



The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. “Love Overcomes” Scholarship

Developed by the Rush and Henrietta Interfaith Community Collaborative

Application Deadline: Friday, November 21, 2025

Purpose:

To award an eligible applicant with a scholarship to help defray the cost of college, trade school, apprenticeship, or other post-secondary education.

Sponsors:

The event and scholarship are planned and sponsored by the Rush and Henrietta Interfaith Community Collaborative, the Rush-Henrietta Central School District, and the Towns of Henrietta and Rush. Our hope is to embody and spread the Beloved Community envisioned by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We dream, work, collaborate, and celebrate together to create a vibrant unity out of our diversity.

The applicant must:

- a) be a resident of the Rush-Henrietta community.
- b) be a senior in high school with a grade point average of 3.0 (85%) or better.
- c) demonstrate a commitment to the principles of the Rev. Dr. King, Jr.
through an original essay (see details, next page).
- d) have documented community service.
- e) be present at the MLK celebration to receive the scholarship, if awarded.

Scholarship Amount to be Awarded:

The amount and the number of scholarships depends on the generosity of public donations, collected at the annual MLK celebration and through private contributions. In the past we have been able to award up to \$1000.00. **This year’s scholarships will be awarded at the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration, scheduled for Thursday, January 15, 2026 at 7:00 pm at St. Marianne Cope Parish at Guardian Angels Church.**

How to apply:

Email the following (in PDF form) together in one email to rhmlkscholarship@gmail.com
by **Friday, November 21, 2025:**

- a) A completed application (see next page)
- b) High school transcript
- c) Documented community service
- d) Original Essay (see details, next page)

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

"Love Overcomes" Scholarship Application



Last Name _____ First Name _____ MI _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ E-mail _____

GPA _____

The theme of the 2026 Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration is "Becoming Peacemakers Together".

****Please attach a typed essay (minimum 2 pages, double-spaced, 12-point font), reflecting on one of the following quotations by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and its implications for your life. We are looking for your own thoughts; please do not rely on AI. If you quote or paraphrase other sources, you must provide the reference in a footnote.**

"True peace is not merely the absence of tension; it is the presence of justice." Stride Toward Freedom, 1958

"If we are to have peace on earth, our loyalties must become ecumenical rather than sectional. Our loyalties must transcend our race, our tribe, our class, and our nation; and this means we must develop a world perspective." Christmas sermon, Atlanta, Georgia, 1967.

"I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality... I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word." Nobel Prize acceptance speech, 1964

"A fifth point concerning nonviolent resistance is that it avoids not only external physical violence but also internal violence of spirit. The nonviolent resister not only refuses to shoot his opponent but he also refuses to hate him. At the center of nonviolence stands the principle of love." Address at the Thirty-sixth Annual Dinner of the War Resisters League, Feb 2, 1959.