



## Chapter 14: *History is Among Us*

**History is among us.** Imprinted on every fiber of society are the indelible contributions of African American trailblazers, who—through courage, ingenuity, and fortitude—have shaped the world we live in today.

From Dr. Martin Luther King’s “I Have a **Dream**” speech, to Dr. Michelle King’s proclamation that every student should “**dream** without limits”—

From Harriet Tubman’s passages along the **Underground Railroad**, to Granville Woods’ inventions that improved **electric railways**—

From Dr. McKenna’s transformative work as **Principal** of Washington Prep and an esteemed educator, to Misty Copeland’s historic appointment as **Principal Dancer** of the American Ballet Theater—

African Americans have revolutionized the fields of science, politics, education, law, arts, sports, entertainment, business, and so many others.

This month, and every day throughout the year, provides another opportunity to honor the extraordinary accomplishments of these pioneers, including both those who are synonymous with Black History like Dr. Martin Luther King, and those less well known like Dr. Alexa Canady, the first female African-American neurosurgeon in the United States.

Among the many events that the District has organized to honor these individuals—including film screenings, museum tours, panel discussions, assemblies, artistic performances, and more—the District has launched a **written word/multimedia contest** through which students can share the story of an African American leader who has inspired them to advocate for social justice. I encourage you to provide the **attached flyer** to any students who may be interested in participating.

In addition, the District is proud to once again host **African American Family Day tomorrow, Saturday February 24, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Gardena Senior High School.** Families and educators throughout the District are welcome to join us at this inspiring event, where workshops will be provided on creating a college-going culture, increasing equity and access to college, expanding access to gifted and talented programs, and other critical topics that get to the root of our mission to close the achievement gap for students of color.

Our pressing need to accelerate efforts and reimagine education for students of color was poignantly expressed by W. E. B. Du Bois: “Of all the civil rights for which the world has struggled and fought for 5,000 years, the right to learn is undoubtedly the most fundamental.”

The moment is now. Centuries of dreams deferred and promises not fulfilled have drummed up a persistent call for justice that knocks at our door. *NOW* is the time that we must answer that call.

In March, a districtwide comprehensive plan to address the needs of our African American students will be unveiled. *You* will be key to realizing the goals and strategies in this plan. Pieces of paper alone cannot elevate students to new heights. It is the actions that we collaboratively take that will undoubtedly change student trajectories and reshape history.

I wholeheartedly echo President Obama’s wise and prophetic words:

“Change will not come if we wait for some other person or if we wait for some other time. **We** are the ones we’ve been waiting for. **We** are the change that we seek.”

Vivian Ekchian  
Interim Superintendent

*Enjoying the Employees’ Connection?*  
Click [here](#) to see past chapters.

[lausd.net](http://lausd.net)

# Academic English Mastery Program's District-Wide Written Word/Multimedia Contest



**Honoring African American History Month**



**Task:** Write an essay OR develop a multimedia presentation describing how an African American person inspired you to lift your voice to advocate for social justice in their school or community.

Visit AEMP's website for additional information on contest guidelines, submission rules, and instructional resources. <http://achieve.lausd.net/aemp>

## Lift your VOICE!



**Contest Dates:**

**February 21<sup>th</sup> – March 21<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Grand Prize Winners will be honored at the Council of Black Administrator's 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Black Child Conference on April 14, 2018.

**Each school within the Los Angeles Unified School District is invited to participate in the Written Word Essay/Multimedia Presentation Contest**

**The Grand Prize Winners will each receive a \$200.00 gift card sponsored by the following:**  
(There will be 1 winner per grade level span.)



AMAE is not affiliated with LAUSD



CMAA is not affiliated with LAUSD



COBA is not affiliated with LAUSD



CCRT is not affiliated with LAUSD



AAPA is not affiliated with LAUSD



Scholastic is not affiliated with LAUSD

Approved by:  Angela Hewlett-Bloch, AEA Administrator

## Written Word/Multimedia Entry Guidelines



### Honoring African American History Month



#### Guidelines:

Write an essay OR create a multimedia presentation describing how an African American person has inspired you to lift your voice to advocate for social justice in their school or community.

