

Strong Men & Women: Excellence in Leadership

Writing Contest Guidelines

Contest Overview

High schools in the Dominion service area are invited to honor outstanding African Americans by participating in the **Strong Men & Women: Excellence in Leadership** series Student Writing Contest.

- **Students who are currently juniors or seniors** at a public or private high school in Dominion's Virginia and North Carolina service area are eligible to participate.
- **Students must submit a 350-word essay online** about one of the more than 200 individuals featured in the Strong Men & Women series. The honorees for 2012 and the student winners will be honored at an evening awards ceremony in Richmond, Va., on January 19, 2012.
- **Four** essays will be chosen.
- **New essay criteria**
Write a creative, memorable and compelling essay that answers **one** of the following questions:
 - If you could meet any **one** of the Strong Men and Women honorees, whom would you pick? Why?
 - Which **one** of the Strong Men and Women honorees has influenced you or has made an impact on your life? How?
 - In your opinion, which **one** of the Strong Men and Women honorees made the biggest impact on history? Why?
- Winning students will receive a **laptop computer** and their schools will receive a cash award of **\$1,000** at the awards ceremony in January. Each winner and school representative **must** attend the ceremony to receive the awards.
- Dominion sponsors the writing contest to encourage students to learn more about the achievements of African Americans.
- The contest is in conjunction with the company's **Strong Men & Women: Excellence in Leadership** series, which recognizes local, state and national leaders each year.

ATTENTION

TEACHERS & GUIDANCE COUNSELORS

How to Conduct the Contest at Your School

Appoint a Writing Contest Coordinator to:

- ◆ **Hang** poster in prominent location.
- ◆ **Announce** the contest to juniors and seniors (sample enclosed).
- ◆ **Make** the "Strong Men & Women: Excellence in Leadership" reference materials available. Reference materials and past essay winners are available at **www.dom.com**, keyword: **strong**. Students are encouraged to find additional reference material for their essays.

- ◆ **Encourage** participation in the contest.
- ◆ **Remind** students to submit entry **online** to Dominion at **www.dom.com**, keyword: **strong**, by clicking on the link, **Submit Your Essay**, found under *Student Writing Contest* by **November 7**.

Judging Criteria:

- Content:** Does the entry reflect substance and careful thought?
Clarity: Is it clear why the writer believes the individual deserves respect and recognition as a leader?
Creativity: Does this entry stand apart from the others for its effectiveness in portraying the leader selected?
Mechanics: Has the student used correct grammar, spelling and punctuation?
Length: All entries must be limited to 350 words.

Suggested Timetable:

- Sept. 19-23:** Writing Contest Announced
(Prepared announcement enclosed)
Hang poster - through Nov. 4
Oct. 17: Contest Entry Reminder
Nov. 7: Deadline for entries to be submitted **online**

Submit entries online to Dominion at:
www.dom.com, keyword: **strong**, by clicking on the link **Submit Your Essay**, found under *Student Writing Contest*.

All entries become the property of Dominion.

Notification and Awards

The winning essays will be posted on the Internet at **www.dom.com**, keyword: **strong**, by December 9, 2011. Arrangements will be made with the winning schools for the student and a school representative to attend the January ceremony in Richmond to receive the award.

Questions? Please call (804) 771-4167.

WRITING CONTEST
STUDENT SAMPLE ENTRY FORM ON BACK



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Student Entry Form

Essays should be submitted **online** at www.dom.com, keyword: strong

Student Information

Student Name (please print) _____

Ethnic background (*optional to ensure diversity*) _____

Junior Senior

Home Address _____

City, State and ZIP _____

Telephone (____) _____

E-mail _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

School Information

School Name _____

Address _____

City, State and ZIP _____

Telephone (____) _____

Principal Name _____

Coordinator Name _____

Title _____

E-mail _____

Telephone (____) _____

Your Essay (maximum of 350 words)

Submit (online)



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Writing Contest

**PLEASE INCLUDE IN MORNING ANNOUNCEMENTS
through NOVEMBER 7, 2011. THANK YOU!**

Juniors and **seniors** have an opportunity to win a laptop computer and \$1,000 for their school by entering Dominion's annual **Strong Men and Women: Excellence in Leadership** series' **Student Writing Contest!** Dominion is looking for high school **juniors** and **seniors** who understand how the power of words can inspire others! Do you have what it takes to write a creative, memorable and compelling essay that answers **one** of the following questions?

- If you could meet one of the Strong Men and Women honorees featured in the series, whom would you pick? Why?
- Which one of the Strong Men and Women honorees has influenced you or has made an impact on your life? How?
- In your opinion, which one of the Strong Men and Women honorees made the biggest impact on history? Why?

To view the entire list of recipients, visit www.dom.com, keyword: **strong**. Pick an honoree to write about using one of the questions shown above, and under the heading **Student Writing Contest**, click on the link **Submit Your Essay**. You could be one of four winners to win a laptop computer and read your winning essay at an awards ceremony in Richmond, Va., on January 19, 2012!

