Columbia Values Diversity Celebration

An Annual Celebration of the Life and Teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

To: Teachers, Grades 4-12
From: Sarah Dresser, City of Columbia Office of Cultural Affairs
Date: September 27, 2017
RE: Student Writings Program

The Columbia Values Diversity Celebration Planning Committee is sponsoring a Student Writings Program for students in grades 4-12. This year’s theme is: "Forward in Unity: Embracing Our Beloved Community."

Students in grades 4-12 are invited to submit their original essays and poetry for possible publication in the 2018 Columbia Values Diversity Celebration Student Writings Booklet. An independent selection committee will choose selected writings from all grade levels for publication. This booklet will be distributed to over 1,000 people at the annual community celebration on January 11, 2018 and published on the Celebration website: www.como.gov (Search: Diversity Celebration). Four or five students will be selected with the opportunity to read their works and be featured in a video produced by the City Channel, which will be played at the Celebration as well as broadcast after the event.

Submission guidelines are included which detail entry submission information. These guidelines also include brief prompts designed to stimulate student thought and creativity.

Please share this information with other teachers in your school and encourage your students to participate. The submission deadline is Monday, November 13, 2017.

We look forward to sharing your students’ creative literary work with others throughout our community.