To announce the Division of Academics, Department of Social Sciences Black History Elementary (K-5) Essay Contest.

- The purpose of this contest is to enhance elementary school students’ writing skills while promoting an awareness of the 2018 Black History theme, “African Americans in Times of War.”

**BLACK HISTORY ESSAY CONTEST GUIDELINES**

- The elementary categories are grades K-2 and 3-5.
- **Essay Prompt:**
  
  *Many Americans feel it is important to serve one’s country and many decide to do so by joining the military. Research a specific African American who has served their country through the military and explain to your reader why this person should be recognized for their service.*

- Essays must be typed, with a maximum length of 500 words (2 pages), double space on white paper, and stapled on the upper left-hand corner.

- The prompt must be typed on the cover sheet. The cover sheet must also include the following:
  - Student’s name;
  - Grade level;
  - Email address;
  - Phone number (cell/home);
  - Teacher’s name and email address; and
  - School name.

- Failure to follow these guidelines will result in disqualification.

- All entries will be evaluated in their entirety with consideration being given to the following four elements: focus, organization, support, and conventions.

**PRIZES:**

Separate first, second and third place prizes will be awarded in the grade bands K-2 and 3-5 middle school and senior high school categories as follows:

- 1st place - $200 U.S. Currency
- 2nd place - $100 U.S. Currency
- 3rd place - $50 U.S. Currency

- Winners of the essay contest are also invited to attend the *Thirlee Smith 1st Annual Black History Brain Bowl* that will be held at the Lyric Theatre on Wednesday, February 28, 2018.

- **All entries are due no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, February 23, 2018.**

- Submissions are to be faxed or emailed to the following:
  - **FAX:** 305-995-1492 OR
  - **Email:** azeto@dadeschools.net

- If there are further questions, contact Dr. Sherrilyn Scott, District Supervisor, Division of Academics, Department of Social Sciences, at the number listed below or via email at sherrilynscott@dadeschools.net.