**Past Honorees List
(on back)**



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Strong Men & Women: Excellence in Leadership series

HONOREES 1991-2011

Write about **one** of the following past honorees:

Henry Aaron
Robert Sengstacke Abbott
Clara L. Adams-Ender
Sadie Tanner Mosell Alexander
Maya Angelou
Louis Daniel Armstrong
Arthur E. Ashe
Diane Bajoie
Ella Baker
Josephine Baker
James Baldwin
Alice Ballance
Frank W. Ballance, Jr.
Ida Wells Barnett
Howard L. Baugh
Mary Jane McCleod Bethune
Leon D. Bibb
Sister Cora Marie Billings
Patricia Ann Blackmon
Daniel T. Blue, Jr.
Guion S. Bluford, Jr.
Charles Bolden
Herman I. Boone
Raymond H. Boone
Carl M. Brashear
Pamela E. Bridgewater
L.D. Britt, M.D.
Charlotte Hawkins Brown
Lee Patrick Brown
Ronald Harmon Brown
Buffalo Soldiers
Sherian Grace Cadoria
Donald J. Campbell
Ralph Campbell, Jr.
Billy K. Cannaday, Jr.
Benjamin Carson
George Washington Carver
Mary T. Christian
Spencer Christian
Septima Clark
Eva M. Clayton
Johnnetta B. Cole
Bessie Coleman
Thelma Louise Cowans
Jean W. Cunningham
Valerie Daniels-Carter
Christine Darden
Nathan Davis
Martha E. Dawson
Katie G. Dorsett
Frederick Douglass
Rita Dove
William Edward Burghardt Dubois
Allyson K. Duncan
Julian M. Earls
Leonard L. Edloe
Edwin L. Edwards, Sr.
Helen S. Faison
James Farmer
Evelyn J. Fields
Milton "Toby" Fitch

Thomas A. Fleming
Edward B. Fort
Francis M. Foster, Sr.
John Hope Franklin
Henry E. Frye
Clarence Gaines
Israel L. Gaither
Marcus Mosiah Garvey
Nikki Giovanni
Marita Golden
Samuel L. Gravely, Jr.
Earl G. Graves
Kenneth D. Gray
Ida Gray
William H. Gray, III
Darrell Green
Elizabeth Taylor Greenfield
Roger L. Gregory
Robert J. Grey, Jr.
Matthew Guidry
Adolphus C. Hailstork
Fannie Lou Hamer
Edward L. Hamm, Jr.
Ulysses B. Hammond
Lorraine Vivian Hansberry
Bernard A. Harris
Curtis W. Harris
Grace E. Harris
Jean L. Harris
Patricia Roberts Harris
Ruth Coles Harris
William R. Harvey
Dorothy I. Height
Vernard W. Henley
Matthew Alexander Henson
Paul B. Higginbotham
Bonnie Guiton Hill
Oliver W. Hill
Gregory T. Hinton
Rosalyn S. Hobson
James W. Holley, III
Billie Holliday
Bert W. Holmes
Michelle J. Howard
Cathy L. Hughes
Langston James Hughes
Ralph A. Hunt
Charlayne Hunter-Gault
Zora Neale Hurston
Deborah Hyde
K. Leroy Irvis
Isaiah Jackson
Mahalia Jackson
Shirley A. Jackson
Allix B. James
Kay Coles James
Erich Jarvis
Mae C. Jemison
John Arthur "Jack" Johnson
Jonathan Johnson
Sheila C. Johnson

Elaine R. Jones
Jerrauld C. Jones
Peter Lawson Jones
Stephanie Tubbs Jones
Barbara Jordan
Michael Jordan
Jacqueline Joyner-Kersey
Ernest Everett Just
Annie Brown Kennedy
Joe Kennedy, Jr.
Coretta Scott King
Martin Luther King, Jr.
Elizabeth Duncan Koontz
Lillian Lincoln Lambert
Willie E. Lanier
Howard N. Lee
Reginald F. Lewis
Charles F. Lovell, Jr.
Robert P. Madison
Mary Elizabeth Mahoney
Elliott Mannette
Henry L. Marsh, III
Charlene J. Marshall
Thurgood Marshall
Biddu Mason
Benjamin Elijah Mays
Jewell Jackson McCabe
Wade Hampton McCree
Marie V. McDemmond
James McLurkin
Leland D. Melvin
Oscar Micheaux
George L. Miles, Jr.
Yvonne Bond Miller
Eddie N. Moore, Jr.
Marc H. Morial
Elijah Muhammad
Laura W. Murphy
Pauli Murray
Frederick R. Nance
Ozzie Newsome
Jessye Norman
Barack H. Obama, Jr.
Michelle R. Obama
Hazel R. O'Leary
Carl Owens
Hugo A. Owens, Jr.
Leroy "Satchel" Paige
Charlie Parker
Rosa Parks
Edward J. Perkins
Vel R. Phillips
Vivian W. Pinn
Shirley R. Pippins
Cleo E. Powell
Grady W. Powell, Sr.
Colin L. Powell
Asa Philip Randolph
J. Paul Reason
Eddie Reed
Daphne Maxwell Reid

Tim Reid
William F. Reid
Dianne Reynolds-Cane
James Franklin Richardson
Paul Robeson
Luther Robinson
Spottswood W. Robinson, III
William P. Robinson, Sr.
Benjamin S. Ruffin
Augusta Savage
Arthur Alfonso Schomburg
Robert C. Scott
Bernard Shaw
Jessie Slaton
Dawn Staley
Susan M.S. McKinney Stewart
Louis Stokes
William E. Strickland, Jr.
Porcher L. Taylor, Jr.
Susan Taylor
Mary Church Terrell
Gary G. Thomas
John Charles Thomas
Jerry Sue Thornton
Edgar A. Toppin
Sojourner Truth
Harriet Tubman
Tuskegee Airmen
Blair Underwood
Esther H. Vassar
Madame C. J. Walker
Maggie Lena Walker
Melissa Ward
Booker Taliaferro Washington
Ethel Waters
J.C. Watts
Belle S. Wheelan
Charles White
Michael R. White
L. Douglas Wilder
Dwight L. Williams
Egbert Austin Williams
George Washington Williams
Jay Williams
Harrison B. Wilson
Oprah Winfrey
Carter Godwin Woodson
Richard Wright
Malcolm X
Dorothy Cowser Yancy
Charles Young



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Public Announcement on back. See our website information at www.dom.com, keyword: *strong*