



“The Amistad Commission’s Kindergarten, First, and Second Grade Bulletin Board/ Door Decorating Contest for Black History Month”

The New Jersey Amistad Commission is introducing an event for elementary students to display their academic knowledge in Social Studies and History. This contest will highlight the contributions of prominent African Americans to the United States of American. This contest is designed specifically for students in **Kindergarten, First, and Second Grades**. The contest will be held in February 2027.

The purpose of this contest is to provide lower elementary students with an opportunity to be introduced to contributions of prominent African Americans in U.S. History. The goal of this contest is to prepare New Jersey’s lower elementary students for analyzing historical data and competing in the Amistad Commission’s New Jersey African American History Day Fourth & Fifth Grade Contest, while engaging in the implementation of the New Jersey Amistad Legislation.

The goal of this contest is to align the learning journey and student comprehension with the New Jersey Standards, while empowering students to successfully develop confidence, pride, research, writing, public speaking and critical thinking skills. Additionally, the program will encourage educators to explore a new avenue to meet the mandate of the Amistad Legislation.

Educators will be asked to prepare a lesson between ten and fifteen minutes which engages their students and highlights the accomplishments of their favorite African American. The information should be displayed on a bulletin board, (either in the classroom or school hallway) or displayed on the classroom door. The project steps should be video recorded and specifically highlight the selection of the African American, why they selected the individual, samples of the individual’s contributions to the United States of America and their students’ participation to the project.

The finished video product should include the following information: the teacher and principal’s names, school name, school district/county, grade level, email and school’s telephone number. The entry will be sent to AmistadSpecialProjects@doe.nj.gov before Friday, February 26, 2027. The winners will be announced in March 2027.

All video submissions will be uploaded to The Amistad Commission’s website as an educational project/resource. Winning schools will receive-1st Place -\$1,000.

Respectfully

Trevor Kyle Melton, M. ED, M.A.
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The New Jersey Amistad Commission

