

HISD MEDIA ADVISORY

HISD students to portray their 2020 vision of MLK's dream during oratory competition

WHAT: Twelve Houston Independent School District students will demonstrate their public speaking skills during the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Oratory Competition which focuses on the topic, "What would Dr. King's vision be for America in 2020?"

Fourth- and fifth-grade HISD students who have made it to the final round of competition on Friday will deliver original speeches inspired by the late civil rights leader.

The finalists are:

- Ananya Cherkuri, Askew Elementary, 4th Grade
- Ayomide Lawrence, Blackshear Elementary, 4th Grade
- Aniyah Williams, Burrus Elementary, 5th Grade
- David Ozuzu, Cornelius Elementary, 4th Grade
- Brandon Curbow, Crespo Elementary, 4th Grade
- Kaydence Fletcher, James H. Law Elementary, 4th Grade
- Symphony Stroud, Lockhart Elementary, 5th Grade
- Hanah Hamilton, Pleasantville Elementary, 5th Grade
- Jenny Teague, Sutton Elementary, 5th Grade
- Sean Gair, Thompson Elementary, 5th Grade
- Gabrielle Marshall, Valley West Elementary, 5th Grade
- Leo Serrano, Windsor Village Elementary, 4th Grade

Students are judged on stage presence and decorum, content interpretation, and memorization. The winner will receive a \$1,000 prize. The runner-up will receive \$500, while the third-place contestant will receive \$300. Other finalists will each receive \$100.

The nationally recognized competition has taken place for more than two decades and is sponsored by Foley & Lardner LLP law firm.

WHO: HISD Board of Education Trustees, HISD Interim Superintendent **Grenita Lathan**, HISD students, parents, teachers and staff.

WHEN: Friday, Jan. 17
10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

WHERE: Antioch Missionary Baptist Church of Christ
500 Clay St., 77002

HISD PRESS OFFICE | 713-556-6393 | PressOffice@HoustonISD.org | HoustonISD.org/HISDmedia

The Houston Independent School District is the largest school district in Texas and the seventh-largest in the United States, with 280 schools and more than 209,772 students. The 333-square-mile district is one of the largest employers in the Houston metropolitan area, with more than 27,000 employees.

HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 4400 West 18th Street | Houston, Texas 77092-8501
HoustonISD.org | facebook.com/HoustonISD • facebook.com/HISDEspanol | [@HoustonISD](https://twitter.com/HoustonISD) • [@HISDEspanol](https://twitter.com/HISDEspanol)