

The Eleventh Judicial Circuit 2024 Black History Month Essay Contest

The Eleventh Judicial Circuit takes this time to celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Black Americans, who, throughout history, have done so much to make America the culturally diverse and prosperous nation we are today. During Black History Month, the Miami-Dade County Public Schools students can gain insight into the experiences of Black Americans and the vital role this community has played throughout our shared history. There will be three (3) educational prizes donated for the winning essays as follows:

- FIRST** place winner will receive \$2,000.00.
- SECOND** place will receive \$1,500.00.
- THIRD** place winner will receive \$1000.00

The winners will be announced on **Thursday, February 29, 2024 at 12:00 P.M.**

***** **RULES AND REQUIREMENTS** *****

- This contest is open only to Miami-Dade County Public School students (grades 9-12).
The essay must be the original work of the student whose name appears on this entry form. Plagiarism is NOT allowed. **Use of language model OpenAI technology is not permitted.**
- Only one essay per student will be accepted.
- Essays shall be 750 words or less.
- Cite sources in a bibliography page if appropriate.

***** **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS** *****

Essays must be submitted via email to **BlackHistoryMonthEvent@gmail.com** along with this completed form and the parent / legal guardian form no later than **5:00 PM on Friday February 16, 2024.**

***** **STUDENT ENTRY INFORMATION** *****

Student Name: _____ Age: _____
 Home Mailing Address: _____
 School: _____ Grade: _____
 Primary Contact Phone #(s): _____ Alternate Phone: _____ Email: _____

***** <u>ESSAY INSTRUCTIONS</u> ***** Describe in 750 words or less
Essay Topic: Examine the significance of incorporating a comprehensive and inclusive curriculum on Black history within Florida schools. Discuss the potential positive or negative effects of this educational approach, emphasizing how it can contribute or detract from the cultivation of understanding, empathy, and unity among students from diverse backgrounds.
***** <u>JUDGING CRITERIA</u> *****
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How well the Essay addresses the question or topic 2. How well the Essay is organized 3. The use of personal and non-personal examples to illustrate your point of view 4. Writing accuracy (spelling, grammar, and punctuation)

If you have any questions, please contact the Chambers of Judge William L. Thomas at 305-349-7144 or via email at BlackHistoryMonthEvent@gmail.com