

Allentown City Black History Month

Essay Writing or Poem Writing or Paint

Topic: I Shall Rise

Student must be a resident of the City of Allentown to be a participant

Who is eligible?

All high school students enrolled in grades 9-12 grade in public or private/charter schools in the City of Allentown. **Student must be a resident of the City of Allentown to be a participant.**

Format

The essay or poem should be between 200-250 words, or not more than three (3) minutes. Entries may be typed using **‘Times New Roman font size 12’** and should be **double-spaced**.

Entry application

www.allentownpa.gov/blackhistorymonth

Deadline for entries, Monday, February 19, 2018 and should submit electronically to events@allentownpa.gov

Award recognition

First Place

Second Place

Winners will be notified via email or phone call, and the names of winners will be announced at the **Allentown Black History Event, on Saturday, February 24, 2018, Trexler Middle School, 851 N. 15th Street, Allentown, PA 18102**

Official Guidelines

1. Students must enter through their **High School Counselor**.
2. Students must compose an original essay/poem with limited guidance from others.
3. The contest is open to all students in grades 9-12 in public or private/charter schools.
4. Students may submit only one essay/poem entry during the opening and closing period.
5. Students must adhere to the official topic "I Shall Rise"
6. Each entry must include the Contest Entry Title Page.
7. Essays or Poem must contain at least 200 words but no more than 250 words. Every word of the essay is counted. This does not include the title, bibliography or footnotes.
5. Any quotations or copyrighted material used in the essay must be identified properly. Failure to identify non-original material will result in disqualification.
6. Essays/Poems must be written in English.
7. Judging will be completed by qualified judges.
8. Judges will not discuss or compare essays or poem being judged until all essays/poems have been received.

Marking:

10. Material Organization (Logical interpretation of the subject, adherence to topic):
11. Vocabulary and Style (Phrasing and continuity):
12. Grammar, Punctuation, Spelling:
13. Neatness:
14. Adherence to contest rules (prepared in the proper format):

Painting

The ultimate objective is to have an “entertaining” and interesting painting for the viewers. The painting will be based on the theme and the painting that is selected and shown will be representative of that particular theme. Within that competition’s theme, of those painting selected.

Deadline for entries, Monday, February 19, 2018 and should submit to the High School Counselor.

Based on the painting submitted to our competitions, they will be judged based on the following elements of artistic expression:

1. Interpretation and the clarity of the theme to the viewer.
2. Creativity and originality of the depicted theme.
3. Quality of artistic composition and overall design based on the theme.
4. Overall impression of the painting. What is the effect of the painting in general and as a whole? Overall, does the painting stand on its own as a complete and outstanding work.

Here are some reasons for not being selected for one of our exhibitions;

1. Poor color or image quality. Sometimes we receive what we believe is an exceptional piece of art, but it is obvious to us that the colors are not balanced, are washed out and are not representative of the original colors of the painting.
2. Sloppiness. We will not take images that are framed, are crooked, show backgrounds, watermarks or large and over-sized artist signatures. Yet, knowing this information, we still receive images with these issues. Even though the painting is exceptional, we do not consider them for the exhibition and they are quickly rejected.