2018 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
Drum Major For Justice Advocacy Competition
RULES & REGULATIONS

New Orleans, Louisiana
July 2018
PURPOSE AND HISTORY OF COMPETITION

The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drum Major for Justice Advocacy Competition is a contest designed to motivate high school students to excel in education. The Competition encourages students to express their views on a pre-selected topic and focuses on the ability of the students to communicate orally and in writing. The contest is also designed to give young people experience in public speaking and reviewing legal documents as well as provide an opportunity for them to obtain some financial support to continue their education.

The National Bar Association’s (“NBA”) first annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drum Major for Justice Advocacy Competition was held at its 75th Annual Convention in Washington, D.C., in 2000. As a result of the overwhelming success of the Competition, the NBA, with the support of the National Bar Institute (“NBI”), adopted it as a national program.

The topics of the Competition are always considered from the point of view of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and have included:

- Law enforcement treatment of persons of Arab descent and of the Muslim faith in terrorist investigations.
- Recommendations for action on the 40th Anniversary of the Voting Rights Act to address the continuing problem of voter disenfranchisement in minority communities.
- The treatment of juveniles in the criminal justice system.
- The right of same-sex couples to marry.
- Repealing of Stand Your Ground laws.
- The funneling of young African American students into a “pre-school to prison” pipeline.
- Student classroom walkouts to protest the election of Donald Trump.

The National Bar Association through the National Bar Institute has awarded over $300,000 in scholarships and prizes to over 200 students since the inception of the Competition in 2000.
I. STRUCTURE OF THE COMPETITION

1. Local Competition

The Affiliate Chapters have an option to hold a Local oral competition at the Affiliate Chapter level in order to identify the Contestant(s) who will move on to the Regional Competition. If an oral competition is not held, the chapter may choose a Contestant or Contestants based upon an evaluation of the submitted essays.

A. Structure of Competition

If an Affiliate Chapter chooses to hold a Local competition, it should use the structure identified below for the Regional Competition. Please coordinate with your Regional Director on the timing of your Competition so there is enough time for your Contestant(s) to compete in the Regional Competition.

Each Affiliate Chapter may send no more than 5 Contestants to the Regional Competition. If the Chapter would like to send more because of the number of contestants participating in the competition, the Affiliate Chapter must discuss receiving an exception with the Regional Director. Affiliate Chapters must e-mail the Contestants’ Application Packets, including their essays, to the Regional Director or the Region’s representative managing the Competition in time for participation in the Regional Competition.

2. Regional Competition

A. Structure of Competition

The Regional Competition should be held in two stages: Essay Competition and Oral Advocacy Competition.

i. Essay Competition: Attorneys or judges should be chosen to judge both the essay and oral advocacy stages of the competition and assess the essays in advance of the Oral Advocacy Competition. Essays should be scored according to the criteria identified in the Competition Rules described below. These scores will be combined with the Contestants’ scores at the oral advocacy stage of the competition and considered in the overall rating of the Contestants.

ii. Oral Advocacy Competition: The oral advocacy stage of the competition must be held on or before Friday, June 15, 2018. The oral presentation should be assessed according to the criteria identified in the Competition Rules described below.

B. Advancement to National Competition

The regional first place winner will represent the Region at the National Competition held during the NBA Annual Convention. If the first place winner is unable to represent the Region at the National Competition, the second place winner will represent the Region.
3. National Competition

The National Competition will be held between July 27 – August 2, 2018 in New Orleans, Louisiana. No more than twelve Contestants (one from each region) will be invited to compete in the National Competition. The 2018 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drum Major for Justice Advocacy Competition Committee (“Committee”) in partnership with the NBA’s Judicial Council will select a panel of judges to evaluate the Contestants’ written essays and oral presentations. The judges will evaluate the essays according to the same criteria used in the Regional Competition. THE DECISIONS OF THE JUDGES ARE FINAL AND ARE NOT SUBJECT TO AN APPEAL.

A first place, second place, and third place winner will be chosen. The winners will each receive a one-time scholarship in the following amounts: First Place - $5,000, Second Place - $3,500, Third Place - $2,000.

COMPETITION RULES

A. Essay Format:

1. The essay should be no longer than 1000 words.
2. The type font must be Arial, 12 point, double-spaced.
3. The margins must be 1” and text must be fully justified.
4. The essay MUST be accompanied by a Contestant Cover Sheet Form. (see page 9)
5. The essay may be submitted via e-mail or U.S. mail, but e-mail is preferred.
   a. If submitted via e-mail, the Contestant must send the essay as an attachment to an e-mail in Word format and send to the Regional Director via email.
   b. If submitted by mail, essay must be typewritten and mailed to the Regional Director.

B. National Competition Rules:

1. Eligible Students: Current high school juniors and seniors. All students will receive a prize for participating in the National Competition. To receive the prize, seniors must submit a proof of enrollment letter from their college or university and a completed W-9 tax form 90 days after their participation in the National Competition. Juniors will receive their prize when they matriculate for college. Juniors must also submit proof of enrollment letter from their college or university and a completed W-9 form by September 30, 2019.

2. Assessment of Essays and Oral Presentations: Essays and Oral Presentations will be evaluated according to six categories: (a) quality, (b) content, (c) persuasiveness, (d) style, (e) organization, and (f) creativity. The maximum number of points each contestant may receive per category is five points for his or her essay and five points for his or her oral presentation, for a maximum total of thirty points for the entire essay and thirty points for the entire oral presentation. Advancing students will be notified via e-mail or U.S. mail. Advancing students MUST confirm their participation within 48 hours of receiving notification.

