

**DREAM BUILDERS OF AMERICA’S YOUTH INC.
AND THE
AUGUSTA CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN AMERICAN ATTORNEYS (ACAAA)
2019 JUDGE JOHN “JACK” RUFFIN, Jr. TRAILBLAZER
SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY CONTEST**

In honor of Judge John “Jack” Ruffin Jr., Dream Builders and the ACAA are sponsoring their Ninth Annual Judge John H. Ruffin Trailblazer Scholarship Essay Contest. The essay contest is for graduating college-bound seniors only throughout the CSRA. This year the students must address the questions listed below, based upon actual research, about the trailblazer Colin Kaepernick relating to the ABA Law Day Theme **Free Speech, Free Press, Free Society**. In addition to the research based essay, students should submit a personal statement. An *award of \$1000.00* each will be given to one male and one female high school senior, and one female and one male participant in the Fort Gordon Campus Youth Challenge. The winners will receive their checks at the Law Day Dinner held by the Augusta Bar Association on **May 2, 2019**.

DUE DATE: April 23, 2019

Email to DreamPlanAchieve.jeffords@comcast.com or mail to Dream Builders at 437 Walker Street, Augusta, Georgia 30901. If mailed, the essay must be *received by April 23, 2019*.

DATE FOR AWARD: The winner will receive notification by April 29, 2019 and will receive checks at the Law Day Dinner on Thursday, May 2, 2019. The winner **must** be present at the dinner to receive the award. **The \$1000.00 award must be used for school related purposes. (i.e., tuition, books, tests, college rent).**

If you have questions, please contact Tanya Jeffords or Elana Davis-Galvan at 706-722-3019.

Part One: Essay

Throughout history people have organized to support various causes. The 1960s was a particularly tumultuous time in U.S. History documented by waves of protests. Muhammad Ali refused to be drafted into the military as opposition to the Vietnam War. Tommie Smith and John Carlos raised closed fists during the award ceremony at the 1968 Olympics. The same year, women gathered outside of the Miss America pageant and burned their bras.

Professional quarterback Colin Kaepernick’s actions in 2016 when he kneeled during the National Anthem sparked a debate that continues today. One of America’s favorite past times has been the source of much discussion surrounding the scope, time, place, and manner of exercising one’s freedom of speech.

Are protests an effective way of bringing about community change? Explain your reasoning. If protests are not effective, what method would you use to effect change?

Essay Requirements: Maximum 2 pages, double spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font.

Essays and personal statements will be reviewed for content, development of ideas, as well as sentence structure, word choice, and grammar. It is highly recommended that you have your essay reviewed by one of your teachers. Please include that educator's contact information on the second form attached.

Part Two: Personal Statement

What life experiences helped you develop your educational and professional goals? How would winning this award help you in your pursuit of achieving them?

Personal Statement Requirements: No less than 1 and no more than 2 pages, double spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font. Essays and personal statements will be reviewed for content, development of ideas, as well as sentence structure, word choice, and grammar. It is highly recommended that you have your essay reviewed by one of your teachers. Please include that educator's contact information on the second form attached.

Please complete the next page and submit it with your essay. The information on the 2nd page must be included with your email. **DO NOT PUT YOUR NAME OR ANY IDENTIFYING INFORMATION ON YOUR ESSAY.**

If you have questions, please contact Tanya Jeffords or Elana Davis-Galvan at 706-722-3019.

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Name: _____ Age: _____

High School: _____

Reviewing Teacher: _____ Email: _____

Student Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Parent's Names: _____

College(s) that you plan to or will attend in the fall: _____

SCHOOL PURPOSE FOR WHICH THE \$1000.00 WILL BE USED: (I.E., what college will you be attending in the fall or what test or application for admission will the funds be used for): _____

(Proof of use for college related expenses is required. The Board reserves the right to send all money directly to the educational institution as identified by the winner of the essay contest).
ESSAY NUMBER: _____ (FOR REVIEWERS USE ONLY).