## Martin Luther King Jr. "I HAVE A DREAM" Essay Contest

Martin Luther King Jr.'s iconic "I Have a Dream" speech has been the subject of much conversation and debate for 50 years. King's dream was that of one person; however, he opened the door for everyone to have a dream. Using the spirit of Martin Luther King Jr., this essay contest asks you, what is your dream for peace, equality, and justice in the 21<sup>st</sup> century?

## Guidelines:

- 1. The contest is open to students in Otsego County schools and colleges.
- 2. Essays should be original in content but within the context of King's original speech.
- 3. Essays must meet the word count assigned to the division. Essays under the word count minimum or over the word count maximum will not be considered. The maximum word count for any division is 1500 words. The following are the word count minimums for each division:
  - a. Elementary-500 words
  - b. Junior High-750 words
  - c. High School-1000 words
  - d. College 1250 words
- 4. Submission must include a cover page that includes name, school affiliation and classification, and title of essay.
- 5. Winners will be asked to read their essay at the SUNY Oneonta's MLK Celebration event.
- 6. Submit completed essay to Howard Ashford (<a href="https://howard.Ashford@oneonta.edu">howard.Ashford@oneonta.edu</a>).
- 7. DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 10, 2022.

## Awards:

- 1. There will be four winners from the four divisions.
- 2. Each winner will receive a \$100 cash prize and a plaque.
- 3. Each winner's essay will be framed and placed in the Center for Racial Justice and Inclusive Excellence for one year, alongside their photograph.