NURSE OF THE YEAR

I have an aunt named Annie. She is a nurse at Phoenix Childrens Hospital. She has 3 kids and a husband. She is really nice espcially whith kids. When she was about 14 or 15 she went to visit her grandpa's nursing home. She watched all the nurses take care of these really sick people and she remembered thinking of the angels they were. She knew right then that is what she wanted to do for a job. One thing I asked her is what she liked about her job. She said, I get to hang out with kids all day!! Kids are the greatest! However the best part of my job is making someone's worst day a little bit better. Again, another thing I asked is what skills she developed as a nurse. She said, I am a pediatric nurse. I have taken care of kids after they wake up from surgery. I have taken care of little itty bitty sick babies in the NICU. Right now I take care of kids that haven't been treated right by others or kids that have been abused in some way.

Another thing I asked her is what is the hardest thing about being a nurse? She said that the hardest part is watching the parents feel helpless. They have to watch their child be sad and in so much pain, and there is nothing they can really do. She says that is very hard to see. I asked her another question. What have you learned from being a nurse? She said that kids are so strong. They are so much stronger than adults give them credit for. They have a resilient spirit and can do pretty much anything. My aunt mentioned that she is so lucky to work with kids. They teach her so much.

Annie is a special person to me. She is my favorite aunt. She also won nurse of the year. I am glad that Annie is a part of my life.

This is student work, transcribed as the student presented it

2021 Arizona State University Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

Zach Heaton

1st Place - Essay Primary 2nd Grade Franklin at Brimhall Elementary Mesa Public Shools



MY GRANDMA

Did you know that my grandma gave away a van?! She had a minyvan and someone else did not have a car so...She gave away her van!!!!! And baught a new car for her. (A long time later)

And when the stores were runing out of food she would go to the store and buy enough for evryone at her work!!! (because of Corona)

And then one day she went to the bank and saw that the bank man had a mask that was to small. And it was leaving marks on his face and a sore on his nose. So she went home and made a mask that would fit his face. Then she gave it to him. He was so happy that he thanked her and put it on right then and there. After that he was wearing it. So she made more that fit he was

happier than ever!!!!! Sirving others maks her feel good.

This is student work, transcribed as the student presented it

Ethan Dean

2021 Arizona State University Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

2nd Place - Essay Primary 2nd Grade Franklin at Brimhall Elementary Mesa Public Shools



MY NANA

My Nana helped alot of people. We would go to Mcdonalds and help feed the poor sitting outside the resterant.

Nana helped a girl named Share. We helped her because her house burnd down. She had noware to go. My nana let her stay at her house. She helped them beacause they wor in need. I love how my nana helps others. She has been a great example of serfes. I hope I can be like nana someday.

This is student work, transcribed as the student presented it

Jane Taylor

2021 Arizona State University Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

3rd Place - Essay Primary 2nd Grade Franklin at Brimhall Elementary Mesa Public Shools



MY AUNT RACHEL

My aunt Rachel is a wonderful example of leadership, service, and respect. She loves people for who they are. What thiers values are, what they stand for.

My aunt is an example of leadership. During this Covid-19 pandemic she has been enlisting other people to help distribute 600,000 mask making kits for the medical community. She also shows leadership by teaching her children to make good choices. Another example is that she organizes the distribution of food and clothing to people in need.

My aunt is an exellent example of service. One way is that she donates food to the needy. One of her church assignments is as Chirman of the Just Serve program. This assignments keeps her busy on various projects throught the year. She serves her family by providing for thier needs. If she is available she will always look after others children when asked. She reaches out to the Chinese children by rising at the wee hours of the morning to teach them the English language.

Aunt Rachel is a great example of respect. She respects everyone by serving others no matter what culture they come from, what country they may come from, or what language they speak. She respects people by listing to thier problems. I remeber a time that I talked to her and listined carefully even though I was just a kid. She respect and dosen't judge people with different opinions.

In conclusion, she is an example of leadership, service, and respect through her word and actions.

This is student work, transcribed as the student presented it

2021 Arizona State University Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

Jacob Roller

1st Place - Essay Intermediate 5th Grade Franklin at Brimhall Elementary Mesa Public Schools



SERVING OTHERS

Many people serve others. Hospital workers are very busy during this time. My uncle Derrick serves people by helping covid patients as a nurse, helping the homeless, and helping the elderly.

My uncle helps covid patients by working night shifts at the hospital. He has to wear protective gear so he or others don't get covid. He also gives the patients medicine so if they are sick they can get better. He also helps them call their families because they can't come visit because of corona. These are just some of the things he does at the hospital.

