MY STEP DAD IS A FIREFIGHTER

My dad is the best. He helped a car crashed into a house from the garage. The lady put her foot on the gas. In Scottsdale there was a big house fire and he was there all day and put the fire out. He also made sure the fire didnt spread to other houses. Wen pepole call 911, he always goses to the call if they fall or get hurt. He helps hikers when the get overheated and need to be rescued. When he gose to work he stays for 24 and sometimes he dos not sleep. When on shift, he gets calls to take snakes. He helps peple no matter what. He gose to schools to teach kids about fire. Alwas know your excape plan at your house in case of a fire. I think my step Dad is the best firfigher ever. All my family misses my step Dad a lot wen he is on shift. He loves his work a lot. I love you Lane so much. You are so cool. I also like your firetruck. I like fire fiters alot. You are so cool.

This is student work, transcribed as the student presented it

Kinlee Isley

2023 Arizona State University Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration





MY MOM

My mom is a nurse. She takes care of veterans. A veteran is someone who fought for are country. She volunteered to work with COVID patients. My mom has done CPR to keep people alive. Durning COVID my mom couldn't come home because she dini't want to get us sick. This made me feel sad but I knew what she was doing was very inportend. I am very proud of her. I want to be like her someday.

This is student work, transcribed as the student presented it

2023 Arizona State University Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration **Hailey Boomgaarden**

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



THE LEADER IN MY LIFE

The leader in my life likes art and music.

The leader in my life does the 7 habits of kids.

The leader in my life is a girl.

She loves to participate a lot and is in 2nd grade.

She is kind and caring and loving.

She is an Indian.

She got selected as student of the month *making a difference*

For the habit begin with the end in mind.

She loves to sing and dance.

She is energetic and active.

She is intelligent.

THE LEADER IN MY LIFE IS MYSELF. PEOPLES LEADERS ARE THEM SELVES.

This is student work, transcribed as the student presented it

2023 Arizona State University Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Anvaya Gadeela

3rd Place - Essay Primary
2nd Grade
Chandler Traditional Academy - Independence

Chandler Unified School District



BE THE HELP

Some people need help and are struggling, others are the help. These people take their time and effort to help others. They do this because they care. My mom loves to help others.

When my mom was a teenager she did lots of service projects, and still does now. My mom was only sixteen the first year that she did Muscular dystrophy camp. She had to go to training before the camp. The summer camp was for people who had Muscular dystrophy. Muscular dystrophy is a disease where your muscles stop working and eventually you die from it. Little did my mom know that she had touched the hearts of many people.

My mom showed leadership through service and helping others. Her assigned camper's name was Jason. She helped him do things he could never do because of his disease. One activity that they did was wheelchair soccer. Because some kids were in wheelchairs, it wouldn't be fair to play normal soccer. So everyone played in a wheelchair, with their helpers pushing them around. They even played with a big beach ball so everyone could kick the ball. They also did crafts and games. Clearly, my mom really made an impact on Jason's life that week.

As you can see, my mom is an amazing person. She worked so hard to help people at the muscular dystrophy camp and enjoyed it so much that she did it for three years. People are struggling and need help, so be the help.

This is student work, transcribed as the student presented it

2023 Arizona State University Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration **Kathryn Winward**

1st Place - Essay Intermediate
5th Grade
Mesa Academy for Advanced Studies
Mesa Public Schools



HELPING ORPHANS

Elia is my tia. I call her "Tia Tinini." She volunteers to help girls in Nogales, Mexico. With her money, Tia Tinini buys food, pants and T-shirts for a girls' orphanage. The girls stay at the orphanage for a long time or little bit of time. Sometimes the girls have parents that died, got arrested or got reported for abuse. Some girls were just dropped off at the orphanage.

My Tia Tinini connects with the community to get services and money donated for the orphanage. With the money donations they built a new orphanage. The girls stay, eat and sleep there. Some girls stay until they are grown up, some stay until their parents can get them back.

My Tia Tinini is with the girls in bad and good times. She makes sure the girls see a doctor if they need one. If they need counseling she makes sure they get help. Tia Tinini also makes sure that the girls can get the help of a lawyer too.

My Tia brings role models to the girls. She gets teachers to come talk to the girls about education, and read stories to them.

