



VENTURES IN COMMUNITY...
Advocating for those in need

Annual MLK DAY Essay Contest

**THEME “If I cannot do great things,
I can do small things in a great way.”**

—Dr. Martin Luther King

Open to Mt Vernon Area High School Students - Ages 14 - 18

Essays are due Friday, January 10, 2020

Cash prizes for the top three winners. Prize-winning authors will read their essays at the MLK Day celebration **January 18, 2020, 3:00 PM, Bethlehem Baptist Church, 7836 Fordson Rd.**

Contact Pastor Abe Smith for more details. Abesmith5509@gmail.com.

**Awards: \$150 for 1st place, \$100 for 2nd place, and
\$50 for 3rd place**

Contest rules:

Essays must be about 500 words. One essay per contestant.

Parent/guardian and student must sign a release form (at venturesincommunity.org)

Essays can be submitted between **Dec. 13, 2019 and midnight Jan. 10, 2020**

Winners will be announced on Thursday Jan. 16, 2019

Essays will be judged on the following criteria:

Adherence to theme (above)

Passion and authenticity

Writing ability and readability at the MLK event

Reasoned argument

Factual accuracy, especially historical accuracy regarding Dr. King

**Submit your essay by email to: Abesmith5509@gmail.com, subject line: “MLK Essay”
by no later than midnight, Friday, January 10, 2020.**

Essays will be ranked according to the criteria above by a committee appointed by Ventures in Community and scores averaged to determine the winners.

Website: Venturesincommunity.org Facebook: [venturesincommunity](https://www.facebook.com/venturesincommunity)