I, TOO, AM THE DREAM CONTEST

All entries must be submitted at caad.submittable.com by 3:00pm (EST) on September 21, 2020 to be eligible for judging. The Milken Center for Advancing the American Dream is not responsible for late, misdirected, illegible, or incomplete submissions.

Eligibility

The contest is open to rising United States high school seniors in 2020-21 school year, including students attending public, private, parochial, or home schools in any of the fifty states, the District of Columbia, or the U.S. territories, and attending U.S. schools overseas.

Employees and affiliates of the Milken Center for Advancing the American Dream, the Milken Institute, and the Milken Family Foundation are not eligible to participate.

Prizes & Benefits

Two winners each receive:

• A $5,000 cash award.
• A mentor to provide consultation, guidance and counsel for their senior year and beyond.
• Professional coaching to create a video of their submission.
• An invitation to Washington, DC for the opening of the Milken Center for Advancing the American Dream for them and their families.

Winners and 15 finalists will receive:

• The opportunity to serve on panels and meet with education leaders to discuss their submission about advancing the American Dream.

Winners and 15 finalists will have their submissions featured on the Center’s website and publications, and in its Visitor Center when open.

Submission

• Entries must be submitted online at caad.submittable.com
• Submissions will be accepted beginning June 2, 2020 until September 21, 2020 at 3:00pm (EST).
Criteria for Judging

A team of judges will evaluate the submissions against a standardized rubric, which aims to help anchor the subjective interpretations of judges, and emotional impact of submissions, in a common language. Judges will grade submissions in the following five categories equally:

- Development & Communication of Ideas
- Perspective & Voice
- Originality & Quality of Ideas
- Inclusive & Compelling Call to Action
- Overall Impact

Decisions of the I, Too, Am the Dream Contest judges are final. Finalists will be announced by October 26, 2020 and winners will be notified by email by October 29, 2020.

Requirements

- Submissions must be written and may be in the form of an essay, poem, spoken word, or short story.
- Submissions must be the original work of the student.
- Submissions can be no more than 1,000 words. Citations and bibliography are not included in the word count.
- One submission per student only.

Publishing & Publicity

By entering, you agree that your submission will become the property of the Milken Center for Advancing the American Dream and will not be returned. The Milken Center for Advancing the American Dream reserves the right to print, display and publicize all submissions and photographs of the contest winners.
I, Too, Am the Dream Contest Rubric

The purpose of the I, Too, Am the Dream Contest is two-fold: 1) ENGAGE high school students in describing dynamic stories that have propelled themselves and others to pursue and achieve their own American Dream; 2) Empower students to REIMAGINE an inclusive and evolving vision of opportunity and access and drive a bold national conversation to ADVANCE and grow the American Dream for themselves and others, now and into the future.

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<th>Development &amp; Communication of Ideas</th>
<th>Perspective &amp; Voice</th>
<th>Originality &amp; Quality of Ideas</th>
<th>Inclusive &amp; Compelling Call to Action</th>
<th>Overall Impact</th>
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Total Score (35): ____ / 35

The rubric is designed to help anchor the subjective interpretations of judges, and emotional impact of submissions, in a common language. It seeks to amplify the diversity of voices and perspectives that enrich interpretations of the American Dream, while acknowledging that one’s own experience of the Dream can shape his/her/their interpretation of another’s experience. This rubric seeks to celebrate that subjectivity, recognizing that the American Dream sparks hope that amplifies the academic and national conversation.