



The Black History Month Essay and Speech Contest

Application Deadline: 5:00 pm, February 13, 2008

- Essays should reflect the following theme:
“Fifty Years of Fighting for Freedom: Where We’ve Been, Where We’re Going”
- Essays must reflect one of the following topics:
 - Peaceful protest and Social Activism
 - Hip Hop and Politics
 - Diversity and Affirmative Action: Where Do We Go From Here?
 - Is Facebook a Substitute Tactic for Activism?
 - Leadership and Advocacy: Who Should Represent Us?
 - YouTube and the First Amendment
 - Multicultural Perspective & Identity Formation
 - Your Generation & Civil Rights: Is It Over?
 - A Campus Student Organization & Social Consciousness
 - Impact of Global Civil Rights & Black Consciousness

The Application Cover Page (on reverse side) and your essay submission are due by 5:00 pm February 13, 2008, in the Department of Africana Studies, S-249 SBS Bldg. or EOP/AIM Office, Room W-3520 Melville Library..

The finalists will present their essay speeches to a panel of judges on Wednesday, February 20, 12:40-2:00, in Room 304 Student Activities Center. This program is open to the Stony Brook Community.

Awards will be presented to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place Winners at the Black History Month Closing, on Thursday, February 28, 2008 in the Student Activities Ballroom A. Admission is open to everyone free of charge.

Submission Requirements: Only Stony Brook undergraduates are eligible to participate. Essays must be typed and double-spaced. No more than 3-5 pages, or five to seven minutes in length. All submissions must be accompanied by a completed **Application Form**, available in the Africana Studies Department, EOP/AIM Office, and the Office of Multicultural Affairs, Suite 222 Student Activities Center..

The following criteria will be used to judge the essays and speeches:

Clarify: Does the presenter speak clearly?

Stage Presence: Does the presenter look at the audience or is she/he merely reading the speech? Does the presenter put emotion?

Content: Does the content and overall message of the speech reflect the principles stated in the Black History Month Essay theme?

Creativity: Does the writer put forth fresh new ideas in his/her speech? Is the speech enthusiastic, innovative, and exciting?

PRIZES; PRIZES; PRIZES; 1st, 2nd, 3rd PLACE AWARDS

Cash Bookstore Certificate; Dinner for two at the Cheesecake Factory; Gift basket of “Things I Like”

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Application Cover Sheet

*Please attach to your essay

First Name _____

Last Name _____

SBU ID # _____

E-mail Address _____

Campus/Local Address _____

Phone # _____

Class Standing: Please check appropriate

Freshman

Sophomore

Junior

Senior

Major _____

Minor _____

Essay

Title: _____

Please list all areas of campus involvement, including student clubs or organizations that you are currently a member of (resume optional)

The Application Cover Page and your essay submission are due by 5:00 on Wednesday, February 13, 2008 at the Department of Africana Studies, Room S-245 SBS Bldg; EOP/AIM Program Office, W-3520 Melville Library; or the Office of Multicultural Affairs, Suite 222 Student Activities Center.