



## **BROWARD COUNTY COMMISSION NEWS RELEASE**

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### **AARLCC's Black History Month Essay Contest Covers the Historic March on Washington**

BROWARD COUNTY, FL – Broward County students in grades 4-12 are invited to write an essay for Black History Month in a yearly contest held at the African-American Research Library and Cultural Center (AARLCC). Prizes will be awarded, courtesy of Best Buy, for three winning essays which address this subject: the 50th Anniversary of the March on Washington—where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his famous “I Have a Dream” speech.

In 1963, people came from all around the country to protest political and social challenges that African Americans faced in this country. What were the issues that caused the March on Washington? Who were the organizers of the March on Washington and what did they hope would happen? If the March on Washington were to occur today, what are some of the issues that your generation would be willing to march for in protest? Who do you think would lead and organize the March today and why?

To be eligible for an award, the essays must be original work by the student in 250 words or less, legibly written, with good grammar and correct spelling. Essays must be submitted to the African-American Research Library and Cultural Center by the end of Friday, February 8, 2013, along with an official entry form—available in local schools or at the AARLCC Youth Services Desk.

Students must provide their full name, home address, telephone number, school of attendance, and grade level. Students may submit only one entry.

Essays will be judged for merit, originality, grammar, and spelling. There will be one winner from each of three categories: Grades 4-6, Grades 7-9, and Grades 10-12. Best Buy is sponsoring prizes, including a digital camera, an MP3 player and a laptop computer.

The African-American Research Library and Cultural Center is located at 2650 Sistrunk Boulevard in Fort Lauderdale, phone 954-357-6282.

The award-winning Broward County Libraries Division, founded in 1974, provides essential quality-of-life community service as well as outstanding customer service. By population served, it is the ninth largest library system in the nation. It is also one of the busiest, with more than nine million walk-in customers visiting its thirty seven locations annually. The library provides more than 3.4 million items and 2,000 computers for public use as well as hundreds of events and programs that meet the changing needs of the Broward County's diverse community. The library continues its strong emphasis on literacy and after-school program and also administers the services, programs, collections and exhibits of the Historical Commission. The library's web site, [www.broward.org/library](http://www.broward.org/library) continuously evolves to meet the needs of its thousands of electronic access customers. In addition to providing electronic visitors with information about its locations, services, and events, the web site has easy links to online catalogs, reference information and electronic databases.

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