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SPRINGFIELD, IL 62706  
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THE OFFICE OF  
**ELGIE R. SIMS, JR.**  
STATE SENATOR • 17<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT  
[Esims@SenatorElgieSims.com](mailto:Esims@SenatorElgieSims.com)  
[www.SenatorElgieSims.com](http://www.SenatorElgieSims.com)

**COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**

Chairman, Criminal Law

Vice Chairman, Appropriations II

Appropriations I

Judiciary

Telecommunications & Information  
Technology

Oct. 18, 2019

Dear student:

With summer officially over and the school year starting to roll along, I would like to take a moment to let you know about an opportunity for you to participate in our upcoming essay competition. We are quickly approaching Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Jan. 20, 2020, and so we've chosen the theme for our contest: *"What would Dr. King's vision be for America in 2020?"*

Our MLK Essay Competition is for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Each essay writer will need to answer and expand upon their view of our theme question *"What would Dr. King's vision be for America in 2020?"* All essays must be submitted no later than *Monday Jan. 6*. The Essay Competition Application will provide all the submission information. Please ensure that you attach the application to your essay so that we may properly track your submission and contact you when you win! Our 1<sup>st</sup> Place Winner will receive a laptop and a plaque, with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Winner receiving a tablet and a plaque. Each winner will be invited to a special MLK Day Event.

I also want to let everyone know about what steps to take while planning a visit to Springfield. I love when we have visitors come down to see what we do and take part in the legislative process. We are only in session on particular days throughout the year, but you are welcome to visit at any time and see the city where Abraham Lincoln's work began. If you are interested in coming to visit please go to my website, [www.SenatorElgieSims.com](http://www.SenatorElgieSims.com), under the *Services* tab you will find a selection for *Visit the Senate*. Once you complete the form and submit it, my office can contact you and help organize your visit. If you have any questions or issues with planning your visit please don't hesitate to contact my Springfield Legislative Office at 217.782.3201.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elgie R. Sims, Jr.".

Elgie R. Sims, Jr.  
State Senator, 17<sup>th</sup> District



**Elgie R. Sims Jr.**  
*State Senator, 17<sup>th</sup> District*

**DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**  
**ESSAY APPLICATION**

6<sup>th</sup> Grade

7<sup>th</sup> Grade

8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (H): \_\_\_\_\_ (W): \_\_\_\_\_ (C): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher name: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Best contact email for school/teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

**ESSAY TOPIC**

We are asking 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to prepare an original essay answering this year's question: "What would Dr. King's vision be for America in 2020?"

**Timeline**

Deadline for submission:

*Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2019*

Winners announced:

*Monday, Jan. 13, 2019*

**Submission Options**

Email - [2020EssayContest@SenatorElgieSims.com](mailto:2020EssayContest@SenatorElgieSims.com)

Mail and drop off to our District Office:

1720 E 87<sup>th</sup> St., Chicago, IL 60617

**Prizes**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place**

- First place plaque
- Laptop computer

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> place medal
- Tablet

Questions should be directed to Sen. Sim's office:

(773) 933-7715, [info@senatorelgiesims.com](mailto:info@senatorelgiesims.com)