



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Essay Contest

To encourage Kettering residents to reflect on the life and teachings of Dr. King and to promote his dream and legacy to America, the Board of Community Relations is sponsoring an essay contest for Kettering students.

In a speech at Cornell College in Mount Vernon, Iowa, on Oct. 15, 1962, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said, ***“I am convinced that men hate each other because they fear each other. They fear each other because they don’t know each other, and they don’t know each other because they don’t communicate with each other, and they don’t communicate with each other because they are separated from each other.”***

The Kettering Board of Community Relations has been promoting **“I Am Your Neighbor”** in an effort to encourage Kettering residents to engage with their neighbors and increase community involvement. This essay provides an opportunity to learn and understand each other. Our stories and experiences are unique and important. By sharing them, we break down barriers that divide us.

Write a personal “I Am” essay on any aspect of your identity and how you have been stereotyped or discriminated against. Tell us how you hope Kettering can overcome barriers and separation to reduce fear.

Contest Criteria:

- Open to students who are middle and high school students who reside in or attend any school in Kettering.
- The essays must be submitted digitally this year. They may be copied and pasted into the google forms or they may be attached to the google form at: <https://goo.gl/forms/q3d5fBxFulTngfIW2>
- The essay is limited to 1000 words. Written essay submissions may be submitted until February 1, 2019. Submissions that do not meet the criteria, that plagiarize others’ work, or that do not include a
- complete application form will not be considered. Other writers’ work including Dr. King’s work must be properly cited.

Winners will be invited to the February 26th, 2019 Kettering City Council meeting for recognition.

To reach a staff person to request additional information about the contest or the results, please contact kbocr@ketteringoh.org or call 937-296-3020 and speak with Katherine.