My Tia Tinini is a leader who gives her time to help young girls so they know they aren't alone, that she cares for them, and that she will work with the community to get them help. Because of my Tia Tinini, I am learning what "leadership through service" is and I will help others too.

This is student work, transcribed as the student presented it

2023 Arizona State University Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration **Sebastian Baldenegro**

2nd Place - Essay Intermediate
5th Grade
Robert M. Bracker Elementary School
Nogales Unified School District



MY AUNT

My aunt is an amazing person. Her leadership, and lovingness is for three kids who don't have enough food, water, and shelter to stay alive in.

My aunt shows leadership by helping three kids to find a new home. So she flew to a country called Haidies and looked for the kids she new who needed help. When she saw the kids she wanted to help she paid all of the bills she needed to pay, helped the kids pack all the stuff they needed to take with them, then she flew the kids to the airport and drove them to her house. After that she fed them, gave them water, and taught the kids how to learn. That is how my aunt shows amazingly great leadership to kids.

Another thing is my aunt has so much love in her by helping one of her new adopted kids help her legs, and this is how my aunt helped. She brought the kid to a hospital, and the hospital women sayd "we might have to cut her knees a little, so they did, and now the little girl is in a weel chair and she is still so greatful she had a new mom like that. That sows my aunt has great love inside of her.

Those reasons are how my aunt shows leadership, and kindness

This is student work, transcribed as the student presented it

2023 Arizona State University Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration **Maeleigh Baldwin**

3rd Place - Essay Intermediate
4th Grade
Franklin at Brimhall Elementary School
Mesa Public Schools



LEADERSHIP

A leader to me is my sister, the community needs help and my sister is there to help it. It's an opportunity to show that you're a leader. You don't have to be out in the open to show that you're a leader, it can be deeper. You can do the little things to make you that leader.

Sharing your help or using your talent to help is a leader, an outgoing person can be a leader. Some do not know their leader in other eyes. Most times the thought of being a leader flies over heads like a plane. A leader can be a follower to other leaders, there are different types of leaders in general.

A leader is best when no one knows who that person is, a leader is someone who knows where to go. Leadership is not to be known with titles, leadership is about the unknown relationships with people. Followers in hand are leaders in another. Followers in quotes are not followers, they're more leaders.

My sister is a leader by showing me the way, the way to get good grades, and the way to go to a HBCU college. She showed me the way you can speak up and say what I have to say about things, and it brings more leaders for her to lead. My sister is a leader because she's a tutor, she helps people in a class code on computers. With that I have a greater example of a leader through service.

This is student work, transcribed as the student presented it

2023 Arizona State University Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration **Aliyah Mayfield**

1st Place - Essay Middle 8th Grade Andersen Junior High School Chandler Unified School District



LEADERSHIP IN MY COMMUNITY

My family has been honored to know a woman who I believe has demonstrated leadership. Her name is Sharon. She has dealt with a lot of losses in her life, her brother had cerebral palsy and sadly passed away. Her daughter also passed away with brain cancer at a really young age. Lastly her youngest grandson is battling spaniel bileta. I couldn't imagine going through the suffering that she has endured. Despite all her losses Sharon wanted to give back, she didn't want other kids or other families that experienced similar suffering to have to go through thinking there alone. She started a small organization called Carter's Bear Club in honor of her grandson Carter. Carter's teddy bears all have little clothes she designs and patches of the club's logo on them. Sharon then personally hands out the bears to all the kids in the hospitals who were about to go into surgery.

Sharon's Carter's Bear Club has been around for about 8 years. As she is getting older it's been harder for her to keep up with the duties, especially during the pandemic. Lately she's been dealing with her and her husband's medical problems, but still continues Carters Bear Club as she finds enjoyment in giving back to these kids and families. I believe Sharon is a leader who leads by example in putting other people's needs in front of her own. Sharon has been a huge role model in my life and hope to follow in her footsteps

This is student work, transcribed as the student presented it

Elle Stultz

2023 Arizona State University Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration



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

LEADERSHIP

Do you know what leadership is? Leadership is the ability of an individual or a group of people to influence other people and to guide people. A leader is someone who has respect, cares for people, treats others with respect, is honest, and gives people opportunities to do things. In my family I have a leader and it's my mom.

