



# DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY COMMISSION

6751 Columbia Gateway Drive ■ Columbia, Maryland 21046 ■ 410-313-6430

November 14, 2017

Dear Middle School Principals:

The Howard County Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission will host their Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Celebration on *Sunday, January 14, 2018, 2:00 PM* at Reservoir High School. ***The event theme this year is: "If I cannot do great things, I will do small things in a great way."*** One of the highlights of the celebration is the presentation of the Student Essay Awards contest winners to our High School and Middle School students. County Executive Allan H. Kittleman has recognized the importance of this community event by making the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Committee a permanent county commission.

The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission encourages all middle and high school students to participate in this essay contest. ***The essay question this year is: "How do you translate Dr. King's vision in today's times?"*** Students are invited to write an essay about what small things they are doing that might contribute towards a greater cause and what they envision themselves doing in the future to keep Dr. King's dream alive. Students with disabilities are encouraged to submit their essays using other media types to portray their ideas.

**The deadline for submission has been extended to Friday, December 8, 2017 by 5:00 PM.** Essays must be submitted via email or US mail in MS Word format. Judges will select the winners that best depict this year's celebration theme and content. See attached flier for more details.

Thank you for your continued support and please share this material with your students, parents, staff and community members we look forward to receiving student entries from your school. Your active involvement and participation in this Howard County tradition – helps to make our annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday a great event.

Should you have any questions please contact Farheen Sheik (410) 313-6430, [fsheik@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:fsheik@howardcountymd.gov) or Yetta Roggerson (410) 313-6915 [yetta\\_roggerson@hcpss.org](mailto:yetta_roggerson@hcpss.org)

Yours Sincerely,

Yetta Roggerson  
Chair, Essay Committee

cc: Dr. Michael J. Martirano  
Dr. Kevin Gilbert  
Cynthia L. Vaillancourt