

The Triangle Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee



JOHN LEWIS STUDENT ACTIVIST AWARD **2023 Application Announcement** **Deadline: Friday December 15, 2023**

The Triangle Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee (TMLKC) is excited to announce our annual award honoring the life and legacy of the late U.S. Congressman and Civil Rights leader, John Lewis.

Congressman Lewis' commitment to social justice and transformational change was ignited in his young adulthood and continued as a lifelong pursuit. He called this work "Good Trouble" and throughout his life, urged young people to take up the cause of furthering civil rights for all Americans. TMLKC established this award to recognize and uplift the efforts of a modern-day, passionate young leader who is making significant strides and impact in social justice activism.

Eligibility for the Award:

- Leader between the ages of 14-22 years old (high school or older) who is making a positive impact through social justice activism in the Triangle and surrounding areas (i.e. Chatham, Durham, Franklin, Granville, Johnston, Orange, Vance and Wake counties)

This special recognition award includes:

- \$500 honorarium
- Opportunity for engagement with the Committee through future activities, publications, relationship building, etc.
- Help connect recipient with other community leaders for networking.

Application Process

- In 500 words or less, share the story of your journey into social justice leadership:
 - o Describe your work and what you hope to accomplish through your efforts.
 - o How does Congressman Lewis' message of getting into "good trouble" resonate and how is it reflected in the work you have done/are doing?
 - o In what geographic area of the Triangle and surrounding communities has your work had impact?
 - o Share your current age and school (if applicable) and/or any other affiliations that you would like us to know about.
 - o Include at least one letter of reference from an established community leader that attests to the work that he/she has witnessed from you, your impact and the qualities that make

you a strong candidate for the award. The letter should include the recommender's title and organization, relationship to the applicant and how long the recommender has known the applicant. Examples of established community leaders include an official representative from school, church, community organization, etc. Your reference should not be a relative.

- Optional: Please include any documentation of your work in the form of photographs, videos and/or links to news coverage, articles, websites, social media, etc. The Committee recognizes that all applicants may not have the same access to resources and therefore some may not have documentation to share. Documentation will be useful but is not a necessity for full consideration.

Application Submission & Deadline:

- Completed applications including letter of reference must be received **NO LATER THAN December 8, 2023**.
- Submissions should be made to: planner4trianglemlk@gmail.com. **Subject Line:** JLA Application.
- Finalists will be notified by December 22, 2023. **All finalists must commit to attending the TMLKC Breakfast on January 15, 2024 where the winner will be announced**

About Triangle Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee

Mission

TMLKC is a 501(c)3 interfaith group which invests in and amplifies the work of organizations and movements pursuing systemic and transformational change in the Triangle.

Vision

A world that reflects the Beloved Community where all people are valued, respected, and treated with dignity. *(Adopted from The King Center's vision statement.)*