



Metro-Atlantic Athletic Conference Essay Contest Announced

Welcome to the 2024 “Time Out for Black Lives” Reading Rewards Contest where we connect basketball with the greatness of black culture through reading.

By entering into this contest you will become eligible to win the unique experience of complimentary tickets to the MAAC Basketball Championship semi-finals in Atlantic City, NJ on Friday, March 15, 2024 and be recognized on-court during a game.

What does social justice mean to you? What do you see happening in your school and community? Discuss ways you can contribute to progress on social justice. Students should research social justice and/or interview, if possible, members of their school and community and write an essay no longer than 500 words.

Entries will be divided into two age categories: Elementary and Intermediate (grades 4 through 8) and High School (grades 9-12). High school students will participate in the essay contest. Elementary and Intermediate have a wonderful opportunity to watch and listen to videos of books selected by *Time Out for Black Lives* as part of their social justice literacy program and complete a multiple choice and short answer quiz.

Entries will be judged by a panel comprised of NJEA members. Winners will be notified by Feb. 23, 2024. The winning students will be invited to the MAAC championship games scheduled for March 15, 2024, in Atlantic City where two games will be held that night. Winning students will receive two tickets and a parking pass to attend the game, as well as a certificate and recognition on the court.

HS: Essays must be typed and double-spaced. The student must include their name, age, grade level as of Feb. 16, 2024, address, phone number, parent/guardian’s name, school name, and school district. If the



essay is a school project, the student should also include the name of the teacher who assigned the activity. No Google Docs, please submit as a PDF.

E&IS: The quiz handout should be filled out once students have had a chance to view the videos. Be sure to complete all the contact information on the form. The PDF of the form is <[here](#)>.

Essays and quiz forms must be postmarked by Feb. 16, 2024, to be eligible. Send entries to MAAC Essay Contest, Meredith Barnes, c/o NJEA, PO Box 1211, Trenton, NJ 08607-1211, or email mbarnes@njea.org with MAAC Essay Contest in the subject line.

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