

Write a well thought out and well written essay based on "What Justice Means to Me"

- One entry per student, per school
- Grades 6, 7, 8 and 9th ONLY
- Students must have at least 90% attendance at school—no more than two missed days a month.
- Parental consent is required

Type or print your responses on the back of this form and complete ALL parts. You must provide clear and accurate contact information (phone number and email addresses)

Deadline for entry: Monday, January 20, 2020

Top 12 essay winners will present their essays at the Hall of Justice in the Spring 2020 and receive prizes (iPads or Nooks, gift cards, etc.) and an opportunity to be mentored by members of the Rochester Black Bar Association and Court Leaders. **Student Information (Please print clearly)**

Name Ta'Quai Daniels ✓

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School

Grade

Ta'Quai Daniels

01/30/2020

PARENTS SIGNATURE (REQUIRED)

Date

What Justice Means to Me

by Ja'Quaii Daniels

What justice means to me as a youth young boy, my community isn't a good place to live because the police don't do the right thing. The police arrest the wrong people and they don't do justice. They aim their guns at us and tell us to get on the floor before they shoot. The white cop I see every day threatens me to leave Family Dollar or "I'll shoot." Sometimes he will pull the gun out when nobody is around. So I leave. Sometimes his partner says, "put it away." Someday, I think he will shoot so I run and run away. I don't know if he will shoot me so I ran away.

If there was justice in my community, the police would do their job. The police wouldn't point guns at kids. They wouldn't arrest the wrong people. They wouldn't come into my backyard without my family's permission. And they wouldn't look through my window and say, "Who's home with you?"

If my community had justice, it would have more trees and recreation centers and playgrounds for kids. Also it wouldn't have trash in the street. The street wouldn't be

icy. I would be able to go to Family Dollar without being scared for my life. There wouldn't be racist people telling me to go back where I came from. If there was justice in my community, maybe I'll be able not to say mean things about myself. I wish there was justice for everybody in my community.