



News release

February 9, 2022

Prodigies for Peace celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. *Everett Public Schools students recognized for earning awards*



Prodigies for Peace award winners with Superintendent Saltzman and school board.

The Snohomish County Black Heritage Committee held a community celebration honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and NAACP Black History Month on January 16. As part of the celebration, students were invited to submit essays and art for the 21st annual Prodigies for Peace competition.

At the February 8 school board meeting, 20 Everett Public Schools students were recognized for earning awards in the contest.

The Prodigies for Peace Writing and Art Contest helps students draw connections between the people and events that shaped the civil rights movement and the social issues that influence their lives today. The essay

question asks students to describe what they could do for others that will continue Dr. King's message of equality and justice for all.

Students who chose to enter the art category were asked to use any medium they wished to create an art piece reflecting their artistic vision of Dr. King's dream coming true in our country through their eyes.

Student work was judged by members of the community. Students earning first, second, third, and honorable mention awards in each grade band and each creative category were honored for their inspirational works. In celebration of the accomplishments of these students, a [video highlighting the artwork and essays](#) was played at the board meeting for the students, their families and teachers in attendance in-person and virtually.

This year, Everett Public Schools had seven winners for their essays and 14 winners for their artwork. The 2022 Prodigies for Peace winners are listed below by grade band and contest category. Thank you to everyone who participated and congratulations to recognized students.

Essay contest winners

Emerson Elementary

3rd place – Student G, 5th grade

Everett Virtual Academy

3rd place – Sahasra Kalvakunta, 6th grade

Mill Creek Elementary

1st place –Princeton Makinde,2nd grade

1st place – Mannat Sehgal, 3rd grade

Gateway Middle

1st place – Carolyn Zhang, 6th grade

3rd place – Akshaya Gadamsetty, 6th grade

Tambark Creek Elementary

3rd place – Vivaan Rajan, 5th grade

Art contest winners

Forest View Elementary

1st place – Manas Jain, 1st grade

Everett Virtual Academy

2nd place – Leonel Janeev, 3rd grade

Gateway Middle

1st place – Callia Park, 7th grade

Mill Creek Elementary

2nd place – Austin Guan, 2nd grade

3rd place – Adi Duvvuri, 2nd grade

3rd place – Jag Ubriani – 3rd grade

Honorable mention – Amen Alebachew, 2nd grade

Honorable mention – Arshaan Gerami, 3rd grade

Honorable mention – Saige Medendorp, 3rd grade

Honorable mention – Tucker Fein, 3rd grade

Honorable mention – Violette Gin, 3rd grade

Tambark Creek Elementary

1st place – Vivaan Rajan – 5th grade

Honorable mention – Kaira Rajan, Kindergarten

Whittier Elementary

1st place – Brooklyn Leach, 1st grade

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For more information:

[Kathy Reeves](#), Director of Communications, 425-385-4040