 x 11 paper.
- Handwritten entries will only be accepted from elementary contestants.
- Sample writing prompts are included in the packet.
- Essays will be judged on:
 - Continuity of Thought
 - Grammar and Syntax

Art Entries:

- All art entries must be between 16 x 20 inches and 18 x 24 inches.
- Poster Board, Bristol Board, Heavy Paper, Ak Tag, (no newsprint paper)
- Only 2 dimensional entries will be accepted.
- Student artist should carefully plan and complete their art entries.
- All lettering/ text must be legible, spelled correctly and appropriate to theme.

Art Categories:

- Paintings (Watercolor, Acrylic)
- Drawings (pencil, ink, crayons, oil pastel, ink markers, etc.)
- Graphic Design
- Photography
- Printmaking
- Digital
- Mixed Media (combining of art materials)
- Collage

Note: Students may submit an Art entry, an Essay entry, or both. **An entry form must be attached to each entry.**

We encourage teachers to make this contest a classroom activity. Schools may submit up to five (5) entries for each level (elementary, middle, high school) for both the art and essay entries. **Teachers must include list of names of all students who participated so that they can be recognized as participants.**

Participants: Public, Private and Charter elementary, middle and high school students in Detroit, Highland Park, Hamtramck, Ecorse, Inkster, Oak Park, Romulus, River Rouge and Southfield are eligible.

Deadline: March 10, 2017

Additional Details:

In developing their theme, students are encouraged to consider personal experiences or events, current or past community heroes, historical figures, conduct interviews with parents, grandparents, or compare past civil rights issues to current civil rights issues etc.

Please discuss participation in this contest with your child/student. We encourage students to conduct research on this topic. Students may have conversations with parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, other relatives and friends to develop their entries. To help facilitate these conversations we have included sample writing and art prompts. Our goal is to broaden the students perspective of the contributions that African people have made on the continent and in this country. *The student does not have to use those individuals listed on the writing and art prompts.*

NEW CATEGORY!

Instagram Entries:

Open only to High School students (9-12 Grade).

Images and text work together to deliver powerful messages. Think about the theme and use technology and your imagination to create either a Text Gram or Instagram photo to showcase “What the Civil Rights Struggle Means to Me.”

The Text Gram or Instagram photo must be uploaded to the Detroit Branch NAACP’s Instagram account by Friday, March 10, 2017 with the hashtag #ArtEssay2017. A special prize will be awarded to one High School Winner.

SELECTION OF WINNERS:

A special committee will screen and select finalists. The Detroit Branch NAACP Contest Committee will select final winners.

RECOGNITION:

The three first place Essay and the three first place Art winners from each level will receive a \$375 educational scholarship and two tickets to the **Detroit Branch NAACP Fight For Freedom Fund Dinner**, which will be held on **Sunday, April 23, 2017**, at Cobo Conference Center. The six first place winners and their entries will appear in the Fight for Freedom Fund Dinner Souvenir Book. Second place winners will receive a \$150 educational scholarship. Third place winners will receive a \$100 educational scholarship.

ALL FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD PLACE WINNERS, their parents or guardians, teachers and principals **will be hosted** by Coca-Cola, **at a reception with community leaders at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History on Tuesday, March 28, 2017.**

All participants will receive a Certificate of Participation. **An entry form must be completed for each student to receive a Certificate of Participation.**

DEADLINE

Friday, March 10, 2017

Please submit all entries to:

Detroit Branch NAACP

Art & Essay Contest

8220 Second Avenue

Detroit, MI 48202

Every entry must have a COMPLETED entry form attached to the back of the Art/Essay Submission.

Announcements for this contest may be picked up at the:

Detroit Branch NAACP Office

Tuesday -Thursday

9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Friday

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Questions or requests may be referred to:

Mary Blackmon, Art & Essay Committee Chair at (313) 862-3623

LaToya Henry or Kamilia Landrum at (313) 871-2087

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**“What the Civil Rights Struggle Means to Me”
Entry Form**

Student’s Name: _____ **Parent’s Name:** _____

Home Address: _____
City, State, Zip

Grade: _____ **Home Phone Number:** _____

Name of School: _____

School Address: _____
City, State, Zip

School Phone Number: _____ **Fax Number:** _____

Teacher’s Name: _____ **Principal:** _____

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Student’s Name: _____ **Parent’s Name:** _____

Home Address: _____
City, State, Zip

Grade: _____ **Home Phone Number:** _____

Name of School: _____

School Address: _____
City, State, Zip

School Phone Number: _____ **Fax Number:** _____

Teacher’s Name: _____ **Principal:** _____

THE 27TH ANNUAL DETROIT BRANCH NAACP ART AND ESSAY CONTEST

Grades 1-2

Ruby Bridges: A Simple Act of Courage

www.scholastic.com



“The Problem We All Live With” by Norman Rockwell (1964)

THEME:

In 1960, Ruby Bridges was 6 years old when she became the first African-American child to integrate a white Southern elementary school. When Ruby was in kindergarten, she was one of many African-American students in New Orleans who were chosen to take a test determining whether or not she could attend a white school. Ruby Bridges' parents were informed by officials from the NAACP that she was one of only six African-American students to pass the test.

