



TAMIL HERITAGE MONTH

Contest: Celebrating Student Voice Through CREATIVE WRITING, SPEECH, & ART

2019 THEME: Remembrance. Resilience. Recognition.

TDSB's Tamil Heritage Month Committee acknowledges the enduring presence of our Indigenous communities on this land. As settlers on this land, we recognize that with challenges, Canada has become home to many communities seeking refuge and/or opportunities. These communities include the Tamil Diaspora. Our shared and individual stories and journeys continue to shape our experience in Canada and help build our identities as Canadians today.

This year's theme, *Remembrance, Resilience and Recognition* highlights the importance of remembering and giving voice to our stories, feeling pride in the strength and resilience these stories and experiences demand, and recognizing that we have the collective and individual power to reconcile the past and foster change for the future.

With this in mind, the committee ask students to respond to one of the following guiding questions in the form of a creative writing response, original artwork and/or speech:

- What does it mean to be Tamil?
- What role has your heritage played in shaping your identity?
- While cultures continue to develop and evolve over time, there is much that we attempt to preserve. What aspects of your culture do *you* feel need to be preserved and why? How can this be done? What would be the consequences of losing this aspect of your culture?
- The civil war in Sri Lanka lasted over three decades. May 2019 marks ten years post civil war in Sri Lanka. The civil war affected not only individuals living within Sri Lanka but the effects of the war extended beyond the boundaries of the country and continue to do so today. What are some stories of strength and resilience that you have heard through family, friends, and/or your community? What do these stories mean to you?

- Students may submit one entry per category
- Submissions are to be in **English** or **Tamil**
- Please note that all winning entries will be announced on **Saturday, February 2, 2019** during the **Celebration of Tamil Heritage Month**
- **All students** in the TDSB are encouraged to submit entries

Note - For all contest, submissions must clearly state the following information:

- Student's Full Name
- Student's Day School Information (i.e. Name of TDSB school student attends during the day)
- Student's Grade
- Student's Tamil Languages School Information, if applicable (i.e. Name of the TDSB school in which the student attends Tamil Language Classes)
- Student's Contact Information (i.e. a phone number and email address for student's parent(s)/guardian(s))
- Full Name of ONE Parent/Guardian

CATEGORY: CREATIVE WRITING RESPONSE

(Poem, Short Story, Essay etc.)

Guidelines:

Length: Grades 4-6: **maximum of 250 words**
Grades 7-9: **maximum of 350 words**
Grades 10-12: **maximum of 500 words**

Font: Times New Roman, Size 12, and double spaced **Format:** .pdf or .docx

Conventions: Works cited/bibliography page in MLA style citation

Mode of Submission:

Submit narrative by interoffice mail or in person by **NOON on Friday, January 18th, 2019** to the attention of **Dani Carnavale at 17 Fairmeadow Centre, Room 104 OR, via email at tdsbthamilheritagemonth@gmail.com** (Subject Line: THM Narrative Submission)

- In body of the email, please include your first and last name, as well as all the information requested in the above note. Please attach your narrative in either .pdf or .docx format.

Late submissions will unfortunately not be considered.

Winners in each category will be announced at our Celebration of Tamil Heritage on Saturday, February 2nd at a location TBD.

CATEGORY: ORIGINAL ARTWORK

Guidelines:

4 Categories: Grades K-3, Grades 4-6, Grades 7-8, Grades 9-12

Artwork can include photography, painting, drawing, sculpture, mixed media, digital media, and printmaking.

Reflecting on entries from past years and in order to be sensitive to all communities in the TDSB, we are asking applicants to refrain from using images of flags in their artwork. We acknowledge that while flags can empower some identities, they also marginalize others.

Criteria:

Size: Not smaller than 8" x 11" and not bigger than 16" x 16" (can have measurement that is rectangular)

File size for media submission: Not larger than 150 MB.

Time Limit for videos/slideshows: 1 minute

Artwork should only contain original artwork.

Each submission must include the information asked for above (see NOTE) as well as an Artist Statement using the following headings:

- **Media Used**
- **Title Of Submission**
- **Description:** This description should provide an explanation of how the art piece connects to the theme: *'Remembrance. Resilience. Recognition.'*

Mode of Submission:

- Submit original artwork by interoffice mail or in person to the attention of **Dani Carnavale at 17 Fairmeadow Centre, Room 104** by **NOON on Friday, January 18th, 2019**.
- All digital submissions and any original artwork submitted via USB must be sent via email as an attachment, or on a USB which can be submitted by interoffice mail or in person. If submitting digital submissions by email, please email tdsbthamilheritagemonth@gmail.com (Subject Line: THM Artwork Submission).

