

2017 Gandhi/King Peace Scholarship Essay Contest

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Essay submissions must be typed, consist of 500 words or less, and address the prompt:

Both Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., advocated for nonviolence as the way to confront discrimination, racism and the violence that so often accompanies the disrespect of other human beings. The work and words of Gandhi and King are both an example and a road map for the way forward for our country. In addressing the nation following the 2014 civil unrest in Ferguson, Missouri, then-President Barack Obama acknowledged that violence is “not a Ferguson problem; it is a national problem.”

As a community college student, outline a plan that will educate the members of your college community about the scope of the problem and the elements of and rationale for a nonviolent response. In the presentation of your plan, draw on the lives and writings of Gandhi and King.

***Students are encouraged to schedule appointments with the Writing Center to review essays before submission.**

Essays must be submitted via email to the Writing Center or Student Life no later than 3:00 p.m. on Friday, March 17.

Entries will be judged based on the following criteria:

- Demonstrated understanding of the significance of the work of Gandhi and King
- Content, strength and persuasiveness of argument
- Personal goals and involvement in peacebuilding efforts
- Writing style, clarity of expression, and correct grammar and punctuation

PRIZES

The first place local winner will receive a \$100 gift card for the LLCC Bookstore and have his or her essay submission will be forwarded to the state-wide competition for the chance to win \$500 toward education expenses for the Fall 2017 Semester and an honorary invitation to attend the Illinois Community College Association’s award banquet in June 2017.

CONTACT

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*LLCC local prizes awarded courtesy of Student Life.