

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST

THE AMERICAN DREAM

On August 23, 1963, Martin Luther King, Jr. gave his "I Have A Dream" speech before the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C. During that speech he spoke many times of his dream, one faced with current and future challenges that was still "deeply rooted in the American dream... that all men are created equal."

This year we lost a powerful example of a pathfinder and an overcomer in freedom's struggle to achieve Dr. King's dream, General Colin Powell. He was a United States Army officer who served as chairman of the US Secretary of State under George W. Bush, U. S. National Security Advisor under Ronald Regan, and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff under George H. W. Bush and Bill Clinton.

For this year's 2022 Black History Month essay contest, consider those in **Black History who have struggled to walk the path of freedom by overcoming obstacles to create their American Dream.** This 350–500 word essay should follow the guidelines below and focus on another pathfinder like Colin Powell who followed the American Dream.

WHO Any Edison State Community College Student

WHAT Black History Month Essay Contest

DEADLINE February 4, 2022 at midnight

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- Center on the theme of "The American Dream"
- Be 350–500 words in length and formatted as a Word document
- Focus on narrative (storytelling) and reflection rather than exposition (explanation or definition)
- Include citations for any information from outside sources
- Each submission must contain the following at the top of the essay:
 - Name
 - Phone Number
 - Address
 - Name of Instructor who encouraged you to submit (if applicable)
- Email to Carl DeSantis at cdesantis@edisonohio.edu
 - You must submit via your Edison State email address
 - The subject line must include the theme of "The American Dream"

NOTES

- Essays may be used for Edison State publicity
- Essays will be submitted by the contest coordinator, in conjunction with the Blackboard administrator, to Turnitin, a plagiarism checker
- No more of than 15% of the essay should be quoted or non-original work
- Any quotes or non-original work must be cited
- Winners will be invited to participate in the February 23, 2022, BHM celebration
- Winners will be determined by a faculty panel

PRIZES

- Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three essays:
1st Place: \$100, 2nd Place: \$75, 3rd Place: \$50
- Prizes will be awarded at the February 23, 2022, BHM celebration

The Black History Month essay contest is sponsored by the Diversity Committee at Edison State Community College. Questions may be directed to your instructor or Carl DeSantis at cdesantis@edisonohio.edu.