3. The Essay Question: The speaker must incorporate the topic and/or answer the essay question. It should not be recited verbatim. Failure to incorporate the topic and/or answer the essay question will result in points being deducted.
4. **Props**: The speaker is prohibited from using any props. Any use of props will result in points being deducted. The speaker may use notes.

5. **Timing**: The oral presentation must be a minimum of three minutes and a maximum of seven minutes. An oral presentation outside of this timeframe will result in points being deducted.

6. **Dress**: All Contestants should be dressed in business attire (i.e., suits and ties for the men and suits or dresses for the ladies) for the Regional Competition.

7. All essays submitted become the sole property of the National Bar Association. They will not be returned. Contestants should retain a copy for his/her records.

8. All NBA Affiliate Chapters and Regions will be responsible for verifying the eligibility of the Contestants. The National Competition Committee will determine questions of Contestant eligibility and **ALL DETERMINATIONS OF ELIGIBILITY BY THIS BODY ARE FINAL**.
2018 MLK COMPETITION QUESTION

The DREAM (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors) Act is a piece of legislation first introduced to Congress in 2001 that grants a pathway to citizenship to young people who were brought to the United States as children without documentation. A DREAMer is a young person who qualifies for citizenship under the DREAM Act. In 2010, Congress failed to pass the DREAM Act but in 2012, President Obama announced a program allowing Dreamers to come forward, pass a background check, and apply for work permits under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and work legally without fear of deportation. The Trump Administration rescinded the DACA program in September 2017.

If Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. were alive, would he support the Trump Administration’s rescission of the DACA program?

Please discuss why or why not.

RESEARCH GUIDE:

To assist you in your research of the Competition Question, please read the materials below. These materials will help you understand the legal, political, and public policy issues and relevant cases. These materials are the starting point for your research. In order to fully formulate your position, you may need to find other cases, articles, or sources of information.

Martin Luther King

Archives
http://www.thekingcenter.org/

The King Research and Education Institute
http://mlkpp01.stanford.edu/

Books
http://www.worldcat.org/search?q=au%3AKing%2C+Martin+Luther
1. OFFICIAL CONTESTANT’S COVER SHEET, APPLICATION FORM, AND PHOTOGRAPHY RELEASE WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY

NOTE: All three forms and a completed W-9 must be included with your essay.

2018 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Drum Major for Justice Advocacy Competition
Contestant Cover Sheet

Applicant’s Background Information Please type or print

Date: ____________________________
Submit Photo and Essay with your Application

I. Applicant Data

Student’s Name: ________________________________ First Middle Last

Permanent Address: ____________________________
City: __________________ State: __________________ Zip Code: __________

Cell Phone: ( ) _________________________________ Email: _________________________________

Parent or Guardian’s Name ________________________________ First Last

Permanent Address: ____________________________
City: __________________ State: __________________ Zip Code: __________

Home Phone: ( ) ____________________________ Cell Phone: ( )

Email ________________________________

Student’s High School: ________________________________
Grade Level: ____________________________ Grade Point Average: ____________________________

High School Address: ____________________________ City: __________ State: __________ Zip: __________

High School Phone: ( )
Application

Please answer the below listed questions. A parent or legal guardian must sign your application. If a parent or legal guardian does not sign your application, and time permits, your application will be returned for you to complete. In the event time does not permit the return of an incomplete application, such application may not be considered. Attach additional sheets as necessary.

1. List academic honors received.

2. Briefly describe extracurricular activities (school clubs, volunteer organizations, not-for-profit organizations, etc.) you are involved in.

3. For Seniors: List two-year/four-year College or University you plan to attend. Please include an acceptance letter to this form.

***NOTE: Attach your written essay on the official topic selected by the National Bar Association to your Application. The essay must not exceed 1,000 words.

_________________________   __________________________
Signature of Applicant                 Date

_________________________   __________________________
Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian  Date
I hereby grant permission to the National Bar Association (NBA) and MetLife, Inc. (MetLife), and their agents, employees or assignees, to photograph competitor ___________________ (Competitor) and use the photograph(s) for informational, educational, promotional, or publicity purposes concerning the promotion of its services and events, including but not limited to the Dr. Martin Luther King Drum Major for Justice Advocacy Competition (Competition).

I understand that the photograph(s) may be used by NBA or MetLife on their respective websites, publications or displays, magazines, reports, or other documents; or electronic or digital recordings as well as in press releases concerning the Competition.

I also grant permission to NBA and MetLife, their agents, employees or assignees to offer the photograph(s) for use or distribution in other publications, electronic or otherwise, without notifying me or seeking any further consent or authorization from me.

I understand that the NBA and MetLife, their agents, employees or assignees, may modify photograph(s) in the process of editing. I hereby grant NBA and MetLife, their agents, employees or assignees, permission to select, crop, and reproduce a photograph or photographs at their discretion. I waive any right to inspect or approve the finished photographs or printed or electronic matter that may be used in conjunction with them now or in the future. I also understand that neither the Competitor nor I will be entitled to any compensation or royalties for use of the photograph(s).

I also agree to release NBA and MetLife, their agents, employees or assignees, from any and all claims, damages or liability arising out of or connected to the use of the photograph(s) as stated above.

I have read and understand this release and waiver of liability, and voluntarily accept and agree to its terms.

__________________________
Name of Parent or Guardian/Competitor (if over 18)

__________________________
Signature of Parent or Guardian/Competitor (if over 18)

__________________________
Date