- In body of the email, please include your first and last name, as well as all the information requested in the above Note.

Late submissions will unfortunately not be considered.

Winners in each category will be announced at our Celebration of Tamil Heritage on Saturday, February 2nd at a location TBD.

CATEGORY: SPEECH

Guidelines:

3 Categories: Grades 1-3 (1 to 2 minutes) Grades 4-6 (2 to 3 minutes), Grades 7-8 (3 minutes)

Mode of Submission: If you are interested in entering the contest, **please register via email at tdsbthamilheritagemonth@gmail.com** (Subject line: THM Speech Contest)

In the body of the email, please include your first and last name, as well as all the information requested in the above Note. **Also attach a copy of your speech.**

Font: Times New Roman, Size 12, and double spaced

Format: .pdf or .docx

NOTE that registration closes at noon on Monday, January 14, 2019.

All applicants will be contacted to present their speeches to a panel of judges prior to February 2, 2019. Location and time TBD.

Finalist will present their speeches on **Saturday, February 2, 2019** at a TDSB school. Location and Time TBD.

Late registrants and/or those who do not submit a written copy of their speech will unfortunately not be considered. In order to ensure integrity in the writing process, registrants are also asked to submit a copy of the rough draft of their speeches.

Winners in each category will be announced at our Celebration of Tamil Heritage on Saturday, February 2nd 2019.

Note that all submissions will be judged according to the rubrics outlined below:

Creative Writing Rubric

For each criterion listed, score the essay on a scale of 1-4, with 4 being the best score.

Criteria	4	3	2	1	Score
	Above average	Average	Below average	Poor	
Ideas and understanding of the theme: - to what extent does the author demonstrate a clear understanding of the theme, and respond with details about his/her experience?	Author demonstrates an in-depth understanding of the theme: key concepts related to the theme are identified and explained effectively	Author demonstrates a good understanding of the theme: most key concepts related to the theme are identified and explained effectively	Author demonstrates some understanding of the theme: some concepts related to the question and the theme are identified and somewhat explained	Author demonstrates a limited understanding of the theme: concepts are either not related to the theme or not clearly explained	
Writing conventions and style - to what extent does the author use his/her writing style to effectively convey his/her ideas?	Author uses vivid details that are logically organized into clear paragraphs; word choice is appropriate for the topic, and conveys a strong, clear voice throughout the essay; there are very few or no errors in capitalization, punctuation, spelling and grammar	Author uses clear details that are organized into appropriate paragraphs; word choice is appropriate for the topic, and conveys a clear voice throughout the essay; there are some errors in capitalization, punctuation, spelling and grammar	Author attempts to organize some details into paragraphs; word choice is not very strong or clear. Author conveys an emerging voice in some sections of the essay; there are errors in capitalization, punctuation, spelling and grammar	Author's ideas are not organized appropriately into clear sentences and/or paragraphs; word choice is very limited, and author's voice is not present in there are many errors in capitalization, punctuation, spelling and grammar	

Original Artwork Criteria

For each criterion listed, score the essay on a scale of 1-4, with 4 being the best score.

Criteria	4	3	2	1	Score
	Above average	Average	Below average	Poor	
Creativity and Originality -	A high degree of creativity and originality is evident.	A good degree of creativity and originality is evident.	Some degree of creativity and originality is evident.	A limited amount of creativity and originality is evident.	
Craftsmanship and Technique - Skill in using chosen media (each art medium will have different skill evaluated)	Artist demonstrates skillful use of chosen media and materials. Ideas are effectively conveyed through execution of techniques.	Artist demonstrates a good use of chosen media and materials. Ideas are conveyed through execution of techniques.	Artist demonstrates some effective use of chosen media and material. Ideas are somewhat conveyed through execution of techniques.	Artist demonstrates a limited use of chosen media and materials. Ideas are partially conveyed through execution of techniques.	
Theme - Interpretation and connection to theme (message to viewer)	Artwork expertly connects to and interprets the theme effectively.	Artwork connects to and interprets the theme effectively.	Artwork somewhat connects to and interprets the theme effectively.	Artwork shows limited connection to and interpretation of the theme.	

