

# Martin Luther King Jr. 13th Annual Scholarship Contest

*“Arab and Chaldean Americans Celebrate the Life and Spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.”*

**Friday, February 10, 2012, 6:00pm**

Location to be determined

“This annual essay contest held in King’s memory has grown into one of the more notable and interesting celebrations of King’s life in metro Detroit.” — **Detroit Free Press, January 20, 2005**

**A**DC Michigan’s Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Program began about eleven years ago. ADC adopted this vision and took on the challenge to, as a voice of civil rights for Arab Americans, implement a program that would, not only honor our nation’s greatest civil rights leader, but also carry his message to the Arab and Chaldean American communities in Metro Detroit,

who face so many of the same challenges that African Americans have seen. Thus, the scholarship program was born.

The wonder of this program is in its dual goals to provide Arab American and Chaldean high school students with college funding and to help educate them about the ongoing struggle for civil rights.

## Criteria

Participants must be current senior high school students of Arab or Chaldean origin. Senior students in bilingual programs are also eligible to participate in this contest.

Your entry must be an original manuscript, written exclusively from an Arab or Chaldean American perspective. All entries become the property of ADC.

**Essays should focus on the following topic:** *As an Arab/Chaldean American, how would you describe the impact that the message/work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. has had on your community and on you personally?* (Minimize biographical information on MLK and focus more on your personal perspective).

## Procedure

1. Write an essay, minimum of 750 and a maximum of 1000 words, typed and double-spaced.
2. Include your name, school, home address, telephone number, and school counselor with their telephone number on a cover sheet.
3. The cover sheet must be signed by your high school counselor. **DO NOT** put your name, school, address and telephone number anywhere on the essay.

4. Two copies of the essay must be submitted, or the essay will not be forwarded for judging. Incomplete essays will not be forwarded for judging.
5. If the student is in a bilingual program, or was previously in a bilingual/ESL program, your counselor must indicate so. Indicate the number of years the student is/had been in a bilingual program.

## How will your essay be judged?

Your essay will be judged based on content, organization, convention, voice and presentation. Consider the following questions as you develop your essay.

1. Does your essay show that you know the topic and the issues well enough to make informed judgments about what you have learned?
2. Have you supported your assertions with good examples?
3. Is the essay indicative of how the subject matter affects you and humanity?
4. Have you adequately presented your points of view regarding the topic?
5. Is the essay clearly presented and well organized and includes an introduction, body and conclusion?
6. Have you checked for grammar, spelling and punctuation?

## Awards Reception

Winners will be notified in advance and will be invited to an awards ceremony, scheduled for **Friday, February 10, 2012, 6:00pm.**

## Deadline

Essays may be packaged through your school, or sent individually, in a 9 x 12-inch envelope (or larger).

Essays must be postmarked no later than **Tuesday, January 17, 2012**, and mailed the address below:

**ADC Michigan Office  
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
Scholarship Contest  
Attn: MLK Program Committee  
13530 Michigan Ave., Suite 329  
Dearborn, MI 48126**

## Any questions may be directed to:

The ADC Michigan Office at (313) 581-1201  
or email: [adc-michigan@adc.org](mailto:adc-michigan@adc.org)