



LUCY CRAFT LANEY ESSAY CONTEST



Proverbs 22:6 (NRSV) - Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray

The National Black Presbyterian Women and the National Black Presbyterian Caucus will present cash awards, and certificates to the recipients. The winners of the essay competition may be released and published to Presbyteries, on the National Black Presbyterian Website and the National Black Presbyterian Women Newsletter.

PERMISSION TO RELEASE:

The Parents must permit to release essay information for publication.

Signature of Parent or Guardian _____.

The student must permit to release essay information for publication.

Signature of Student _____.

The essay submission is a two-step process, you will need to submit by email and mail by June 6, 2021.

First you will need to download or scan your completed essay information and email it to the following address. hbarb55@cox.net by June 6, 2021.

Next, mail the hard copies of your essay (INCLUDING THE COVER SHEET) to the following address:

Attn: Dr. Lydia Willingham
Co-Moderator, NBPC 46th Biennial Convention
513 Folkstone Road
Columbia, South Carolina 29223



LUCY CRAFT LANEY ESSAY CONTEST



The 2021 Lucy Craft Laney Essay Contest - For Youth and Affiliates of NBPC Member Churches: Under the sponsorship of the National Black Presbyterian Women, the 2021 Lucy Craft Laney Essay Contest is being held in conjunction with the 46th Biennial Convention of the National Black Presbyterian Caucus.

TOPICS: Pick one topic from below and be sure to complete the A, B, C steps for your essay topic.

- **#1. Explain how Lucy Craft Laney has influenced society by using the 46th Biennial Theme: The Black Family, Congregation and Community in the Presbyterian Church USA: Navigating Identity, Equity, and Economics.**
 - A) Discuss, Lucy Craft Laney was a Presbyterian who experienced many obstacles; what are some of the ways she navigated through these barriers to help, "The Black Family, Congregation, and Community?"
 - B) How will you change your wishes into will-power?
 - C) What action(s) can you take to do something meaningful, with the potential of having a tremendous impact on others for years to come?

- **#2. Discuss as a free person, Lucy Craft Laney had freedom and rights but faced hardships. Can you unearth some of her struggles and how she made the Black community feel special about themselves and their work?**
 - A) Name some of the freedom and rights that you have as a young person.
 - B) What does the right to nurture your spirits mean to you, and what did Lucy Craft Laney do to encourage the Black community's spirits?
 - C) Lucy Craft Laney set an example of giving back to the community. How will you give back to the community?

- **#3. During this time of change, global pandemic, systemic racism, and social unrest, we have witnessed and watched many people undermine efforts addressing institutional racism. How is the mainstream media portrayal of African Americans different from other groups? In what ways does the story need to change? Or do you think the news media is doing a good job, and if so, why?**
 - A) In what ways does media bias hurt or help African Americans?
 - B) How does media influence your sense of civic duty?
 - C) How can you use media to continue the legacy of Lucy Craft Laney?



LUCY CRAFT LANEY ESSAY CONTEST



Page 3 of 7 Instructions

- a. Submit a typewritten essay in a 12 point Arial font, double spaced, at least one page and a half.
- b. Attach a **cover sheet** with the following information for each student.
- c. Participant's name, home address, and preferred telephone number, and grade level of youth participating.

d. Essay Title

Church name, address, and telephone number.

Please list documentation of all research at the end of your work.

(Citation, pages, names, and attached sheets if applicable).

Forward all information on time by June 6, 2021.

Please do not put your name on the essay itself!

Judges will not review your work if you put your name on the essay!!The participant's essay must be submitted electronically to the following email address: hbarb55@cox.net by **June 6, 2021**. This will ensure that we receive it, as the U.S. mail can be slow.

Organize your essay well, and you may send a video to enhance your written work. The deadline is **June 6, 2021**.

Also, send the hard copy of the essay along with the appropriate cover sheet to be submitted to:

Attn: Dr. Lydia Willingham

Co-Moderator, NBPC 46th Biennial Convention

513 Folkstone Road

Columbia, South Carolina 29223



LUCY CRAFT LANEY ESSAY CONTEST



Essay Title _____ Entry # _____

Extracurricular/Academic Activities

Please list information about the student's awards, honors, and extracurricular activities that can be used when publishing the student's essay:

Please list below the student's academic or vocational goals beyond high school:
College, Military, Teacher, Nurse, Doctor, etc.



LUCY CRAFT LANEY ESSAY CONTEST



Essay Title _____ Entry # _____

(Judges List)

The 2021 Lucy Craft Laney Essay Contest

Assign a point value (1-10) to each of the following questions. One point indicates the lowest mark and 10, the highest.

Structure/Content

____ Does the essay contain an introduction, a description, body, and a conclusion?

____ Is the data correct and in a clear, logical, and sequential order?

____ Does the essay exhibit good language skills, proper spelling, and grammar?

____ Are the reference sources (on Lucy Craft Laney) correct?

Creativity/Originality

____ Is the format neat/taped or written legibly?

____ Is the cover sheet attached and correct?

____ Total points, 100 points maximum.



LUCY CRAFT LANEY ESSAY CONTEST



The deadline is June 6, 2021, by noon.

This cover sheet must be with each essay submitted for the Lucy Craft Laney Essay. Students must finish all parts of the cover sheet for your packet to be complete. Please circle the appropriate grade level of the student: 7 8 9 10 11 12.

Essay Title: _____

Essay first (10) written words by the student: _____

Student's Name: _____

Student's Address: _____

Street/Post Office Box City State Zip Code

Student's Telephone Number: _____

Church: _____

Church Address: _____

Number of Words: _____ Number of Pages: _____

Mail the completed cover sheet attached to the essay to the following:

Attn: Dr. Lydia Willingham, NBPW President
Co-Moderator, NBPC 46th Biennial Convention
513 Folkstone Road
Columbia, South Carolina 29223



LUCY CRAFT LANEY ESSAY CONTEST



Acknowledgments:

A significant source of funding for the Lucy Craft Laney Essay comes from the matching funds of the NBPC.

Thank you, NBPC, for setting the stage where good things happen virtually. Youth are actively engaged, and their messages are heard.

Thank you to all the terrific members of the National Black Presbyterian Women Caucus who help with matching funds to make the Lucy Craft Laney Essay Contest a success. Your efforts in getting individuals to participate are immeasurable and are appreciated.

ABOUT LUCY CRAFT LANEY (1854-1933)



Lucy Craft Laney was a member of the first graduating class of Atlanta University in 1873. She became an outstanding educator who was encouraged by the Board of Missions to establish a school without any financial assistance. In 1883, she organized the school in the basement of Christ Presbyterian Church in Augusta, GA. She recognized the need to reach her students using a variety of skills. In addition to the regular classes, she organized a kindergarten class, a high school sports team, and a nursing class. She invited many cultural icons, including Marian Anderson, to instruct her students. She faced pain, danger, and hardship due to rampant racism and lack of funds. She persevered for fifty years as principal, influencing many young women and men who were in her care. One of her students was Mary McCleod Bethune, who founded her school and became an advisor to President Franklin Roosevelt. Lucy Craft's Laney's portrait is one of the many that is hanging in the State Capitol of Georgia.