

**FREDERICK DOUGLASS MEMORIAL AND HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION  
("FDMHA")  
ESSAY SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST**

The bicentennial celebration of the birth of Frederick Douglass begins February 14, 2018. Even after 200 hundred years, Mr. Douglass' words have meaning and impact in current social justice and political arenas. Mr. Douglass was one of the most important figures in the abolitionist movement and a highly respected 19<sup>th</sup> century statesman. His rise from slavery to becoming a counselor to President Abraham Lincoln continues to inspire generations. Our essay contest is designed to inspire you to help us keep the legacy of Frederick Douglass relevant and thriving.

**The winner of the competitive annual contest is awarded a \$3,000 prize. A second-place winner receives \$2,000 and a third-place winner receives \$1,000.**

### **What to Write**

Contestants are asked to write an original and creative essay addressing their interpretation of the following quote of Mr. Douglass:

**"Once you learn to read, you will forever be free."**

**The contestant must submit a writing that demonstrates research on the life and contributions of Mr. Douglass. There must be at least five facts of Mr. Douglass's life and references to at least two of his speeches or writings within the essay.**

### **Who is Eligible**

- Senior high school students attending public schools in Washington DC, or in the State of Maryland or the Commonwealth of Virginia, within a 50 mile radius of the District of Columbia.
- Students must be enrolled in college in the fall of 2018 or the spring semester of 2019.

### **Requirements**

- Entries due by 11:59 p.m. on March 31, 2018.
- Do not include name or other personal information on essay.
- Essays can be no more than 1000 words but must be a minimum of 750 words. Citations and bibliography are not included in the word count.
- Essays must be the original work of the contestant.
- Essays must have a minimum of one source that is **NOT Wikipedia, magazines, newspapers, or blogs.**
- Essays must include endnotes, footnotes, or a bibliography (not included in word count).

### **Essay Submission**

- **Submit entries via email or first-class mail with registration form.** Essays sent by mail must be postmarked March 31, 2018. Emailed essays must show a sent date by no later than 11:59 p.m. on March 31, 2018.

**FREDERICK DOUGLASS MEMORIAL AND HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION  
ESSAY SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST  
REGISTRATION FORM**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_

**State:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School phone number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Supervising teacher:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_

**State:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home/Cell phone number:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Teacher Verification**

**I have read the enclosed essay and verify that it reflects the above-named student's original work.**

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**GENERAL RELEASE.** By entering the Contest, all Contestants release FDMHA from any liability and waive any and all causes of action, related to any claims, costs, injuries, losses, or damages of any kind arising out of or in connection with the Contest or delivery, misdelivery, acceptance, possession, use of or inability to use the Scholarship (including, without limitation, claims, costs, injuries, losses and damages related to personal injuries, death, damage to or destruction of property, rights of publicity or privacy, defamation or portrayal in a false light, whether intentional or unintentional), whether under a theory of contract, tort (including negligence), warranty or other theory. By entering, each Contestant understands, acknowledges and agrees that upon your submission to FDMHA, the submission materials become the property of FDMHA and FDMHA shall not have any obligation to return or account to you for any submissions. Further, FDMHA is not under any obligation to provide you with any compensation or credit (verbal or written) for the submission or FDMHA's use of the submission. You represent and warrant that the submission is your original creation, there are no adverse claims in or to the submission, and the submission does not violate any copyright, patent (including design patent), trademark, trade name, or the rights of any third party, and is not otherwise unlawful. Further, each Contestant acknowledges that much of the material that will be submitted as part of the Contest may embody materials, suggestions, or ideas substantially similar to those which have been developed by others. Contestant releases FDMHA from any claim or liability with respect to the use of similar materials, that the materials submitted are free from any lien or claim by anyone that the entry does not infringe in whole or in part on any rights of any other party; and that Contestant agrees to indemnify and hold FDMHA harmless from any claims, suits, losses, damages and expenses (including reasonable attorney fees) that arise from the breach of the foregoing terms and conditions and general disclaimer. You acknowledge, understand and agree that (a) there does not now exist, nor has there ever existed, nor will there exist, a fiduciary or confidential relationship between you and FDMHA with respect to the submission and the submission is not being submitted in confidence or trust, nor are you an agent nor acting on behalf of or as a representative of FDMHA in connection with the submission; (b) you are making this submission on a voluntary basis; (c) you have not agreed to this disclaimer in reliance upon any representation or promise, whether written or oral; (d) you acknowledge that you may be required to execute a formal agreement with FDMHA in the event that FDMHA intends to use your submission.

By making your submission, you acknowledge and agree to be bound by these terms and conditions and this disclaimer. If you do not agree to be so bound, you must not make a submission.

**Send with essay to FDMHA, Attn: Essay Scholarship, P.O. Box 1346, Lanham, MD 20703 or email to [fdmhaessay@gmail.com](mailto:fdmhaessay@gmail.com). Check out our website at [frederickdouglassmha.org](http://frederickdouglassmha.org).**