



February 7, 2020

Dear School Administrator,

This year we celebrate the 73rd anniversary of Jackie Robinson breaking the color barrier in Major League Baseball. On April 15, 1947, Robinson played in his first Major League game for the Brooklyn Dodgers. As he crossed the foul line onto the field, he not only became the first African-American player in modern Major League Baseball history, but a beacon of hope and inspiration to Americans from all corners of our country. In recognition of Robinson and Black History Month, the Colorado Rockies are proud to host the **14th Annual “Rockies Honor Robinson” Youth Artistic Contest** for elementary, middle and high school students in the Denver area.

The contest theme is **“Breaking Barriers”** and students can submit anything artistic to describe what breaking barriers means to them; ***any form of artistic expression is encouraged, such as poetry, music, art, or even a video presentation of dance or drama.*** To aid in your lesson plan, we have included information on Jackie Robinson, but your students can focus their art on any individual or something they have experienced in their personal lives that applies to the theme of breaking barriers. The contest should be simple to implement in your school classrooms, and the topic can be a valuable teaching tool.

How the contest works: Each student at your school who submits an entry will receive four tickets to a select Rockies game between Saturday, April 25 and Wednesday, May 13, depending on availability and at the discretion of the Rockies. We will need your total number of participants by March 16. Out of all of the entries submitted within your school, you will select your school’s top three, which you will send to us by March 20 to compete with other top entries from other participating schools. Prizes include VIP tickets for the artists’ families to the April 25 game and participation in a pregame onfield ceremony!

This is a great opportunity for your students to learn about inspirational leaders and it is one lesson plan done for you! Please see the attached contest details and do not hesitate to email **Abby Sanders** (abby.sanders@rockies.com) with any questions along the way. Remember that we will need to receive your number of total participants by March 16, 2020 and your top three entries by March 20, 2020.

Thank you and we hope your school will participate!
Sincerely,

Jill Campbell
Vice President, Communications & Marketing

BREAKING BARRIERS

Please tell us what “Breaking Barriers” means to you by participating in the 14th Annual “Rockies Honor Robinson” Youth Artistic Contest

One of the most significant moments in Major League Baseball history was when Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier on April 15, 1947. In 2004, Commissioner Selig proclaimed that April 15 would always be known as Jackie Robinson Day throughout Major League Baseball. The goal of this annual recognition is to celebrate and bring more exposure to the life, values and accomplishments of not only Jackie Robinson but other African-American leaders who have inspired others to break any barrier and succeed. On behalf of the Colorado Rockies organization, we hope you will join us by participating in the **14th Annual “Rockies Honor Robinson” Youth Artistic Contest** in celebration of Black History Month.

Students: Applicants must be enrolled in elementary, middle or high school.

1. Create any type of art reflecting what “Breaking Barriers” means to you. **Art can include poetry, music, art, or even a video presentation of dance or drama.**
2. Turn it into your teacher by March 16, 2020, and just for participating, you will receive four tickets to one of the following games (depending on availability and at the discretion of the Rockies): Saturday, April 25, Sunday, April 26, Tuesday, April 28, Thursday, May 7, Friday, May 8, Monday, May 11, Tuesday, May 12 or Wednesday, May 13. These tickets will be distributed by your teacher or school administrator overseeing this contest.
3. If your school chooses your art as one of their top three entries, it will be sent to the Colorado Rockies and judged along with the best three entries from all other participating schools.
4. The “Winning Entries” will be chosen from all “top three” entries submitted; if you are one of these winners, a Rockies representative will contact your teacher during the week of April 13, 2020. **Best of all, the winning artists will be recognized in an onfield ceremony before the April 25 game and will receive VIP tickets for that game! GOOD LUCK!**

Contest Guidelines for school teachers and/or administrators: (1) Collect all entries by March 16, 2020, and make your selection of the best three entries representing your school; (2) fill out the application below and attach to each of the three best entries; (3) send these three entries with attached applications to the following address, postmarked no later than March 20, 2020: **Colorado Rockies Baseball Club, Attn: Abby Sanders/Youth Artistic Contest, 2001 Blake Street, Denver, CO 80205.** (4) Please also email Abby Sanders at abby.sanders@rockies.com the total number of participating students from your school by March 16, 2020, because each student will receive four complimentary tickets to a select Rockies game between Saturday, April 25 and Wednesday, May 13, depending on availability and at the discretion of the Rockies; we will ship your total tickets to the designated school contact for distribution after we have received your school's top three entries, during the week of April 13, 2020. (5) **If one or more of your students is chosen as an overall winner, the Rockies will contact you the week of April 13 with further information.**

Please don't hesitate to email Abby Sanders (abby.sanders@rockies.com) with any questions.

APPLICATION: Please fill out the following information and attach your written entry to this sheet

Student Name: _____ Age: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____

Teacher/Contact on behalf of student: _____ Phone Number: _____

"A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives."

Jackie Robinson

Jackie Robinson breaks the color barrier in baseball when he joins the Brooklyn Dodgers™, a Major League Baseball team. Dodgers president Branch Rickey scouted and signed Robinson, enabling him to play for the team.



1964
President Lyndon B. Johnson signs the Civil Rights Act in the presence of civil rights leaders including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The act outlawed discrimination based on race, religion, sex, and nationality.

Roberto Clemente, who played from 1955 to 1972, becomes the first baseball player from Puerto Rico to be elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame.



1964
President Lyndon B. Johnson signs the Civil Rights Act in the presence of civil rights leaders including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The act outlawed discrimination based on race, religion, sex, and nationality.

The Brown v. Board of Education ruling outlaws segregation in schools. One year later, Rosa Parks refuses to give up her seat



1948

1964
Masanori Murakami joins the San Francisco Giants™, becoming the first Asian baseball player in the Major Leagues.



Sandra Day O'Connor becomes the first woman to be appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

1964

Masanori Murakami joins the San Francisco Giants™, becoming the first Asian baseball player in the Major Leagues.

The U.S. Women's National Team wins the World Cup in soccer. The final game is the most attended women's sporting event in history.



April 15, 2007 marks the 60th anniversary of Jackie Robinson breaking the color barrier in baseball.

Seventeen Negro Leaguers and pre-Negro Leaguers enter the Baseball Hall of Fame, raising the total inducted to 35.



Jim Abbott, who was born with only one hand, pitches a no-hitter for the New York Yankees™.

A circular logo for Jackie Robinson Day. The outer ring contains the text "JACKIE ROBINSON DAY" at the top and "APRIL 15, 2007" at the bottom. In the center, the number "42" is prominently displayed, with a small baseball glove icon integrated into the number. The logo is surrounded by a decorative border.

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