



BLACK HISTORY MONTH ESSAY CONTEST

Prompt: “What does Black History Mean to Me?”

Share your thoughts, reflections, and insights in your essay.

Essay Requirements

Eligibility:

Must be a current student attending Notre Dame Jr/Sr High School.

Length:

Middle School (Grades 7-8): 500 words or less

High School (Grades 9-12): 750-1000 words

Format:

Essay must be double spaced, size 12 font (Arial, Times Roman, or Calibri).

Only digital submissions will be accepted in Word, Google Doc, or PDF format

Original Work:

Essays must be original and unpublished. Plagiarism will result in disqualification.

Judging Criteria:

Content & Relevance

Organization & Structure

Grammar & Mechanics

Creativity, Originality, & Expression

Adherence to Guidelines

Submission Process:

Essays must be submitted through this link: <https://forms.gle/pQ4p8znXA71vaf7z5>

All entries received by Friday, February 21, 2025 at 11:59 pm will be considered

Prizes:

The winner of each category (one for middle, one for high school) will receive an award and have their essay published on the ndhsbatavia.com website.



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Prompt: *What Does Black History Mean to Me?*

1. Content & Relevance (40 points)

- Thoughtfully responds to the prompt with personal insights and reflections.
- Demonstrates an understanding of Black history and its significance.
- Uses relevant examples, experiences, or historical references.

2. Creativity, Originality, & Expression (30 points)

- Engages the reader with a unique perspective or voice.
- Uses compelling language and vivid storytelling or description.
- Shows originality and depth of thought.

3. Organization & Structure (15 points)

- Includes a strong introduction, body, and conclusion.
- Ideas are logically organized and flow smoothly with clear transitions.
- Stays focused on the main theme throughout.

4. Grammar & Mechanics (15 points)

- Uses correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling.
- Demonstrates strong sentence structure and precise word choice.
- Errors, if present, do not distract from the message.