



The Virginia Black History Month Association Children's Writing Contest



What: The Virginia Black History Month Association Children's Writing Contest.

When: Contest begins Tuesday, December 4, 2018 and ends Tuesday, January 22, 2019.

Where: Winners announced at the 19th Annual Virginia Black History Month Gala on Saturday, February 23, 2019 (6pm to 9pm) at the Hilton McLean Tysons Corner Hotel, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean, Virginia, 22102.

Who: All 5th Grade Students currently enrolled in any Virginia elementary school (or home schooled).

The Winners Receive

First Prize: \$250

Second Prize: \$150

Third Prize: \$75

- Monetary gifts from the Virginia Black History Month Association.
- The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners are announced during the Gala. They will also receive two complimentary tickets to attend the Virginia Black History Month Gala.
- The 1st place winner will receive a large poster-size check with their name and winning amount.
- All winners will receive a complimentary gift from the Virginia Black History Month Association.
- All will receive a complimentary family portrait courtesy from the Virginia Black History Month Association's exclusive photographer during the Gala.
- All will receive a Certificate of Achievement from the Virginia Black History Month Association.

Cover Sheet Information
(Must Accompany Your Essay Submission)

Essay Title:

Name:

Permanent Address:

Home Phone Number:

Contact E-mail Address:

Gender: ___ Male ___ Female

Grade (as of fall of 2018):

School Name & Address (as of fall of 2018):

Contest Rules

1. This contest is open to all 5th Grade Students currently enrolled in any Virginia Elementary School (or home schooled).
2. Contest officially begins Tuesday, December 4, 2018 and ends Tuesday, January 22, 2019.
3. Writing entries should be limited to two pages plus cover sheet.
4. Each entry must be written by the student.
5. The entry must be neatly handwritten on standard ruled note paper.
6. Include the title of your entry on both the first page of the essay and on the cover sheet.
7. **HOW TO ENTER:** The essay should pertain to the following topic:

Topic: During the Great Migration from 1916 to 1970 many African Americans relocated from the south to the Northeast, Midwest, and Western region of the country. (e.g. Baltimore, Chicago, Los Angeles, Detroit, Philadelphia, New York) Discuss one historic African American born in one of these new locations that were populated during the Great Migration.

- Some Examples: Quincy Jones (Chicago), Della Reese (Detroit), Thurgood Marshall (Baltimore), Diana Ross (Detroit), Ralph Bunche (Detroit), Florence Griffith-Joyner (Los Angeles), Ben Carson (Detroit), Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (New York)
8. **Judging Criteria:** The three winners will be selected by a neutral judging panel and will be rated in three areas:
 - Writing Skill, Story Content and Originality
 9. The list of panel members is **Ms. Pamela Nephew** (College Professor), **Mr. Larry Marks** (High School Principal) and **Mr. Eugene Williams**, (Author & High School Principal). Participants agree to be bound by these rules and the decision of the judges. All decisions are final. The top three winners will be notified by mail or phone call no later than Monday, January 28, 2019.
 10. Send the enclosed cover sheet with each entry. Ensure you include the following:
 - Name and title of the entry
 - Student's permanent home address and school address (if applicable)
 - Telephone number(s)

Note: Mail entries to: (Our new mailing address) The Virginia Black History Month Children's Writing Contest, PO Box 41924, FREDERICKSBURG VA 22404. All entries must be received by 5:00pm on Tuesday, January 22, 2019.

11. The writing entry with the highest achievement will receive the first-place award; next highest achievement will receive the second-place award, and the third highest achievement will receive the third-place award.
12. Awards will be presented during the Annual Black History Month Gala on **Saturday, February 23, 2019 (Please arrive by 5:15pm). We would like for the winning contestants to be present at the Gala. In addition, the winners and one of their parent's will be given a free complimentary ticket to attend the Gala. The cost of adult tickets for additional attendees is adults: \$90.00, Students: \$60 and Children: (under 12 yrs. old) \$35.00 (Note: Children 5 yrs. old and under are free)**