

# HISD MEDIA ADVISORY

## HISD students to share their 2022 vision of MLK's dream during 27<sup>th</sup> annual Oratory competition

**WHAT:** Houston Independent School District top 12 student finalists will showcase their public speaking skills at the final round of the 2023 Martin Luther King Jr. Oratory competition. Fourth and fifth grade students will present their composed 3-to-5-minute speeches addressing this year's topic "What would Dr. King say to us today about hope for tomorrow?"

**The 2021-2022 finalists are**

- *Camila Alfaro*, Sutton Elementary
- *Masyn Mourning*, Burrus Elementary
- *Arianna Guillory*, Blackshear Elementary
- *Joy Nsude*, Valley West Elementary
- *Keinner De Leon*, Crespo Elementary
- Ellis Britton, Briar Meadow Elementary
- Xavier Holmes, Jr. Windsor Village Elementary
- Kowin McCormick, Pleasantville Elementary
- Zaria Jones, Thompson Elementary
- Marquise Ambers, Cornelius Elementary
- Kandence Smith, Law Elementary
- Journey Sensley, Young Elementary

This year's judging criteria will include delivery, stage presence, decorum, content interpretation, and memorization. The winner will receive \$1,000 while the runner-up will receive \$500, and a \$300 prize will be awarded for the third-place winner. All other finalists will each receive \$100.


Foley's Annual MLK Jr. Oratory Competition is held each year in conjunction with Martin Luther King Jr. Day to encourage people to remember and pay tribute to the late civil rights leader's legacy. Foley established the event in 1993 to inspire students to learn more about Dr. King and help cultivate elementary school students' writing and speaking skills.


**WHO:** HISD Superintendent **Millard House II**, Foley & Lardner LLP Chief Administrative Officer **Claude Treece**, HISD students and educators


**WHEN:** Friday, Jan. 13  
10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.


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

The Houston Independent School District is the largest school district in Texas and the eighth-largest in the United States, with 276 schools and nearly 197,000 students. The 333-square-mile district is one of the largest employers in the Houston metropolitan area, with more than 27,000 employees.

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