***Essays/multimedia presentations must be written to meet grade level standards.***

#### Submission Checklist:

- ☐ Scored Rubric
- ☐ Title page or Introductory Slide/Audio Stating (Title, Student Name, Grade, and School)
- ☐ Essay or Multimedia presentation
- ☐ All grade level criteria are completed
- ☐ Essay /Multimedia presentation contest conducted at school
- ☐ Winners are selected from grade level spans ( K-1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-8, 9-12)
- ☐ Winning essays/Multimedia presentations are emailed to AEMP by March 5, 2018
- ☐ School celebrates contest participants and winners

**Entries must be emailed to Jessica Thomas at [jlt0473@lausd.net](mailto:jlt0473@lausd.net) by March 21, 2018, by 5:00pm. Schools of winning students will be notified by the beginning of April.**



# Essay Criteria

## **Kinder-1st**

- Draws a detailed picture or includes a visual representation that describes the topic
- Writes a paper that states the topic, provides multiple facts, details and sense of closure
- Provides a title to establish the topic

## **2nd-3rd**

- Introduces the topic
- Provides multiple facts, details and examples
- Uses multiple information sources
- Has an introduction and a conclusion

## **4th-5th**

- Topic is introduced and clearly communicated
- Clear focus maintained for the purpose of the audience
- Use of varied transitional strategies to clarify ideas
- Effective introduction and conclusion
- Uses multiple information sources
- Logical progression of ideas from beginning to end

## **6th-12th**

- Claim is clearly communicated and maintained for the purpose of the audience throughout the essay
- Logical progression of ideas
- Effective introduction and conclusion
- Organizational structure
- Organization is fully sustained between and within paragraphs
- Response is consistently and purposefully focused
- Uses multiple information sources
- Alternate and opposing arguments are clearly acknowledged or addressed

# Multimedia Presentation Criteria: K-12

## Power Point Presentations:

- ☐ Introduction slide with school name, student name, grade level, and title
  - ☐ Includes 5-10 presentation slides with written titles and explanations
  - ☐ The presentation clearly addresses the prompt
  - ☐ Displays graphics to provide information and supporting evidence
  - ☐ Can include embedded advanced features such as videos and audio
- Suggested media include: PowerPoint and Keynote*

## Video Submissions:

(i.e., monologue, speeches, and individual performance)

- ☐ Introduction stating school name, student name, grade level, and title
  - ☐ 3-5 minutes
  - ☐ Displays graphics to provide information and supporting evidence
  - ☐ Clear sound and verbal articulation
  - ☐ The video clearly addresses the prompt
- Suggested media include: Explain Everything and iMovie*

## Audio Submissions:

(i.e., songs, raps, spoken word, speeches)

- ☐ Introduction stating school name, student name, grade level, and title
- ☐ 3-5 minutes
- ☐ Must include a written copy
- ☐ Provide information and supporting evidence
- ☐ Clear sound and verbal articulation
- ☐ The audio clearly addresses the prompt

## College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards (K-12):

- ☐ Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others.
- ☐ Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, assess the credibility and accuracy of each source, and integrate the information while avoiding plagiarism.

## Written Word/Multimedia Presentation Contest Rubric

The Written Word/Multimedia Presentation should exemplify informative/explanatory writing or use of oral language through a power point presentation, which should include an audio of the student's voice using spoken word, poetry, rap, or narration based on research and provides evidence to support their topic. Please use the following Rubric to score your entries.

Scores are assigned a numeric value that corresponds to the descriptor	4 Consistently Evident	3 Frequently Evident	2 Seldom Evident	1 Never Evident	Comments:
<b>Focus-</b> Responds skillfully with all statements related to the prompt.					
<b>Organization-</b> Organizes information oratorically or into paragraph structure using a clear topic sentence, facts, definitions, and concluding sentence.					
<b>Support Evidence</b> Develops the topic skillfully with facts and definitions					
<b>Language Conventions of Grammar and usage -</b> Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.					
<b>Language Conventions of Capitalization, Punctuation, and Spelling -</b> Capitalizes correctly and consistently, with no errors.					
<b>*Includes Essay and Multimedia Presentation Criteria in the formats below</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Power Point</li> <li>• Video</li> <li>• Audio</li> </ul>					

Essay

TOTAL SCORE \_\_\_\_\_/20

Multimedia

TOTAL SCORE \_\_\_\_\_/24

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Please copy and paste the Rubric to the student's Written Word/Multimedia Presentation. Submit via email to Jessica Thomas: jlt0473@lausd.net.





# AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILY DAY

WE ARE **ONE** L.A. UNIFIED

STANDING WITH AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILIES

**SATURDAY,  
FEBRUARY 24, 2018  
8:30 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.**

**GARDENA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL**

1301 West 182nd St., Gardena, CA 90248





## Conference Itinerary

**The Access, Equity and Acceleration Unit and the  
Office of Parent and Community Services welcome you to  
African American Family Day 2018!**

### **STANDING WITH AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILIES**

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Registration/Refreshments
9:00 a.m. - 9:50 a.m.	General Session
9:50 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Transition to Workshop Session I
10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.	Parent: Workshop Session I Student: Student Panel (Auditorium)
10:50 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Transition to Workshop Session II
11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.	Parent Workshop Session II Student Workshop
11:50 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Lunch College/Resource Fair Book Giveaway Student Performances Line Dancing



## AGENDA

### General Session (Auditorium)

Opening Remarks	Dr. Brenda Manuel, Administrator Access, Equity and Acceleration Student Empowerment Unit
Color Guard	Gardena High School JROTC
Pledge of Allegiance	Lizbeth Zambrano, Student Gardena High School
"Lift Every Voice and Sing"	186 <sup>th</sup> Street Elementary School International Chorus
Welcome	Ms. Rosie Martinez, Principal Gardena High School  Christopher Downing, Superintendent Local District South  Nancy Ceballos, Deputy Chief of Staff Board District 7  Jewett Walker, Senior Advisor Board District 1
Day at a Glance	Dr. Brenda Manuel
Greetings	Vivian Ekchian, Interim Superintendent
Keynote Speaker	Pastor Bryan Davis, LAUSD Parent Boys Academic Leadership Academy
Student Performance	Foshay Learning Center Jazz Band
Closing Remarks	Dr. Rosalinda Lugo, Administrator Parent and Community Services
Avery Dennison Scholarships	Dr. Brenda Manuel

**ENJOY YOUR DAY!**



## Workshops

**Workshop Session I**      10:00 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.

**Workshop Session II**      11:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.

**Parent Workshops:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19

**Student Workshops:** 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 14, 18

**School-aged Activities Location:** B-7A

**1. Creating a College Going Culture at Home**

**Room:** F-1

**Workshop Session:** I & II

**Audience:** Parents and Students

**Description:** Participants will learn how to create a college going culture in their household.

**Facilitator:** Lucio Garcia, Parent Educator Coach, Local District South

**2. Gifted/Talented Identification and Program Options**

**Room:** F-2

**Workshop Session:** I & II

**Audience:** Parents and Students

**Description:** Participants will be provided with an overview of the GATE program and identification process.

**Facilitators:** Susanna Furfari and Dr. Nicole Niederdeppe, Coordinators, Gifted/Talented Programs

**3. Advocating For Your Child to Help Them Reach Their Full Potential**

**Room:** F-3

**Workshop Session:** I & II

**Audience:** Parents

**Description:** Participants will be given tips on how to best advocate for their child.

**Facilitator:** Tunette Powell, Author, Researcher and Doctoral Student, UCLA Graduate School of Education & Information Studies

**4. Helping Your Child Successfully Transition from Middle School to High School**

**Room:** F-7

**Workshop Session:** I & II

**Audience:** Parents

**Description:** Participants will leave with an understanding of what students encounter personally and academically as they move from one school level to another and what parents can do to assist.

**Facilitator:** Eduardo Solórzano, Administrator, Middle School Instruction



## Written Word/Multimedia Presentation Contest Rubric

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<b>*Includes Essay and Multimedia Presentation Criteria in the formats below</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Power Point</li> <li>• Video</li> <li>• Audio</li> </ul>					

Essay  
TOTAL SCORE \_\_\_\_\_/20

Multimedia  
TOTAL SCORE \_\_\_\_\_/24

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Please copy and paste the Rubric to the student's Written Word/Multimedia Presentation. Submit via email to Jessica Thomas: jlt0473@lausd.net.



