

GANDHI DAY 2023

Creative Writing, Arts & Music Contest



As part of the 2023 Mahatma Gandhi Birthday Celebration organized by AHINSA (Alliance for Humanitarian Initiatives, Nonviolence & Spiritual Advancement) in partnership with Center for Student Diversity and Inclusion at Carnegie Mellon University, we are announcing the **Seventh Annual Creative Writing and Arts Contest** and requesting submissions. This year's creative writing and art theme is:

Promoting Non-Violence through Spirituality: Lessons from Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr.

HOW TO ENTER



Please submit your entries using the form link on the QR Code or <https://forms.gle/DMDkqJf4qcyEwKCK8> and direct any questions to contests@ahinsa.us. To upload your entry, you may use your or your parent's/guardian's Google account, or you may send your entry to the above email with all the information captured on Google Form. **All submissions must be received by end of day Sunday, September 10, 2023.**

AWARDS

All participants will receive a Certificate of Participation and the "Top Three" selected submissions in each category will receive special prizes and will be able to present their work at the Gandhi Day Celebration on **Sunday, October 8th, 2023**. Winners will be announced on October 8 at the Gandhi Day Event. A reception is planned after the Event

Grades 3 to 5*

Students submit creative art that represents Gandhi's and MLK, Jr.'s belief that through spirituality and working together, different religions can promote non-violence. Please provide a brief description of the art composition up to 100 words

Grades 6 to 8*

Students submit an essay, poetry, or musical composition that represents Gandhi's and MLK, Jr.'s belief that through spirituality and working together, different religions can promote non-violence. Please limit the word count of essay or poetry up to 500 words and musical composition up to 4 minutes

Grades 9 to 12*

Same topic and requirements as Grades 6 to 8. However, in your work please include examples of what might be implemented in schools and the community that reflect those beliefs.

Mahatma Gandhi

"Nonviolence is the basis of the search for truth. I am realizing every day that the search is vain unless it is founded on nonviolence as the basis. It is quite proper to resist and attack a system, but to resist and attack its author is tantamount to resisting and attacking oneself. For we are all tarred with the same brush, and are children of one and the same Creator, and as such the divine powers within us are infinite. To slight a single human being is to slight those divine powers, and thus to harm not only that person but the whole world."

Martin Luther King Jr

"Like most people, I had heard of Gandhi, but I had never studied him seriously. ... As I read, I became deeply fascinated by his campaigns of nonviolent resistance. As I delved deeper into the philosophy of Gandhi my skepticism concerning the power of love gradually diminished, and I came to see for the first time its potency in the area of social reform...The "turn the other cheek" philosophy and the "love your enemies" philosophy were only valid, I felt, when individuals were in conflict with other individuals; when racial groups and nations were in conflict a more realistic approach seemed necessary. But after reading Gandhi, I saw how utterly mistaken I was."

*Grade in 2023 - 2024 Academic year; Musical Composition can be done solo or in a group of students in the same school grade category (6 to 8 or 9 to 12). For those submitting musical composition you can provide the purpose/motivation of your work up to 100 words

The North Allegheny School District does not endorse this program/event/organization.