

UNITY IN DIVERSITY: OUR SINGLE GARMENT OF DESTINY

2025 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Writing Contest

Winners will be filmed reading their pieces, and the videos will be aired during the Crispus Attucks MLK Breakfast on Monday January 20, 2025.

Each student will receive up to four complimentary tickets to the Breakfast.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once stated:

"We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly."

In this quote, Dr. King expresses the idea that we are all interconnected, regardless of our differences. In your essay, analyze how this statement relates to the themes of unity and diversity. Consider how King's vision for a just society relies on these concepts and explore their relevance in today's world.

As you write your essay, address the following points:

- Interpret the meaning of Dr. King's "single garment of destiny" metaphor and how it applies to human relationships and social justice.
- Discuss how unity and diversity can coexist and support one another in building a more equitable society.
- Provide real-world examples (from history, current events, or personal experiences) where the idea of mutual responsibility or interconnectedness has had a significant impact.
- Reflect on how this quote challenges or reinforces your views on the role individuals and communities play in shaping the future.

Be sure to support your analysis with evidence from historical movements, social justice issues, or Dr. King's other writings and speeches.

High School:

Entries should be a maximum 350 words



All high schoolers are invited to submit! Flip to the back for the criteria



Submission

Deadline for submission is Friday, December 13, 2024. Email all submissions to marketing@caplanc.org

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High School Submissions

All essays will be evaluated based on the following criteria

Criteria	4 - Excellent	3 - Good	2 - Satisfactory	1 - Developing
Analysis of the Quote	Provides an insightful analysis of the quote, exploring its deeper meaning and implications.	Offers a solid analysis of the quote, with a mostly clear interpretation.	Provides a basic analysis but lacks depth or detail in the interpretation.	Shows little understanding of the quote, with limited or unclear analysis.
Connection to Unity and Diversity	Thoroughly explores how the quote relates to unity and diversity, providing thoughtful insights.	Explains the connection with relevant ideas but may lack depth in some areas.	Makes a general connection but does not explore the topic deeply.	Struggles to connect the quote to unity or diversity, with limited explanation.
Use of Examples and Evidence	Uses strong, well-researched examples from history, current events, or personal experiences to support analysis.	Provides good examples, though some may be less specific or detailed.	Uses a few examples that may be general or only loosely connected to the topic.	Examples are vague, unrelated, or missing.
Organization and Clarity	The essay is exceptionally well-organized, with a logical flow and clear, persuasive writing.	The essay is well-organized, though some transitions may be less smooth.	The essay has some organizational issues that make certain parts difficult to follow.	The essay lacks clear organization, making the ideas hard to understand.

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