

2015 MLK Tribute



We encourage all K-12 students to apply. If your students receive accommodations, please determine the appropriate developmental level for your students' projects. Grade levels provided are only guidelines. Please provide the appropriate prompts to your students based on their context. Submission details are on the back side.

Focus for Levels K-5

Theme: No one should have to wait for the world to become fair. We should ensure that the world becomes fair and just now.

Use the theme as a learning focus on which to base the project. Students may conduct historical or social studies work in order to explore the theme of fairness in the world. Students may reflect on the theme to create original music, visual art (including computer-aided work), or reflective writings (poetry, short stories, reflective essays, explanatory essays, etc.).

In addition to their original work, each student is asked to include the following paragraphs. Students should support their statements.

Write a brief paragraph telling what you now KNOW about Dr. King/the meaning of fairness.

Write a brief paragraph telling what you now can DO because of working on your project.

Write a brief paragraph telling how you think about the world differently because of your study of Dr. King.

K-5 Examples

The following examples illustrate the nature and scope of this year's projects, and are provided as possible ideas. Please feel free to use your own prompts as long as you include the theme and paragraphs as outlined above.

- Use a book about Dr. King, the civil rights movement, or fairness, such as, *Happy Birthday Dr. King* by Kathryn Jones, part of the 4th grade Houghton Mifflin series on the theme of heroes.
 - Write a poem, essay or song that would help others understand these main ideas.
- Read about the struggles in Ferguson, MO, and write a speech that you think Dr. King would give today for the people of Ferguson.
 - Remember to connect your speech to the theme: We should not have to wait for the world to become fair. We should ensure that the world becomes fair and just now.
- Create a graphic non-fiction book about a real person in Dubuque who is working to make the world more fair and just right now.
- Create unique 2-dimensional, 3-dimensional, or digital art that reflects the theme. Provide an artist's statement that relates the piece to the quotation.

Focus for Levels 6-12

Theme: "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice."

Dr. King adapted abolitionist Theodore Parker's statement and used the phrase in many speeches. In 1965 when he answered the question how long African Americans must wait for full equality and justice in America, Dr. King answered, "Not long, because the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." Use this quote as a learning focus on which to base the project.

Students may conduct historical or social studies work in order to explore the theme of change and stability as it applies to the quotation. Students may reflect on the quotation's meaning to create original music, visual art (including computer-aided work), or reflective

writings (poetry, short stories, reflective essays, explanatory essays, etc.). The full text of this speech is available at <http://www.mlkonline.net/ourgod.html> . Other library and electronic sources may provide additional background.

In addition to their original work, each student is asked to include the following. Students should provide reasoning and evidence to support their statements.

Write a paragraph telling what you now KNOW about Dr. King/the meaning of fairness.

Write a paragraph telling what you now can DO because of working on your project.

Write a paragraph telling how you think about the world differently because of your study of Dr. King.

Read Dr. King's speech listed above.

6-12 Examples

The following examples illustrate the nature and scope of this year's projects, and are provided as possible ideas. Please feel free to use your own prompts as long as you include the theme outlined above.

- Read or listen to Dr. King's speech referenced above or Dr. King's speech given at Cornell College in Iowa in 1962 <http://news.cornellcollege.edu/dr-martin-luther-kings-visit-to-cornell-college/> .
 - A. In your own words, identify and discuss Dr. King's main ideas and purpose.
 - B. Discuss how these ideas impact your own life or write a poem or spoken word reflecting this impact.
- Compare the church bombings in Birmingham and the church shooting this year. Using Dr. King's quotation as a theme, consider change and stability in the United States when you compare the two events. Use information from at least one primary source and one secondary source to provide evidence. Present your work in either of the following formats:
 - Formal essay
 - Graphic non-fiction
- Create unique 2-dimensional, 3-dimensional, or digital art that reflects the following quotation: "[T]he arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice." Provide an artist's statement that relates the piece to the quotation.
- Music/Spoken Word: Compose and record original music that reflects the following quotation: "[T]he arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice." Provide an artist's statement that relates the piece to the quotation.

Submission Instructions

- Final projects and cover sheets with paragraphs are due on **Wednesday, 25 November 2015**. Recognition will be formally given on Sunday, 17 January 2016.

K-2:	4 students will receive recognition
3-5:	4 students will receive recognition
6-8:	4 students will receive recognition
9-12:	4 students will receive recognition

- For electronic submissions, please upload any text or slideshows as .pdf files. Upload a photo of visual art as a .jpg. Use a compressed, standard audio file if uploading music. You may upload two separate files at <http://www.dubuquenaacp.com/mlk-tribute/> .
- If the work is not digital, please keep the original work and submit a copy and a printed version of the cover sheet to: Dubuque Branch NAACP/ATTN: MLK Tribute,

We strongly suggest submitting an electronic version of any work that cannot be copied. We cannot ensure the return of original work.

Thank you for paying tribute to Dr. King. We look forward to your projects!