



## MAAC “TIME OUT FOR BLACK LIVES” READING REWARDS & ESSAY CONTEST

### IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NJEA

In celebration of Black History Month, the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) and NJEA have partnered to promote its support for black culture and social justice through a reading rewards and essay contest. As a part of the MAAC’s initiative, they have created the “Time Out for Black Lives” online platform which features video recordings of the Conference’s head basketball coaches and players reading hand-selected books bringing attention to the greatest of black culture. This is also a part of the NJEA’s Read Across New Jersey program.

Through this partnership, the MAAC and NJEA are encouraging students of New Jersey public schools to engage with the “Time Out for Black Lives” platform and support these initiatives with the opportunity to be selected to attend the MAAC Men’s Basketball semifinals at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City on Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>.

To participate in the contest, entries will be divided into two age categories:

#### **Elementary/ Intermediate (Grades 4-8) - Quiz**

Students should watch the online “[Time Out for Black Lives](https://www.timeoutforblacklives.com/books/)” videos for the following books listed here <https://www.timeoutforblacklives.com/books/> and complete quiz located here <https://bit.ly/3lfqiBu>. Please be sure to complete and include all contact information on the form located here <https://bit.ly/3wX6SUP> with submitted quiz.

#### **High School (Grades 9-12) - Essay**

Students should research social justice and interview representatives from their school or community and share what it means to them in essay form. Encourage them to share way that they can contribute to the progress of social justice. Essay must be typed, double-spaced and should not exceed 500 words. Please be sure to complete and include all contact information on the form located here <https://www.njea.org/download/84458/> with submitted quiz.

#### **Contest Entry Period**

All quiz forms and essays must be submitted via mail (postmarked by Friday, February 17) or email (sent by Friday, February 17 @ 11:59pm ET) to be eligible for contest prize.

**Email:** Send entries to [mbarnes@njea.org](mailto:mbarnes@njea.org) with “MAAC Contest” in the subject line

**Mail:** Send entries to MAAC Contest, Meredith Barnes, c/o NJEA, PO Box 1211, Trenton, NJ 08607-1211

#### **Contest Winners**

All entries submitted before February 17 deadline will be judged by a panel comprised of NJEA members. Winners from both age categories will be notified by February 26. The selected winners will receive the following:

- Invitation for two (2) to the MAAC Men’s Basketball Tournament semi-finals on Friday, March 10 (includes two games, 6:00pm and 8:30pm) at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City
- One (1) Reserved Parking Pass
- Student to be recognized on court during the 6:00 pm game

We thank you for your interest in the supporting this initiative and encourage you to continue to engage with the “Time Out for Black Lives” online portal.

For more information about the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference, visit <http://maacsports.com>.