## Workshops

### 10. Understanding Your Child's IEP

**Room:** DD-1

**Workshop Session:** I & II

**Audience:** Parents

**Description:** This workshop will support parent's understanding of the types of supports available within the schools for students with disabilities.

**Facilitator:** Annmarie Serrano, ED. S., Intervention Coordinator, Psychological Services, Division of Special Education

### 11. NCAA Presentation: Preparing to be Eligible for Collegiate Competition

**Room:** D-7

**Workshop Session:** I & II

**Audience:** Parents and Students

**Description:** Participants will learn the inner workings of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and the NCCA Eligibility Center- Division 1, 2 and high school academic eligibility as well how to earn a college athletic scholarship.

**Facilitator:** Heather Brown, Coordinator, College Counseling, Academic and Counseling Services

### 12. Restorative Justice: A Cooperative Process to Address Behavioral Concerns

**Room:** X-1

**Workshop Session:** I & II

**Audience:** Parents

**Description:** Participants will learn and engage in activities that support students' social-emotional well-being and development in school and at home.

**Facilitator:** Stephanie Holloway, Restorative Justice Adviser, Local District South

### 13. Parent Panel: Parenting 101-Success Strategies That Work

**Room:** Library

**Workshop Session:** I & II

**Audience:** Parents

**Description:** Participants will learn success strategies for raising empowered children that work.

**Facilitator:** Wes Hall, CEO, The Institute For Student Empowerment

### 14. Student Panel: My Pathway to Greatness-If I Knew Then What I Know Now

**Room:** Auditorium

**Workshop Session:** I & II

**Audience:** Students

**Description:** Participants will learn from their peers how to create that path to greatness.

**Facilitator:** Dr. Brenda Manuel, Administrator, Access, Equity and Acceleration



## Workshops

**15. Making Fitness Fun and a Lifetime Goal**

**Room:** DD-2

**Workshop Session:** I

**Audience:** Parents

**Description:** Participants will learn how a healthy way of living leads to positive relationships, self-confidence, and independence.

**Facilitators:** Sheldon Pace and Thanhdi Nguyen Owners, Xtreme Unity, Inc.

**16. Your Legal Rights: Knowing how to Advocate on Behalf of Your Child**

**Room:** DD-3

**Workshop Session:** I & II

**Audience:** Parents

**Description:** Participants will learn the value of the law and essential tools to help understand their rights, benefits and protections.

**Facilitator:** Margaret McNair, Esq., Founder and Managing Attorney of Hope4Families

**17. Being in Control of Your Finances and Not Letting Your Finances Control You**

**Room:** DD-4

**Workshop Session:** I & II

**Audience:** Parents

**Description:** Participants will learn about Right and Wrong ways to invest, reduce debt, and to become financially sound.

**Facilitators:** Tracy Shannon, Financial Advisor/Shannon Financial Services

**18. Black Children Can Soar in Math-We will Show Parents How!**

**Room:** DD-6

**Workshop Session:** I & II

**Audience:** Parents and Students

**Description:** Participants will learn how to develop a Growth Mindset and tools that they can use at home to promote learning.

**Facilitators:** Yolanda Beckles, parent of student at Wilshire Crest Elementary School and Dr. Michael Batie, CEO of the STEM Education and Research Collaborative

**19. Self-Care for Parents and Caregivers of African American Youth**

**Room:** DD-7

**Workshop Session:** I & II

**Audience:** Parents

**Description:** Participants will learn the importance of recognizing and engaging in self-care.

**Facilitators:** Dr. Kimani Norrington-Sands, Organization Facilitator and Nichole McMahon, LCSW, M.A.Ed., School Mental Health



## Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the following individuals for their many contributions to  
African American Family Day 2018!

