

Black History Month “Expressions” Contest

*Celebrating Black Excellence and Contributions
within the African American Culture*

Presented by the AREA Equity Team (Directed by Lynn White)
Special Gratitude to Area President, Jocelyn Barbeau Merz



Rationale and Framework for Educators

It is with our deepest hope and conviction that ARUSD teachers, along with the support of leadership, will encourage, support, and lead their students in exploring race relations and historical issues of importance to people of African descent in America.

An exploration of Black history themes is in itself instructive for those interested in the study of identity and ideology. Over the years, these themes reflect changes in how people of African descent in the United States have viewed themselves, the influence of social movements on racial ideologies, and the aspirations of the black community.

When Carter G. Woodson established Negro History week in 1926, he chose February because the month contained the birthdays of both Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. The intention of Black History Month has never been to dictate the exploration or education of the Black experience in America, but to bring to the public’s attention the history, important developments, and accomplishments of African Americans that warrant celebration and due attention.

“We all should know that diversity makes for a rich tapestry, and we must understand that all the threads of the tapestry are equal in value no matter what their color.”

— Maya Angelou (1928-2014)
Poet, Dancer, Producer, Playwright, Director, and Author

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Information for Students

The AREA Equity Team formally invites **Grades TK-8th** to display, explore and showcase their creative talents and gifts in this inaugural Black History Month “Expressions” Contest.

2021 Theme: BLACK LIVES MATTER

A Celebration of Black Excellence and Contributions within the African American Culture. Throughout the ages African Americans have had a rich tradition of creating narratives of solace, songs of resistance, images of strength, lyrics of love, dances of beauty and accomplishments of empowerment.

Contest Rules

- Have fun and produce an original poster, essay, song, poem/spoken word, rap, painting, sculpture, dance, graphic art design or any other works of inspiration that commemorates and celebrates Black History Month.
- Each performance can be up to 5 minutes.
- Only one entry per student is allowed.

Submission & Criteria

- Upload videos, performance recordings to a free media host site (such as YouTube) and submit a web link. Also take several photos of art and **send all entries to Lynn White at areaequity@gmail.com by 5:00pm on Friday, February 26, 2021.**
- Include your name, grade, teacher, school and parent’s email address.
- All submittals will be reviewed for creative original content and will be judged subjectively by impartial judges.
- Winners will be notified by March 5th, 2021!

Prizes will be awarded to students in each of the grade level groupings below:

(1st place \$100.00, 2nd place \$75.00 and 3rd place \$50.00)

TK-2nd grade

3rd-5th grade

6th-8th grade

Deadline for submission is Friday, Feb. 26th @ 5pm

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ALUM ROCK EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

Black History Month Resources for Educators and Students

These are a few resources that we have included for your review. You are invited to do further research on your own. You may ask your teachers for assistance you may contact me at the number below.

Lynn White at 408-234-1588

Educator Resources

<https://www.cta.org/black-history-month>

How to Draw a Gallery

<https://artprojectsforkids.org/category/view-by-theme/black-history-month/>

37 Different Black History Month Activities

<https://homeschoolsuperfreak.com/free-black-history-homeschool-curriculum-resources/>

20 Pertinent Black History Month Resources Middle-High School

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/2019/02/black-history-month-resources-for-the-classroom/>

Collection of Artwork by Black Artists

<https://artclasscurator.com/black-history-month-art-lessons/>

Black History Month Resources from Teacher’s Corner Various Grades

<https://seasonal.theteacherscorner.net/black-history-month/>