



## MEMORANDUM

**To: Principals, Guidance Counselors, English/Social Studies Teachers, Parents and Students**

**From: Michael Parker, Oratorical Committee Chairperson**

**Date: October 19, 2018**

**Re: 2019 Martin Luther King, Jr. Oratorical Competition**

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The Rocky Mount Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission invites students in grades 6-12 to participate in the Thirty-First Annual MLK Oratorical Competition during the Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration in January 2019. The Oratorical Competition will be held on Saturday, January 12, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the Imperial Centre at 270 Gay Street, Rocky Mount NC, 27804.

The speech theme for students in grades 6-8 is **“At the Center of it All (Hope, Love or Peace)”**. For students in grades 9-12, the theme is **“Continuing the Journey”**. The maximum time for the presentation is three (3) minutes.

There will be first, second and third place winners in both categories of the competition. First place winners will receive \$175.00, second place - \$150.00 and third place - \$125.00. All participants will receive certificates of participation.

Please distribute the attached applications, guidelines and consent forms to interested students and return them by Tuesday, January 8, 2019 to: Human Relations Department, 331 S. Franklin Street, Rocky Mount, NC 27804.

Thank you in advance for your time and dedication. For additional information contact Archie Jones at (252) 972-1180 or [archie.jones@rockymountnc.gov](mailto:archie.jones@rockymountnc.gov).

*“At the center of non-violence stands the principle of love.”*

*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*