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Okaloosa County Students Participate in MLK Annual Oratorical and Poster Contest

Over 100 students from across Okaloosa County participated in the annual Martin Luther King (MLK) Oratorical and Poster Contest on Saturday, January 6th at Striving for Perfection Ministries.

Each year the contest highlights Okaloosa County's talented students while providing the students the opportunity to express themselves and present their ideas of freedom, peace, equality and justice just as Dr. King did through the spoken word. The committee encourages all students in Okaloosa County to participate regardless of national origin, race, gender, or religious affiliation.

Every participant received a medallion and the First, Second, and Third place winners in each category received a trophy. First place oratorical and poster contest winners also received a monetary award, the opportunity to showcase their winning speech and display their winning poster at the MLK Memorial Program which was held at Beulah Baptist Church, and the opportunity to ride in the Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade.

The Sigma Omicron Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. sponsored the Oratorical contest.

Elementary Poster Winner

- 1st - Ella Farley- Blue Water Elementary
- 2nd - Olivia Holcomb- Southside Elementary
- 3rd - Gabrielle Valdez- Eglin Elementary

Elementary Oratorical Winners

- 1st - Gabrielle Valdez- Eglin Elementary
- 2nd - Lillian Horne- Eglin Elementary
- 3rd - Shantie Clayborne- Wright Elementary

Middle School Poster Winners

- 1st - Gabrielle Rico- Ruckel Middle School
- 2nd - Aidan Beatty- Davidson Middle School
- 3rd - Kayli Peazant- Lewis School

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