Please use the following link from *Scholastic, Inc.* to access a fantastic teaching guide and slide show about Ruby Bridges. <http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/article/ruby-bridges-and-civil-rights-movement-slide-show-teaching-guide-kindergarten-grade-2>

This teaching guide provides in-depth historical background to accompany the slide show about Ruby Bridges, her role in desegregating public schools in New Orleans in 1960, and her place in the broader civil rights movement.

LETTER ENTRIES:

Write a letter to Ruby Bridges telling her what you have learned from her experience integrating William Frantz Elementary School.

Write your response neatly on an 8 ½ x 11 sheet of paper.

ART ENTRIES:

Draw a poster (9 x 12) showing how we should treat others. You may use pictures and words.

THE 27TH ANNUAL DETROIT BRANCH NAACP ART AND ESSAY CONTEST

Grades 3-5



The NAACP is an organization that works to ensure that minority group citizens of the United States keep civil rights. Civil rights and social justice are about individuals having the right to receive equal and fair treatment.

There was a Civil Rights Movement in the United States that lasted many years (1948-1968). The Civil Rights Movement was needed because African Americans throughout much of the South were denied the right to vote, were not allowed to enter certain public facilities, were subjected to insults and violence, and could not expect justice from the courts. In the North, Black Americans also

faced discrimination in housing, employment, education, and many other areas.

During those years, the NAACP supported the Supreme Court ruling of *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954), which outlawed segregation in public schools. They not only helped to integrate the US Armed Forces (1948), but also helped the passage of the *Civil Rights Acts of 1957, 1964, and 1968*, as well as the *Voting Rights Act of 1965*.

THEME:

Achieving civil rights was slow, painful, and often times violent, yet many men, women and children persevered through those difficult times. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rosa Parks are two of the most famous Americans who worked for civil rights and social justice during that time. However, there were many others like them. The following are names of people who were members of the NAACP and made a difference:

- W.E.B. DuBois
- Charles Hamilton Houston
- Oscar Micheaux
- Harry T. and Harriette Moore
- Medgar Evers
- Myrlie Evers-Williams
- J.L. Chestnut Jr.
- James Weldon Johnson & Walter White
- Mary White Ovington
- Roy Wilkins & Clarence Mitchell
- Carter G. Woodson
- Thurgood Marshall

Research one of the names above, or person who has worked to maintain civil rights in your community. What did they do? How were their achievements important to civil rights and social justice for people in America?

ESSAY ENTRIES:

Write a one or two page essay, typewritten or neatly handwritten on 8 x 11 paper.

To successfully communicate your knowledge and ideas make sure your essay expresses continuity of thought and utilizes proper grammar and syntax.

ART ENTRIES:

Create an art entry that expresses the theme and shows the aesthetic qualities of the materials in which you select. Two-dimensional and three-dimensional works of art may be submitted. Adhere to the *Art Guidelines* that have been provided.

THE 27TH ANNUAL DETROIT BRANCH NAACP ART AND ESSAY CONTEST

Grades 6-12

The NAACP is a civil rights organization that works to ensure political, educational, social, and economic equality for minority group citizens of the United States.

During the Civil Rights Movement (1948-1968), African Americans throughout much of the South were denied the right to vote, were barred from public facilities, were subjected to insults and violence, and could not expect justice from the courts. In the North, Black Americans also faced discrimination in housing, employment, education, and many other areas.

The implementation of civil rights was slow, painful, and often times violent, yet many men, women and children persevered through these difficult times. The NAACP advocated for the Supreme Court ruling of *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954), which outlawed segregation in public schools. They not only helped to integrate the US Armed Forces (1948), but also helped the passage of the *Civil Rights Acts of 1957, 1964, and 1968*, as well as the *Voting Rights Act of 1965*. Although issues may have changed since then, civil rights and social justice issues remain relevant in our world today.

THEME:

Maintaining and protecting civil rights is also slow, painful, and often times violent. Yet, the NAACP is committed to eliminating racial and ethnic disparities that plague people of color in the United States. These disparities are issues (problems) involving education, health care, law enforcement, and racial injustice.

Choose a civil rights issue—a problem in the world today. Explain what makes the issue a problem, and tell how the problem can possibly be fixed.

ESSAY ENTRIES:

Write a one or two page essay, typewritten on 8 x 11 paper.

To successfully communicate your knowledge and ideas effectively and efficiently make sure your essay expresses continuity of thought and uses proper grammar and syntax.

ART ENTRIES:

Create an art entry that expresses the theme and shows the aesthetic qualities of the materials in which you select. Two-dimensional and three-dimensional works of art may be submitted. Adhere to the *Art Guidelines* that have been provided.