My mom is a leader because she does what is right.. For example her job donated to this school for sports to help them out with cost. Whenever we don't need or use something she donates it and she cares for others.

She always thinks about others and she knows how to communicate with others. She knows how to speak Spanish, if someone ever needs help at the store with translation she helps them out .When she has to make decisions for her job she always uses what she has to decide.She is a very responsible person.

My mom motivates people to try their best and keep going. She knows how to bring someone up and a hard worker and makes sure she gets her things done. She cares for other people and wants the best for them. She has the skills to be a leader.

Who is your leader? Your leader can be anyone or you can even be a leader and always do what is best for you and your community. One day you can be a leader and encourage people to do what is best

This is student work, transcribed as the student presented it

2023 Arizona State University Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration **Alexandra Camacho**

3rd Place - Essay Middle
7th Grade
Andersen Junior High School
Chandler Unified School District



JOSIE FOR THE WIN!

Josephine is my sister who's also a very good role model. She's very good at helping other people and helping out the community. Through community service projects she's accumulated numerous hours. She's also very nice and charming and many people love her.

All of last year, pretty much every other thursday she went up to the middle school at Lee Kornagey and helped teach them computer coding. Which was very successful and helpful. There's an old historic building called the YMCA and she's given many tours to people to help get them more involved. Also whenever it's flooded she goes and helps clean up the park and areas where it's needed.

Josie also attends Miami High School and is a senior this year. I honestly look up to her and all her hard work. She works very hard on getting straight A's, which she's gotten her whole life. She also works very hard in student council and has been the president all throughout high school. With that being said I think Josephine is an outstanding role model and leader who gives back to her community just like Martin Luther.

This is student work, transcribed as the student presented it

Terri Klindt

2023 Arizona State University Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration



1st Place - Essay Secondary
10th Grade
Miami High School
Miami Unified School District

SHINÁLI

I'm glad my shináli (grandma) turned 89 last year. She lived through multiple historical events and experienced a lot of changes. I believe she is a true leader for being able to stay true to herself even during some trying times. She is a persevering, dedicated, and strong woman.

Before all the technologies we know were invented, she had been living a traditional Navajo life. She planted her food, herded sheep, and lived in a hogan. Canyon De Chelly, a national monument that is close to where she lives, is a place where she went to plant seeds and take the sheep. Traveling down this place is about a two-hour walk and going down there without a vehicle is tiresome and difficult. She also experienced the horrors of residential schools. The lies that she was forced to listen to have created a generational trauma. Her home, Spiderock, is very secluded and she stayed there and rarely traveled most of the time. But, she still weaves rugs and sells jewelry to her community today. Her life experiences genuinely shaped who she is.

She is my true idea of a leader because she went through and persevered in many challenging events in history and she stayed true to herself. Like Martin Luther King Jr who was discriminated against for his skin color but still stayed true to his culture despite the racism, my shináli remained devoted to her traditional Navajo ways and stood up proud of her culture and heritage.

This is student work, transcribed as the student presented it

Hailey Hayou

2nd Place - Essay Secondary
12th Grade
Valley High School
Sanders Unified School District





A HARD WORKING WOMAN

My mom is an amazing person who I think is good at demonstrating leadership and service and here's why.

My mom likes kids. Whenever people need a babysitter, she will provide her home to babysit people's kids. She will even babysit for free. Even though she has eight kids at home, she will give other parents at our church a helping hand by taking care of their kids for a few hours so the parents can go to an event or something they need to do. Within her time frame with kids, she always finds a way to have fun with them and make time to get frozen yogurt with them. I truly think she has a heart for kids because of how she loves and cares for them. Remarkably, she is a great help for parents.

At our church, my mom demonstrates leadership and service by helping our church pack up and put stuff away. Usually, there is a lot of help needed and she is there to help and encourage others to get stuff done. She never lets anything go unfinished and makes sure everyone works hard. If anyone has a question or needs instructions, my mom will mostly help them.

My mom is always devoted to helping our church because she loves our church. And she always works hard.

This is student work, transcribed as the student presented it

Rae Amerman

3rd Place - Essay Secondary
10th Grade
Maricopa Christian Academy

