PROMPT GUIDELINES

Let’s Ride for Freedom!

The struggle for Civil Rights remains a daily reality that affects us all, often in drastically different ways. Many of us may not realize the role that traditional and systemic structures play in discrimination. We do not realize the extent that these structures inform the public’s perception of discrimination through the news, digital publications, media, and public policies, among other sources. Current events are fueling the influence of the media through local, national, and international news outlets, YouTube, social media, cell phone photos, and more, oftentimes to deleterious effects. However, in your hands, the media is also a valuable tool that gives your voice the chance to challenge negative portrayals, intentional and otherwise, that contribute to discrimination and racism. Lifting Your Voice offers you an opportunity to give voice to the issues that are important to you.

This year as a college we are focusing on the Freedom Rides: American Civil Rights Movement. Freedom Riders were groups of white and African American civil rights activists who participated in Freedom Rides, bus trips through the American South in 1961 to protest segregated bus terminals. Freedom Riders tried to use “whites-only” restrooms and lunch counters at bus stations in Alabama, South Carolina and other Southern states. The groups were confronted by arresting police officers—as well as horrific violence from white protestors—along their routes, but also drew international attention to their cause. (Retrieved on January 24, 2018 from http://www.history.com/topics/black-history/freedom-rides).

As Muir College celebrates its 50th Anniversary, reflect on how students of 1967 and today might have navigated racial justice and social justice work. What is similar and what is different from the Freedom Rides movement? What do we hope will change in the next 50 years?

Answer questions in the format that best expresses your response (see Contest Info on Page 1).

Also, be sure to check out the

Black History Month Luncheon

on Monday, February 12 from 11:30am – 1:00 pm in the Mariposa Room

Please RSVP to mdeansoffice@ucsd.edu
CONTEST INFO
Submit an original essay, poem, work of art, or video that reflects on significant moments or experiences that influenced your understanding of social justice.

Students can choose any medium from the following list to participate in the contest:
- Art piece (2D or 3D)
- Poem (maximum 300 words)
- Essay (maximum 500 words)
- Video (5 minutes or less)

Please see Page 2 for prompt guidelines.

JUDGING CRITERIA
Submissions will be evaluated anonymously by the John Muir College “Lift Your Voice Contest” Committee Panel on the following criteria:

1. **Relevance to the theme** “Creating History” (Please see Page 2 for prompt guidelines)

2. **Originality** – Creativity and thoughtfulness in response to the topic

3. **Impact** – Quality of product and clarity of expression

PRIZES
1st Place: $75
Honorable Mentions: $25

TO ENTER
Eligibility for the contest requires that students are registered full-time UCSD Muir College Students. Submissions are limited to one entry per student.

The entry deadline is **Thursday, February 8, 2018 at 4:30PM**. Submissions may be dropped off to the Muir College Student Affairs Office (H&SS 2126) or e-mailed to mdeansoffice@ucsd.edu.

**Completed submissions must include a cover letter with a short description of your submission, your full name, e-mail address, and phone number.**

**All participants will be invited to the Black History Month Luncheon on Monday, February 12 at 11:30 AM in the Mariposa Room.**

Winners will be notified via e-mail and will have the opportunity to present their entry at the Luncheon. Please RSVP to mdeansoffice@ucsd.edu.

All submissions must be the original, unpublished work of the student. All entries become property of Muir College and cannot be returned. Entries could be posted on the college website.

For more information, contact the Muir College Student Affairs Office at (858) 534-3587 or e-mail at mdeansoffice@ucsd.edu