DC CHILDREN' S TRUST FUND PRESENTS

"What Kwanzaa Means to Me" Essay Contest

Call for essays on the principles of Kwanzaa · **December 7, 2026 - January 15, 2027**

ENTRIES DUE
Friday, January 15, 2027
by 5:00 PM

WINNERS ANNOUNCED
Monday, January 25, 2027

AWARDS CEREMONY
Thursday, February 18, 2027
Black History Month

ELIGIBILITY

Open to students ages **5–12**. Contestants must be willing to attend the awards ceremony on Thursday, February 18, 2027, and willing to appear on cable television.

ESSAY / POETRY

- Paper size: 8½ × 11 inches
- Essays and poems may be handwritten or typed
- Write about a selected Kwanzaa principle **or** the entire holiday

GUIDELINES

Entries must be the original work of students. Please include:

- Student's name
- Birth date
- Parent's name, home address and telephone number
- Grade, school and teacher's name

PRIZES IN EACH CATEGORY

Ages 5–8 & Ages 9–12

1. **First Place** — Bicycle or scooter
2. **Second Place** — Software app
3. **Third Place** — Gift certificate

Winners will also be honored in the Trust Fund's newsletter and on the website.

JUDGING

Entries are judged on accuracy, originality, creativity and expression of theme. The decision of the judges is final.

SUBMIT YOUR ENTRY TO
DC Children's Trust Fund · Attn: Kwanzaa Essay Contest
1112 11th Street, NW, Suite B · Washington, DC 20001

OR EMAIL AS AN ATTACHMENT
ksokoya@gmail.com

QUESTIONS
(443) 852-5767