### LAUSD Offices

- Beyond the Bell
- Board District 1
- Board District 2
- Café LA
- Division of Instruction
- Division of Special Education
- Division of Student Health and Human Services
- Local District South
- Office of Parent Community Services
- Office of the Superintendent
- School Design Options
- School Mental Health

### Community Organizations

- 100 Black Men Inc. Long Beach Chapter
- Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.
- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc.
- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.
- Educational Student Tours
- Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc.

### Sponsors

- California Credit Union
- Children's Hospital Los Angeles
- GED Testing Services
- Warehouse Shoe Store (WSS)

### University/Community Colleges

- CA Community College Transfer
- CSU Channel Islands
- CSU Fullerton
- CSU Dominguez Hills
- CSU Los Angeles
- CSU Long Beach
- CSU Northridge
- East Los Angeles College
- El Camino College
- Los Angeles Southwest College
- Los Angeles Trade Technical College
- Loyola Marymount University
- Pepperdine University
- Santa Monica Community College
- University of California at Los Angeles

### Workshop Presenters

- Keith Abrahams, Student Integration Services (DOI)
- Monica Balbuena, Division of Adult and Career Education
- George Bartleson, School Designs Options
- Dr. Michael Batie, STEM Education and Research Collaborative
- Yolanda Beckles, Parent
- Leah Brackins, Office of Parent and Community Services
- Heather Brown, Academic and Counseling Services (DOI)
- Angelina Cardenas, Office of Parent and Community Services
- Patricia Chambers, Office of the Interim Superintendent
- Lorena Franco, Access, Equity and Acceleration Unit (DOI)
- Susanna Furfari, Advanced Learning Options (DOI)
- Dr. Jamila Gillenwaters, Access, Equity and Acceleration Unit (DOI)
- Wes Hall, CEO, The Institute For Student Empowerment
- Stephanie Holloway, Local District South
- Dr. Brenda Manuel, Access, Equity and Acceleration Unit (DOI)
- Nichole McMahon, School Mental Health
- Margaret McNair, Hope4Families
- Dr. Nicole Niederdeppe, Advanced Learning Options (DOI)
- Thanhdi Nguyen, Xtreme Unity, Inc.
- Dr. Kimani Norrington-Sands, School Mental Health
- Sheldon Pace, Xtreme Unity, Inc.
- Tunette Powell, Author, Researcher
- Annmarie Serrano, ED. S., Psychological Services
- Tracy Shannon, Shannon Financial Services
- Eduardo Solórzano, P-12 Instruction (DOI)

### Student Groups

- 186th Street Elementary School International Chorus
- Dorsey High School Dance Team
- Foshay Learning Center Jazz Band
- Gardena High School JRTOC
- Hamilton High School Dance Team
- Los Angeles High School Jazz Band and Drama Club
- Manual Arts High School Jazz Band
- Peary Middle School Drumline
- University High School Drill Team



**AAFD 2018 Planning Committee**

Alvaro Alvarenga  
Andrea Goring  
Angela Hewlett-Bloch  
Angelina Cardenas  
Dr. Brenda Manuel  
Dennis Stecchi  
Diane Panossian  
Garrett Lee  
Gloria Acosta  
Ismael Berver  
Dr. Jamila Gillenwaters  
Jessica Thomas  
Leah Brackins  
Lisa Porter  
Lorena Franco  
Mandla Kayise  
Monica Dudley  
Dr. Robert Whitman  
Dr. Rosalinda Lugo  
Rosemarie Martinez  
Sikivu Hutchinson  
Zamecia Mccorvey

The Access, Equity and Acceleration Unit and the Office of Parent and Community  
Services would like to extend a special “thank you” to all parents, students, and  
community organizations and partners who participated in African American Family  
Day 2018!





**Lift Every Voice and Sing**  
**"The Black National Anthem"**  
**(1900)**

**Lift Every Voice and Sing**

Words: James Weldon Johnson

Music: John Rosamond Johnson

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,  
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;  
Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies,  
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song full of faith that the dark past has taught us,  
Sing a song full of hope that the present has brought us;  
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,  
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,  
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet,  
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?  
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,  
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered;  
Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last  
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,  
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;  
Thou who hast by Thy might, led us into the light,  
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,  
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee.  
Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand,  
True to our God, true to our native land.

