



**Deadline for Entry: by midnight on February 28, 2026**

## Guideline

Star 105.3, 107.9 The Beat, and Hot 102.7 are proud to honor Black History Month with the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Essay contest. This contest is open to all area high school seniors. Employees of Black Crow Media, affiliated entities, participating sponsors/promotional partners, other radio station employees in the Black Crow Media Group, and the members of their immediate families are ineligible to participate or win.

This year's topic is as follows:

**As you enter adulthood, consider how past generations shaped the opportunities you have today. How have Black Americans created those opportunities for you, and how do you want to expand them for those that follow you?**

All essays must be typed and double-spaced with a minimum of 500 words, but not exceeding 1,000 words. The word count should not include your source citation page. Video entries must be 3-5 minutes in length. Please do not use your name or appear on the video itself. You may narrate the audio, but use pictures or graphics for the video. You must include a graphic of the sources you used, much like the citation page for the written page. No hand-written or late entries will be accepted.

**DO NOT PUT YOUR NAME OR IDENTIFYING IMAGE ON THE ENTRY ITSELF.**

Entries must be uploaded through the websites of Star 105.3, 107.9 The Beat, Hot 102.7, no later than February 28, 2026 at midnight. Website addresses are as follows: [mystar1053.com](http://mystar1053.com), [thebeat1079.com](http://thebeat1079.com), and [myhot1027.com](http://myhot1027.com). Written entries can also be hand-delivered, stapled to the completed entry form, to the offices of Black Crow Media, 361 Northside Drive, Valdosta, Ga 31602 before 3 pm, Friday, February 27, 2026.

Essays will be judged on a blind basis (no names attached) by an independent, objective committee of judges using a predetermined set of criteria. Judging will be completed by March 6, 2026 and finalists will be notified by March 10, 2026. Placements of first, second, and third will be announced during a reception at Big Nick's Juke Joint on Friday, March 13, 2026 at 2pm.

All high school seniors within a single household are eligible to enter. No purchase necessary. Employees of Black Crow Media, affiliated entities, participating sponsors/promotional partners, other radio stations employees of Black Crow Media, and members of their immediate family, are ineligible to participate, win, or act as a judge. Scholarships will be made payable directly to the college/university student account. Scholarship monies will not be released to an individual. Essay winners will be required to show photo ID, proof of enrollment, and a signed release upon acceptance of scholarship. Star 105.3, Hot 102.7, and 107.9 The Beat are subsidiaries of Black Crow Media, located at 361 Northside Drive, Valdosta, Ga. 31602. Business hours are Monday - Friday, 10 am - 3 pm. The business phone is also answered during these hours at (229) 244-8642.



Entry (to accompany essays submitted in-person at Black Crow Media)

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt.# \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary Phone \_\_\_\_\_

High School \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

**FOR BLACK CROW MEDIA USE ONLY**

ENTRY # \_\_\_\_\_

BCM AUTHORIZATION \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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**By signing the above entry form, you are confirming you understand the following:**

All high school seniors within a single household are eligible to enter. No purchase necessary. Employees of Black Crow Media, affiliated entities, participating sponsors/promotional partners, other radio stations employees of Black Crow Media, and members of their immediate family, are ineligible to participate, win, or act as a judge. Scholarships will be made payable directly to the college/university student account. Scholarship monies will not be released to an individual. Essay winners will be required to show photo ID, proof of enrollment, and a signed release upon acceptance of scholarship. Star 105.3, Hot 102.7, and 107.9 The Beat are subsidiaries of Black Crow Media, located at 361 Northside Drive, Valdosta, Ga. 31602. Business office hours are Monday - Friday, 10 am - 3 pm. The business phone is also answered during these hours at (229) 244-8642.