My uncle works at a county hospital so many homeless people go there for care. While they are there he helps take care of them. They do not have a way to get clean so he helps bathe them. They are also hungry so he brings them food. After they leave the hospital they do not have a home to go to so he helps them find a place to stay.

Besides being a nurse, Derrick also owns a business that helps

elderly people. He goes to their homes so he can help them. When he is there he makes food and gives them medicine. Usually they can't cook food and they might not have the right medicine. That is how he helps the elderly.

The coronavirus has made 2020 hard for many people. Many people got sick and needed help. I am glad that my uncle is able to help people in need. He helps covid patients and homeless patients at the hospital. He is also able to help elderly people at their homes.

This is student work, transcribed as the student presented it

2021 Arizona State University Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

Jett Standage

2nd Place - Essay Intermediate 5th Grade Franklin at Brimhall Elementary Mesa Public Shools



MY NEIGHBOR TAMARA

Whatever color your hair or skin might be, we all have the same color beating heart. This heart gives us life, and life is full of experinces. That makes everyone who they are. I would like to share a few reasons my neighbor Tamara is a good example of a thoughtful, selfless, and respectful person.

Tamara moved to the United States when she was 10. She has white skin, but she is Swiss. People weren't nice to her, but she decided to be kind to everybody and ignore when people were rude.

During this 2020 worldwide pandemic Tamara created a group chat with everybody in the neighborhood. So if they needed anything they could tell her, and she would get them whatever they needed. She would also drop off things on peoples doorsteps even if they didn't need it. She always thinks of others before herself.

Her husband is a police officer, and she supports him in his work. She also takes care of six children. She shows love for our family by babysitting my siblings and me when our mom is busy. Tamara helps anyone she comes in contact with.

Tamara is a very good example of someone who is a different race that respects and loves others. Her smile is very contagous and she has a very big heart. I think Tamara is a very thoughtful, selfless, and respectful person.

This is student work, transcribed as the student presented it

2021 Arizona State University Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

Madilyn Stephan

3rd Place - Essay Intermediate 5th Grade Franklin at Brimhall Elementary Mesa Public Shools



LUZ MARIA AND JOSE LUIS THE LEADERS

When I think of leadership, I think of two very kind, dedicated people; these people are my grandparents. Maria Luz Lopez Mendivil and Jose Luis Gomez Roman. I'm not saying this because they are my grandparents, it's because they have helped their community in a variety of ways. They do what needs to be done without expecting or wanting a reward. They get crafty when planning an event or a fundraiser.

My grandparents realized that their town, Navojoa, didn't have many public spaces. Children learn by reading; and their beloved city didn't have a library. Some children in Navojoa can't afford to buy books, which meant they couldn't read. With this cause in mind, Maria and Jose set right to work. They collected donations to make an event that would lead to a breath-taking library and planned an event that would draw in many people. They had concerts, food, activities, and games. Indubitably, these are some of the most selfless people I have ever met. The event was spectacular! The intricate, yet dynamic decorations were as colorful as a field of flowers! In the end, they got enough money to construct a brand new library! They left a positive mark on their town that still stands today.

These kind citizens believe everything should be done with kindness. Their journey spreading amour to their community is far from over. What makes them so special is that they don't wait for a call to action, they do what needs to be done.

This is student work, transcribed as the student presented it

2021 Arizona State University Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

Luz Sofia Olea Gomez

1st Place - Essay Middle 6th Grade Jacobson Elementary School Chandler Unified School District



THE HELP THAT'S NEEDED

When I think of a leader I think of someone who is brave, generous, driven, independent, and heroic. Even if you don't value or show these traits, you can still be a leader. When being a leader you help others and make yourself a figure that is looked up to. My grandfather shows all of these characteristics and that makes him a leader to me.

My grandfather was a part of Esperance and Surgical Eye Expeditions. These are both organizations made up of different groups of doctors who volunteer their time to go around the world and give medical care to those in need. They would use donated supplies to do procedures for people who didn't have health insurance or couldn't afford it. Not only did they perform procedures, they taught other doctors how to do some operations. Keep in mind they did this for free, but the doctors themselves had to pay! Even though it is a volunteer organization the doctors would have to pay for their own airplane tickets, hotel rooms, and meals.

This shows leadership because he wanted to take his experience and expertise into something that helped others. My grandfather inspires me and people all over the world to help the ones in need. His generosity, courageousness, and leadership has helped our community and world become a better place. Just like Martin Luther King Jr., my grandfather showed what it is like to be a leader.

