

# **CAMPAIGN TO END THE NEW JIM CROW 2023**

## **SPOKEN WORD CONTEST**

The Campaign invites all ages to advance the cause of justice using spoken word to engage with the racial inequities intrinsic to our nation and to address our collective & personal responsibility to create a more just future.

Send in the following information along with your submission: Name, Category (adult or grade level student), Title, a sentence sharing that the piece is your own original work, your email, phone number.

Send entries to [contest@endnewjimcrownj.org](mailto:contest@endnewjimcrownj.org).

Deadline for video and document is

**Wednesday, February 1, 2023.**

**Two categories each win their own prize money:**

**Adults & Students (grades 9-12)**

**FIRST-\$200**

**SECOND-\$150**

**THIRD-\$100**

**Winners & their families will attend our winners' reception on Tuesday, May 2, 2023 to perform their spoken word and receive their prizes.**

**Choose from the list of topics or create your own:**

1. Our prosperity and wholeness is tied to that of others. How do we make people understand that hurting any group has a boomerang effect? Systemic equality creates good for everybody.

2. How can we shift a prevailing philosophy that punitiveness is better than rehabilitation and supportiveness?

In contrast to American prisons, guards in Norway are taught to make friends with inmates and help prepare them for normal life.

Norway has the lowest recidivism rate in the world. With our high recidivism rate the number of incarcerated people has grown 500% since 1972 and 60% are Latinx or Black. How can we also shift from a punitive approach to a supportive one in our schools to help those who could dearly use support.

3. What has the pandemic revealed to you about our institutions, systems and values? Did it expose areas of inequality or injustice in your community or in your life?

4. How might we all consider “caring for community” in regard to the most vulnerable among us, like prisoners returning to the community, students bearing trauma at home that interferes with their learning to read, then falling behind. How can we build & repair our communities and foster inclusive communities?

Questions? Contact [contest@endnewjimcrownj.org](mailto:contest@endnewjimcrownj.org)