



BRIDGING THE GAP
CENTER FOR THE ARTS

PRESENTS THE

2ND ANNUAL

MLK

ART

CONTEST



THEME:

*Connected by Our
Common Humanity*

"We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality,
tied in a single garment of destiny."

— Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION
DECEMBER 18, 2026
BY 5:00 PM



ARTWORK DISPLAY &
AWARDS CEREMONY
JANUARY 18, 2027

Sponsored by:

RAICES Enterprises

2027 Martin Luther King Jr. Art Contest

CONNECTED BY OUR COMMON HUMANITY

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 18, 2026

“We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny.”— Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., *Letter from Birmingham Jail*

Dr. King reminded us that no matter our backgrounds, experiences, cultures, ages, or differences, **our lives are connected**. Through art, show us what becomes possible when we recognize our common humanity and choose understanding, compassion, cooperation, and respect.

Artwork Requirements: Artwork may be created in paint, ink, pencil, colored pencil, mixed media, digital media, or crayon on art paper size 8.5×11 or 11×17 in. **Please do not fold entries.**

DIVISION 1 — GRADES 1–6 | We Are Connected

What connects us, even when we are different? Create a piece of art showing people coming together through friendship, kindness, helping one another, sharing, learning, celebrating, or caring for their community.

Prizes: 1st Place — \$100 | 2nd Place — \$75 | 3rd Place — \$50

DIVISION 2 — GRADES 7–12 | Building Bridges

How can we build bridges across our differences? Create a work of art exploring connection, unity, understanding, or ways people can work together to overcome division and build stronger communities.

Prizes: 1st Place — \$150 | 2nd Place — \$100 | 3rd Place — \$75

DIVISION 3 — COLLEGE | A Shared Destiny

What does our shared humanity mean in America today? Create a work of art exploring our interconnectedness and our shared responsibility for the communities and nation we are building together.

Prizes: 1st Place — \$200 | 2nd Place — \$150 | 3rd Place — \$100

Different lives. Different experiences. Different perspectives. One shared humanity.

SUBMISSION SITES

Alliance for the Arts | Dunbar Jupiter Hammon Library | Fort Myers Library | North Fort Myers Library | Lee County Black History Society

ARTIST INFORMATION

Artist Name: _____

Grade/College Level: _____ **School:** _____

Parent/Artist Email: _____ **Phone:** _____

Instructor/Teacher: _____

