2019 BLACK HISTORY MONTH ESSAY CONTEST

Cumulus Broadcasting has partnered with Shreveport Public Assembly & Recreation (SPAR) for this year's Black History Month essay contest. There will be four (4) educational prizes donated for the winning essays as follows:

Two **elementary school student** winners will receive one (1) iPad Tablet each.
One **middle school student** winner will receive one (1) laptop.
One **high school student** winner will receive one (1) laptop.

Cumulus Broadcasting will announce the winners on radio stations 99.7 and 102.9, and on its website: https://www.cumulusmedia.com/. Cumulus will allow winners to read excerpts of their essays "live on the air" during the week prior to the MLK Championship Sunday Basketball Tournament. Prizes will be presented to the winners during half-time of the championship game on **Sunday, February 17, 2019** at Southern University-Shreveport Gymnasium.

* * * * * RULES AND REQUIREMENTS * * * * *

ANY ENTRY THAT DOES NOT MEET THESE REQUIREMENTS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

- ☐ Students who submit an essay for judging must be between 6-17 years of age.
- ☐ Students must have been officially enrolled in SPAR's After-School Program *or* a Caddo Parish school before January 31, 2019.
- ☐ The essay must be placed on the reverse-side of this completed entry form. Essays printed on blank paper will NOT be accepted.
- ☐ The essay may be typed, or copier/printer generated, or hand-printed legibly.
- ☐ If hand-printing the essay: Either pencil or ink is acceptable, but it must be printed and shall NOT be written in cursive.
- ☐ The essay must be the *original work* of the student whose name appears on this entry form. **Plagiarism is NOT allowed**.
- ☐ Only one essay per student will be accepted.
- ☐ Essays shall be at least 250 words, but no more than 300 words.

* * * * * DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS * * * * *

Essays must be submitted to the SPAR Community Center and/or respective Caddo Parish School at which the entrant is enrolled no later than 6:00PM, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2019.

* * * * * STUDENT ENTRY INFORMATION * * * * *

Student Name: _____ Age: _____ Sex: ☐ F ☐ M

Home Mailing Address: _____
Street City State Zip Code

School/Recreation Center: _____ Grade: _____

Primary Contact Phone #(s): ( ) _____ Alternate Phone : ( ) _____

E-mail: _____

* * * * * PARENTAL/LEGAL GUARDIAN RELEASE STATEMENT * * * * *

As parent or legal guardian, I affirm that my child has written the essay on the reverse side of this form, and has followed the rules stated above. Should he or she win the contest, I agree to allow the essay to be distributed publicly and to be read aloud on the radio. I give the City of Shreveport permission to photograph my child/myself for the purposes of publicizing events and/or programs.

_____	_____	_____
Name (Please print)	**Signature**	**Date**

* ESSAY INSTRUCTIONS *

Describe (in 250-300 words)

Your task is to pick a person of color who illustrates the triumph of the human spirit over circumstances and prejudice in order to build a life of accomplishment. Write your essay as Historic Fiction. Imagine yourself living at the time of your chosen person and being acquainted with him/her. You might be his/her child, parent, friend, boss or even an adversary. Write about him/her from your unique point of view.

1. Who is the person about whom you want to write? When did he/she live?
2. What did your chosen person do to "triumph over circumstances and prejudice to build a life of accomplishment?"
3. Tell why you feel particularly close to this individual.