This is student work, transcribed as the student presented it

2021 Arizona State University Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

Savannah Shorb

2nd Place - Essay Middle 8th Grade Ingleside Middle School Scottsdale Unified School District



MY HERO

A person in my life that is a leader to me is my dad because of what he does to help the community out such as buying computers for children in need that don't have without computers and helping them be able to get one.

My dad helps the community by raising money to give computers to the children that don't have one for school. He has been on the news talking about his program and what it does and how it helps people that don't have computers. This can program can provide for the children that need it for education. The children this can help is children in need for education and help them get computers.

It can help the community by providing for the ones in need for education because there are some children out there that are not able to afford computers which is my dad is making it so they can't learn which the program my dad is doing helps these children with these problems. My dad is a great leader because of all the things he does especially helping these children which is why he is leader and a inspiration for me. He always inspire me with telling me to try my best and I hope to be a leader like him for when I get older and help out the community and people in need like my dad does.

This is student work, transcribed as the student presented it

2021 Arizona State University Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

Luke Alvarado

3rd Place - Essay Middle 8th Grade Ingleside Middle School Scottsdale Unified School District



THE LESSON THAT SAVES

There is a candle that burns in the hallways that echo

of an institution tasked with turning children into

Passers of the test of life.

Her heart burns for the job she does; the students she serves

She flickers at night long past the time she should have been melded over a desk She burns in the empty hours of the morning when the pink fingers of dawn caress her cheek, telling her

To return to her family, to sleep in the arms of the soft light before she returns to her hallway of children.

But she has a duty, such that consumed her in her pursuit of light

A duty bearing the long hours of speaking, loving, nurturing

Reading, correcting, and shaping the growth of the thoughts of us, the students.

Us, those she consumes herself to light the way for.

As she burns the way for the future populace of today's cracked psyche.

The yawns and giggles she misses of her own child as his curls tuck themselves in while she remains at school,

The three different classes she not just teaches, but masters, makes into a journey of learning about the world, and not quite just reading books.

But this light she pursues in the consumption of herself, is not just for the students. She approaches the angry pearls of disaster this word has to offer and strings them together as lovingly as a weaver, on a beautiful string of patience into lessons for us. Because for the frames her dark skinned child rests within upon her desk smiling up at her,

The world has frames of their own ready for him, this she teaches us. She unveils the coiled up snake of atrocities the world hides from children just long enough to make us believe in the difference between black and white.

But within the flickers of her light, within the folds of the words which come off of her tongue like the healing smoke of a wildfire, she shows us the soft greys and charcoal of the in-between.

She picks up the broken marionette girls who sit listlessly in the desk in front of her, and gently lays down the aching wooden limbs

She cuts the strings away, those pulled back and forth by beauty industries, gender roles, and instead shows us how to hold ourselves up

She softens the spotlight of gender into a soft light of humanity, showing us that we are human beings first.

For an educator, lessons are not always about getting the right answers. Lessons are about saving the future. They are lighting up the places to look, but never telling what to think.

There is a candle, who burns in the hallways of my high school. She burns herself out, down to the very last piece of herself. Her choice to unveil the issues of the world, not just the issues of literature, through her unyielding commitment to us? That is the light that will never go out.

This is student work, transcribed as the student presented it

Anna Brimmer

2021 Arizona State University Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

1st Place - Essay Secondary 12th Grade Millennium High School Agua Fria Union High School District



THE STORY OF A FOOTBALL LEADER

Leaders help themselves and others do the right things. They set direction, build an inspiring vision, and create something new. Anybody can be a leader; from the start, we're all born to be something. Whether It is a journalist, a reporter, or even a role in leadership. You can be a leader in anything, from high school clubs to being a president or so on. Leadership is about mapping out where you need to go as a team or organization.

An inspirational leader I have grown to know, and love would be my head coach, Wells. In the beginning when he first started leading football at PVHS, I didn't like him, I felt he was harsh on us all, always yelling at us to go faster, or play right or if we didn't do it right, he would make us run. He only made us sure to keep going no matter what. He has always pushed us to do better and ever since I realized he only wants to lead us to success and be a change in the world, I looked up to him as a leader.

Leadership isn't always easy for him especially because a lot of us didn't make it easy for him. But we eventually learned that he was only doing it for us to become better players and not only that but better people as well. He is still our head coach and I couldn't ask for a better one. He has made a difference in all our lives.

This is student work, transcribed as the student presented it

2021 Arizona State University Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

Orlanda Luna

2nd Place - Essay Secondary 12th Grade Palo Verde Magnet High School Tucson Unified School District

