



MOLD-EN OUR YOUTH FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE
BLACK HISTORY ESSAY CONTEST



MOLD-EN OUR YOUTH FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE, INC is hosting their 3rd annual Black History Month Essay contest. The last day documents and the essay will be accepted is Thursday February **29, 2024/11:59 P.M.** The contest is open to high school students grades, 9th-12th grade in the United States of America.

The Montgomery Bus Boycott was a civil rights protest during which African Americans refused to ride city buses in Montgomery, Alabama. Essay entries must be compelling and discuss the key events and circumstances surrounding the boycott, the primary goals and motivations that drove the participants, and how the boycott's outcome impacted the future.

1. Submit entries and questions to BHEssaymoldenouryouth@gmail.com
2. Entries must be a word document using 12-point or Arial or Times New Roman font, double spaced.
3. All fields on the entry form must be completed.
4. Each entry must contain 750-1,000 words.
5. All entries must include the following:
 - a. Student's name at the top of the first page
 - b. Proof of current grade/ a copy of student's ID or progress report.
6. Essays must be the original work of the student. Plagiarism will not be tolerated, to include essays from Artificial Intelligence essay submissions.
7. An automatic reply will state if the maximum number of essays has been reached.
8. Cash prizes: **First Place: \$500.00 Second Place: \$300.00 Third Place: \$200.00**
9. Prize checks will be sent via first class mail. Essay contest winners will be notified via email or telephonically.
10. The attached rubric will be used to score the essay.
11. [2024 Essay Contest – moldenouryouth.com](https://moldenouryouth.com) for more information



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STUDENT ENTRY FORM

Contestants must submit a release statement (**signed by their parent/legal guardian**) allowing the grantor, MOLD-EN OUR YOUTH FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE, INC to publish their essays and videos in print publications and on public websites. In addition, winners will be asked to provide photographs and videos and authorize the use of photographs and videos of themselves in contest-related promotional materials, which may include photographs taken at recognition events.

Student Name _____ Age ____ Phone Area Code (____) _____
E-mail _____ Alternate Email _____ Grade _____
Student Signature _____ Date _____

******* PARENTAL/LEGAL GUARDIAN RELEASE STATEMENT *******

As parent or legal guardian of _____, I affirm that my child has written the essay submitted for the “MOLD-EN OUR YOUTH FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE BLACK HISTORY Essay Contest. I agree to allow the essay to be distributed publicly and broadcast on radio, TV, and social media. I also give permission to MOLD-EN OUR YOUTH FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE, INC to photograph, post pictures on our website, publish in newspaper articles, magazines and videotape my child and/or myself for the purposes of publicizing events and/or programs associated with this essay contest.

Parent/Guardian Name (Print/Signature) _____ **Date** _____

OPT-OUT OF PHOTO SUBMISSION (Requires parent/guardian signature)
COMPLETE THE SIGNATURE LINE BELOW **ONLY IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO PROVIDE A PHOTO OF YOUR CHILD FOR THIS ESSAY COMPETITION.**

Parent/ Guardian Name (Print/Signature) _____ **Date** _____

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	5	4	3	2	1
Thesis Statement	The Thesis Statement is skillfully introduced in the last sentence of the introduction. It clearly states the topic and the writer's purpose.	The Thesis Statement is introduced in the last sentence of the introduction. It <i>generally</i> states the topic and the writer's purpose.	The Thesis Statement is introduced in the last sentence of the introduction. It states the topic not the writer's purpose.	The Thesis Statement is introduced in the last sentence of the introduction, yet the topic OR the writer's purpose is unclear.	The Thesis Statement is not included in the introduction.
Explain Evidence	All explanations clearly and insightfully state how evidence supports topic sentence.	Most explanations clearly state how evidence supports topic sentence.	Most explanations generally state how evidence supports topic sentence.	Some explanations generally state how evidence supports topic sentence.	Explanations do not state how evidence supports topic sentence.
Evidence	All evidence is reliable and relevant and purposefully supports each topic sentence.	Most evidence is reliable and relevant and supports each topic sentence.	Most evidence is somewhat reliable and relevant and generally supports each topic sentence.	Evidence is weak and/or does not support topic sentence.	Evidence is unreliable or irrelevant and does not support each reason.
Grammar, Punctuation, Spelling	Author makes no errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content.	Author make minor errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content.	Author makes minimal errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content.	Author makes several grammar or spelling errors that distract the reader from the content.	Author makes so many errors comprehension of the text is inhibited.