

The Women’s Fund invites all Houston area, college-bound, graduating senior women to participate in its:

4th Annual Barbara Devetski Scholarship Essay Contest

Two winners will each receive a $1000.00 scholarship

Background Information on the Contest:

Adolescence is a difficult time for young women and yet is the most influential time with regard to their long-term health. The issues that our youth face, concerning their long term health, include engaging in risky health behaviors, rising rates of obesity, and access to minimal healthcare or lack of health insurance. Teen pregnancies, unhealthy eating, lack of physical activity and substance abuse, are issues that young women face during their middle and high school years and even through college. These issues are even more pernicious if young women do not have accurate health information and do not have a safe place to talk about the consequences of such issues.

Resilient individuals are able to bounce back from difficult situations and overcome challenging situations.

Please submit an essay on the following topic: **Resiliency**

 Your essay should include the following:

* What is the importance of resiliency?
* Describe a situation in which you were resilient and bounced back from a difficult situation.
* Explain how that situation and what you learned has prepared you for college.

The Criteria:

Winners will be chosen based on the following:

* Essay is on topic
* Clearly communicated ideas and opinions throughout the written piece
* Correct grammar and punctuation (essays with more than 3 errors will be disqualified)
* All statistics, research & articles must be cited using Modern Language Association (MLA) style
* Ability to follow all other essay guidelines and instructions

The Guidelines:

* One essay per participant
* Essays must be typed or legibly printed in pen
* Essays must be at least 3 pages double spaced, between 1,000 to 1,500 words
* Essay entries must include The Women’s Fund cover sheet (included here)
* Essays should be written in first-person point of view
* No personal information should be included on the pages of the essay— it should only be on the cover sheet
* The Participant Release on the cover sheet must be signed by the participant or by a parent/guardian if the participant is under 18. Those participants submitting their essays by email must include the signed cover sheets with their essays. Electronic signatures will not be accepted.
* College course enrollment must be equal to 9 credit hours or more
* Scholarships must be collected in the first year of college

Submission and Deadline:

Essays may be submitted by snail mail or email to:

Debbie Marley,

The Women’s Fund

5433 Westheimer, Suite 924 or debbie@thewomensfund.org

Houston, TX 77056

The deadline for submission is Wednesday, **April 30, 2018**. Essays must be postmarked no later than **April 30, 2018** in order to be considered.

**Hand-delivered and faxed essays will not be accepted.**

Questions can be directed to Debbie Marley, Program Development Director,

at 713-623-6543 or debbie@thewomensfund.org

Announcement of Winners:

We will announce the winners on May 18, 2018, at The Women’s Fund luncheon. Recipients of the scholarship will be invited to attend the luncheon.

Essay Cover Sheet

Name:

Age:

Address:

Email:

Home phone:

School district:

School:

Grade:

Participant Release

I grant The Women’s Fund for Health Education and Research, its employees, and its representatives to take photographs of me and use my picture, name, and essay content for purposes of publicity including, but not limited to, newsletters, newspaper articles, and web content.

I have read and understand the above:

Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Printed name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature, parent or guardian \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
(if under age 18)

Printed name, parent or guardian \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

An essay cover sheet must be included with all essay submissions. Entries may be mailed to The Women’s Fund. Participants submitting their essay by email must include a cover sheet with their essay and electronic signatures will not be accepted. Do not fax or hand-deliver the cover sheet or essay. Only the cover sheet should contain your name, address or any other identifying information.