Speech Judging Rubric

For each criterion listed, score the essay on a scale of 1-4, with 4 being the best score.

4=Excellent 3=Average 2=Below Average 1=Poor/Incomplete

Criteria	4	3	2	1	Score
	Above average	Average	Below average	Poor	
CONTENT					
Topic - Topic is relevant & appropriate for grade level and to the theme.	Topic is highly relevant and appropriate for grade level and to the theme.	Topic is relevant and appropriate for grade level and to the theme.	Topic is somewhat relevant and appropriate for grade level and to the theme.	Topic is limited in relevancy and appropriateness for grade level and to the theme.	
Main Idea - One main idea is	Main idea is clearly	Main idea is stated with	Main idea is stated with	Main idea is unclear with	

stated and is supported with relevant facts, opinions, and examples.	stated with exemplary facts, opinions, and examples	adequate facts, opinions, and examples	limited facts, opinions, and examples	limited facts, opinions, and examples	
Organization - Speech is organized so that the intended message is clear	Speech is effectively organized so that the intended message is clear.	Speech is organized so that the intended message is clear.	Speech is somewhat organized so that the intended message is clear.	Speech is ineffectively organized and the intended message is not clear.	
Conclusion - A clear conclusion is present (i.e. a call to action or a change in mindset)	A clear and effective conclusion is present.	A clear conclusion is present.	A somewhat clear conclusion is present.	Conclusion is not present or is unclear.	
Overall effectiveness - The speech has a clear purpose and is effective in communicating it.	The speech has a clear purpose and effectively communicates it.	The speech has a clear purpose and communicates it.	The speech has a purpose and somewhat communicates it.	The speech does not have a clear purpose and is ineffective in communicating it.	
PRESENTATION					
Voice - voice projection is clear, fluent, and excellent use of intonation and pacing	Voice projection is very clear with excellent use of intonation and pacing.	Voice projection is clear with good use of intonation and pacing.	Voice projection is sometimes clear with use of intonation and pacing.	Voice projection, intonation, and/or pacing is ineffective.	
Body Language - facial expressions, gestures, and body language	Excellent use of facial expressions, gestures, and body language.	Good use of facial expressions, gestures, and body language.	Somewhat effective use of facial expressions, gestures, and body language.	Ineffective use of facial expressions, gestures, and body language.	
Audience Awareness - eye contact with audience and engagement	Excellent use of eye contact with audience and engagement	Good use of eye contact with audience and engagement	Somewhat effective use of eye contact with audience and engagement	Ineffective use of eye contact with audience and engagement	
Memorization and Preparedness - speech is	Speech is completely memorized	Speech is mostly memorized	Speech is partially memorized	Speech is not memorized	

memorized and rehearsed	and rehearsed.	and rehearsed.	and rehearsed.	nor rehearsed.
----------------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------

Tamil Heritage Month

Remembrance, Resilience, and Recognition

This year's theme highlights the importance of remembering and giving voice to our stories, feeling pride in the strength and resilience these stories and experiences demand, and recognizing that we have the collective and individual power to reconcile the past and foster change for the future. bit.ly/2019THMTDSB

NOTE:

All submissions must clearly state the following information:

- Student's Full Name
- Student's Day School Information (i.e. Name of TDSB school student attends during the day)
- Student's Grade
- Student's Tamil Language School Information, if applicable (i.e. Name of the TDSB school in which the student attends Tamil Language Classes)
- Student's Contact Information (i.e. a phone number and email address for student's parent(s)/guardian(s))
- Full Name of ONE Parent/Guardian

MODE OF SUBMISSION:

Submit by interoffice mail or in person by NOON on Friday, January 18th, 2019 to the attention of Dani Carnavale at 17 Fairmeadow Centre, Room 104

OR

via email at tdsbTamilHeritageMonth@gmail.com

(Subject Line: THM Narrative/Artwork/ Speech Submission)

In body of the email, please include your first and last name, as well as all the information requested in the above note.

Winners in each category will be announced at our Celebration of Tamil Heritage on Saturday, February 2nd 2019. Location TBD.

Creative Writing

Speech

Original Art Work



Scan for more Info

REMEMBRANCE RESILIENCE RECOGNITION

Deadline by NOON on Friday, January 18th, 2019 (Narrative & Artwork)

Speech deadline is Monday, January 14th, 2019

Late submissions will unfortunately not be considered.