



October 11, 2021

Dear Educator:

Do you know an outstanding student making a difference in your school or community? The Advisory Board of *The Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King Lecture Series* at Siena College invites you to nominate him/her/them for a **Student Courage Award**. This award will be presented to three young people who have demonstrated personal courage by taking positive action against racism, prejudice and bias-related violence in their school or community. A Courage Award Committee comprised of Capital Region leaders in social justice issues has been established to review the nominations and select the recipients. Each of the three chosen recipients will receive a \$350 award.

Please see attached nomination form and selection criteria. The nomination form should be completed by an educator, counselor, or adult (not a family member) familiar with the student's positive actions against racism, prejudice, and bias-related violence.

All nominations are due by Dec 1, 2021. Recipients and their nominators will be notified by Dec 17, 2021.

The awards will be presented at Siena College on the evening of Thursday, January 27, 2022, at the *35th Annual MLK Lecture*. Our 2022 speaker is Martin Luther King III.

We look forward to receiving your nomination of a deserving young person of middle school or high school age, who qualifies for the Courage Award by setting an example of courage and leadership.

You can email the scanned nomination forms and letters to Kathy Roberts at kroberts@siena.edu. This would be a faster and easier way for all. You are still welcome to mail them in to Siena College, Office of Academic Affairs, Siena Hall 202, 515 Loudon Road, Loudonville, NY 12211, Attention Kathy Roberts.

Sincerely,

Lisa Nevarez, Ph.D.
Chair, Martin Luther King Lecture Series



The MLK Lecture Series Courage Awards

The Student Courage Awards are presented to young people from the Capital Region in middle or high school (grades 6-12), who have demonstrated personal courage by taking positive action against racism, prejudice or bias-related violence in their community. This award honors those who:

- **Have demonstrated extraordinary leadership skills as spokespersons for tolerance.**
- **Embody the courage to be bridge builders and peacemakers.**
- **Have taken action fighting intolerance or have engaged in violence prevention or conflict resolution.**
- **Have stood up against hate and violence.**

Each candidate must have one letter of recommendation (signed and dated), which must come from the nominator. Nominators must be an educator, counselor, or adult (not a family member) familiar with the nominee's positive actions. The letter should include specific examples of how the nominee meets the above criteria. Supporting documentation may be included, but is not required. The letter must be submitted together with the nomination form.

Three recipients will be selected. All recipients will receive a commemorative certificate and a \$350 award, which will be presented at the annual MLK Lecture event on January 27 at 7 pm. at Siena College. Recipients should be willing and able to attend this event.

All nominations are due by December 1, 2021.
Recipients will be notified by December 17.

The awards honor those who actively promote the ideal of a just and inclusive society that values diversity and the uniqueness of each individual.

Student Courage Awards

Nomination Form

All nominations are due by December 1, 2021

Nominee Name: _____

Address/City, State, Zip: _____

Phone (Home and Cell): _____

Email: _____

Parent(s)/Guardian: _____

Sponsoring School: _____

_____ Nominee's Grade (6-12) _____ Nominee's Age

Nominated By (Your Name and Title): _____

Relationship to Candidate: _____

Work Address/City, State, Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone (Day/Evening): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Nominations (Form, letter of recommendation, optional supporting materials) should be submitted via email to:

Email: kroberts@siena.edu (Kathy Roberts)

or

Mail: Kathy Roberts, Office of Academic Affairs – Siena Hall 202, Siena College,
515 Loudon Road, Loudonville, NY 12211.

Questions? Contact Kathy Roberts at kroberts@siena.edu. Email is the best way of communication.