



I am Black History: PIONEERS Essay Contest

MOLD-EN OUR YOUTH FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE, INC is pleased to announce their 2nd Annual “I Am Black History” Pioneers Essay Contest. The essay contest officially begins **Sunday, January 15, 2023 and ends Tuesday February 28, 2023**. The first **100** essays received per category (grade) will be accepted. The contest is open to: 10th, 11th and 12th grade students who attend public, private or charter schools in the United States of America.

PRIZES * GUIDELINES * RULES * DISQUALIFIERS * ENTRY FORM

PRIZE WINNERS

One (1) First-place; one (1) Second-place; and one (1) Third-place winner essay for each grade (10th, 11th and 12th) will be selected for a total of nine (9) winning essays.

PRIZES

First-place winners in each grade will receive a monetary prize of \$300.00.

Second-place winners in each grade will receive a monetary prize of \$175.00.

Third-place winners in each grade will receive a monetary prize of \$125.00.

Prize checks will be sent via first class mail. Essay contest winners will be notified via email or telephonically.

ESSAY GUIDELINES

Students must write about an African American Pioneer listed below. The essay must be **(700-850 words)** not including citations. Citations must be included in the paper and in the bibliography/works cited. Sources must be cited using standard MLA or APA format. All website citations must include a URL. No more than five sources are recommended.

Unreliable sources, such as but not limited to blogs, personal websites, Wiki Sites, movies and historical novels are not permitted as cited material for this essay.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The history of African Americans plays an important role in American history, not only because of the Civil Rights Movement, but because of adversity African Americans were vilified for wanting to live a good life in America. Acknowledging the contributions of African Americans is the primary goal of Black history. Black history is about sharing and celebrating stories of the countless men and women who made a difference in our world. (Rogers, Jennifer, 2021)

African American Pioneers have made their mark on the world. Athletes, artists, scholars, scientists, poets, journalists etc... Changemakers, those who helped make America what it is today. Over time, these heroes become icons to new generations, but the same stories are often told (2021, August 24). Retrieved from <https://www.wned.org/> This essay contest requires students to discover and learn about African American pioneers who were a significant part of American History. Essays should provide insight about the life of the pioneer and bring awareness to highlight their significant contributions to the world in which we live in today.

GRADE	PIONEER	MOMENTOUS IMPACT
10TH	Althea Gibson	Professional Athlete
11TH	Carter G. Woodson	American Historian
12TH	Langston Hughes	American Poet

10th Grade: BHessay10moldenouryouth@gmail.com

11th Grade: BHessay11moldenouryouth@gmail.com

12th Grade: BHessay12moldenouryouth@gmail.com

ENTRY GUIDELINES

Eligible students must be currently enrolled in grades 10th, 11th, or 12th at a public, private or charter school in the continental United States of America.

Students may submit a copy of their current school progress report or Student ID Card as proof of enrollment and current grade. The document submitted must show the students name, current grade, and the name of their school. Entries that do not provide this information will not be considered for the contest.

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

- The essay, entry form, and proof of grade must be submitted together using the appropriate email address listed above no later than Tuesday, February 28, 2023, at 11:59 P.M.
- Students must enter their name and grade in the upper left-hand corner of the first page.
- The attached rubric will be used to score the essay.
- Selected essays will be placed on our website moldenouryouth.com.

RULES

- Essay must be typed and double spaced/size 12 font Times New Roman
- Essay must be typed in the English language
- Submit as a word document/ PDF's will not be accepted
- Essay must be submitted to the appropriate email address based on the student's current grade

DISQUALIFIERS

Disqualification may include, but is not limited to the following:

- Failure to comply with contest rules
- Fake or incomplete student entry form
- Failure to meet the minimum or exceeds the word requirement
- Plagiarism
- Multiple entries per student

**** Email questions to the perspective email address pertaining to the grade of the contestant.**

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

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 ENTRY FORM

Student Name _____ Age _____
Phone Area Code (____) _____ E-mail _____
Home Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ County _____
School _____ 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 and has followed the rules stated. Should he/she win the 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 their 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 _____

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 _____

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

2nd Annual MOLD-EN OUR YOUTH FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE INC, PIONEER ESSAY CONTEST

	1 - Beginning	2 - Developing	3 - Capable	4 - Exemplary
Content: How well do you know your historical figure? What have you learned about this person?	Demonstrates little knowledge or understanding of the person. Does not discuss importance of person. Written work is merely a rewriting of facts.	Demonstrates some gaps in understanding. Includes some factual errors and misconceptions. Attempts to discuss importance.	Demonstrates good understanding of important ideas and events in person's life. Discusses why the person is important.	Demonstrates excellent understanding of person's life and contributions. Includes information that makes the person "come alive."
Organization Is your essay well-organized? Does your beginning paragraph draw the reader in? Does your final paragraph summarize what is important to know about your person?	There does not seem to be an organizational plan. Ideas seem jumbled and disconnected.	Introduction and conclusion are present, but not complete. An organizational plan is evident, but some ideas are presented out of order. Attempts to use transitions.	Good introduction and conclusion. Information is presented in a logical order. Uses adequate transitions between ideas.	Introduction and conclusion are strong and engaging. Information is presented in a logical and interesting order. Ideas flow well.
Supporting Details Do you use details and examples from the person's life to help the reader really get to know this person?	Does not use relevant examples or explanations to elaborate on the topic.	Uses some examples and explanations to express ideas. May include some examples that are not relevant to the topic.	Develops ideas using some examples, details, and explanations.	Develops ideas fully using appropriate and relevant examples, reasons, details, explanations, and generalizations.
Mechanics/Usage Have you proofread your essay? Did you vary your sentence structure? Did you choose the most appropriate words to communicate your ideas?	Many errors make comprehension difficult or impossible. No attempt to vary sentence structure or make good word choices.	Contains many errors which do not interfere with comprehension. Little attempt to vary sentence structure or word choice.	Several grammatical or spelling errors. Attempts to vary sentence structure. Uses some descriptive language.	Contains few grammatical or spelling errors. Uses varied sentence structure. Uses strong, descriptive language.