

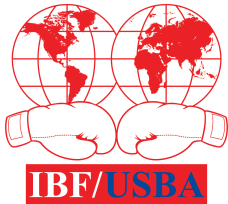
ORIGINATOR OF THE MODERN BOXING BELT



## INAUGURAL ALI-KING AWARD

*Submit Your Essay!*

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY



New Jersey Boxing  
Hall of Fame



### SUMMARY

Named after Martin Luther King, Jr. and Muhammad Ali, this essay contest is organized by Sartonk Designs, the originator of the modern boxing belt. SARTONK is the premier designer and creator of championship boxing belts. This essay contest benefits from the sponsorship of major sanctioning bodies and leaders in boxing. It is intended to promote literacy, as well as support talented young writers within the boxing community.

SARTONK holds that both MLK, Jr. and Ali lived lives of example and made sacrifices that embodied hope for positive social change. This annual award seeks to honor their legacies by inspiring youth to think critically about their own social contributions.

### ELIGIBILITY

The contest is open to 17-22 year old boxers or boxing fans who live in New Jersey, New York, or Connecticut.

## AWARDS

Three winners will be selected by a committee of judges. They will receive their awards at the New Jersey State Boxing Hall of Fame Banquet (November 2012).

Each winner will receive an original SARTONK award, designed specifically for the Ali-King Essay Contest.

Each winner will receive two tickets to the New Jersey Boxing Hall of Fame Banquet.

All winning essays will be published on [www.sartonk.com](http://www.sartonk.com).

The first place winner will receive a \$300 award, the second place will receive \$200, and the third place will receive \$100.

## ESSAY TOPIC, REQUIREMENTS, AND DEADLINES

Participants must **submit the application form online** at <http://form.jotform.us/form/22137048793154?> Essays are to be uploaded to the application form.

Completed applications must be submitted by **midnight, October 1, 2012**.

Essays should be between **500 and 1000 words in length**. Essays shorter than the minimum or longer than the maximum will be disqualified. They should be in 12 point font, double spaced, and Word documents (no PDFs please). The name of the writer should be included on the first page of the essay.

**Participants are to write an essay on ONE of the following topics:**

### *1. Autobiographical*

Recent times have seen a number of books and movies devoted to the lives of specific boxers. This is an industry filled with many compelling struggles. What does boxing mean in your life? Is boxing a metaphor for life? Why or why not? Do you relate to any boxers from previous generations? Tell us about the role boxing plays in your life and whether or not what you learn in the ring applies to who you are outside of it.

### *2. Ali and King*

Martin Luther King, Jr. was a beacon of hope in American history as a leader and practitioner of nonviolence. Muhammad Ali achieved greatness in an explicitly violent sport. King drew from his Christian heritage; Ali, from his devotion to Islam. Although these men may seem like opposites, they do, in fact, share similarities. Write about the historical significance of Martin Luther King, Jr. and Muhammad Ali, comparing their characters, principles, and accomplishments.

### 3. *The Role of Champions*

From the early history of boxing (when the first Americans began fighting British fighters) to modern times, in which many minority communities are inspired by their champions, boxing has appealed to people of different backgrounds. Consider people like Jack Johnson, Joe Louis, Muhammad Ali, Julio Cesar Chavez, Manny Pacquiao (or anyone *you* relate to) as you write about the role that Champions play in inspiring people in their respective communities.

### 4. *Women in Boxing*

The last couple of decades have given us many outstanding female boxing talents. The 2012 Summer Olympic games for the first time include women's boxing. Discuss the significance of the increasing role women play in the sport of boxing.

## JUDGING CRITERIA

Essays will be judged on the following criteria:

*Spelling and Punctuation.* Essays must be proofread.

*Organization.* Are the ideas presented in an organized, logical manner?

*Remaining on topic.* Essays should not digress from the selected topic.

*Craftsmanship.* Does the essay adhere to basic grammatical rules? Are the sentences well crafted, and the words carefully selected? Are the arguments clearly made?

*Analysis.* Does the essay reflect a thorough understanding and analysis of the topic?

*Creativity.* Does the essay compel readers by offering new ideas or perspectives?

**Note: Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Plagiarized work or essays written by anyone other than the applicant will be immediately disqualified.**

## CONTACT

You may contact Sartonk Designs with questions about the essay contest.

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***We look forward to  
receiving your essay!***