



FLORIDA COMMISSION
ON THE STATUS OF
WOMEN

2017 Women's History Essay Contest

TO COMMEMORATE AND HONOR MEMBERS OF THE FLORIDA WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME

Sponsored by the Florida Commission on the Status of Women, the Florida Women History essay contest serves to celebrate Women's history and to increase awareness of the contributions made by Florida women, including the 97 members of the Florida Women's Hall of Fame. Celebrating women's history presents the opportunity to honor and recount stories of our ancestors' talents, sacrifices, and commitments and inspires today's generations. Learning about our past allows us to build our future.

**Deadline for
Submission:
December 2, 2016**

2017 Essay Theme:

You are awarded a grant for \$1,000,000. How would you use that money to further women's advancement in our society? Use any member of the Florida Women's Hall of Fame and their work as inspiration for your essay.

**All Florida
students in
grades 6
through 9
are eligible.**

**FOR RULES AND
SUBMISSION
GUIDELINES:
WWW.FCSW.NET**

**THE FLORIDA WOMEN'S
HALL OF FAME**

**107 W. GAINES STREET
TALLAHASSEE, FL
32301
(850) 414-3300**



**2016 -2017 Florida Women's History Essay Contest
Florida Students Grade 6 - 9**

Sponsored by the Florida Commission on the Status of Women, the Florida Women History essay contest serves to celebrate Women's history--and to increase awareness of the contributions made by Florida women.

Since its inception in 1982, the Hall of Fame has recognized and honored Florida women who, through their lives and work, have made significant contributions to the improvement of life for all citizens of the state. Prior inductees include former U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno, singer Gloria Estefan, internationally-honored tennis athletes Chris Evert and Althea Gibson, Pilot Betty Skelton Frankman, Bethune-Cookman College founder Mary McLeod Bethune, Congresswomen Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Carrie Meek, Tillie Fowler and Ruth Bryan Owen, Florida Trend Publisher Lynda Keever, and Everglades advocate and suffragist Marjory Stoneman Douglas.

Celebrating women's history presents the opportunity to honor and recount stories of our ancestors' talents, sacrifices, and commitments and inspires today's generations. Learning about our past allows us to build our future.

Focus of Essays

You are awarded a grant for \$1,000,000. How would you use that money to further women's advancement in our society? Use any member of the Florida Women's Hall of Fame and their work as inspiration for your essay.

Rules:

- Essays must be received by 5:00 pm on **December 2, 2016**. Winners will be announced in January 2017.
- Each contestant must be a legal resident of Florida at the time of submission. All Florida students in grades 6 through 9 (public, private and home- schooled) are eligible.
- Awards will be made in two categories: grades 6-7 and grades 8-9.
- Only an individual student may submit an essay; no groups.

- Essays must be written in paragraph format, be between 250 and 500 words, typed using 12 point font, and double-spaced, with margins set to at least one inch on all sides. Please select a legible font, such as Times New Roman or Arial.
- Essays should have a title. The title should be at the top of the first page.
- **Do not** put your name on the essay. Your name should appear on the entry form only.
- Submissions must include completed official Entry Form and Waiver.
- Essays may be submitted via e-mail to essay@fcsw.net (use subject line: WHOOF Essay Contest.) Essays submitted via e-mail must be in MSWord and sent as an attachment. Essays received via e-mail will be confirmed by e-mail within two business days. If a receipt is not received, please call 850-414-3531.
- Essays may be mailed to: Florida Women's Hall of Fame Essay Contest, 107 West Gaines Street, Tallahassee, FL 32301.
- All entries are the property of the Florida Commission on the Status of Women. The decision of the judges and the Commission for Women is final.

Awards

Awards will be given to the first, second, and third place winner in each of the 6-7th Grade and 8-9th Grade. **First place: \$100; second place: \$75; third place: \$50.**

All winners will be honored and asked to read their essay in a ceremony at the Florida Capitol during the 2017 Florida Women's Day at the Capitol on March 30, 2017. Teachers will also be recognized. Winning essays will be published on the Florida Commission on the Status of Women's website during March in recognition of Women's History Month.

Criteria for Judging Essays

- Theme must be clearly addressed.
- Responses should be creative and include information based on knowledge of members of the Florida Women's Hall of Fame and their contributions to the state and nation.
- Content must include relevant, authentic information and ideas must be fully developed, and must demonstrate critical and creative thinking.
- Proper grammar, spelling and punctuation must be consistent with accepted usage. **Please proofread your essay prior to submitting!**



**2016 -2017 Florida Women's History Essay Contest
Entry Form and Waiver**

Student Name:		
Title of Entry:		Grade:
Home Mailing Address:		Age:
City:	State: Florida	Zip Code:
Home Phone Number: <i>(including area code)</i>		
Parent/Legal Guardian Name:		
Parent/Legal Guardian Cell Phone Number: <i>(including area code)</i>	Parent/Legal Guardian E-Mail Address:	
School Name:		County:
School Mailing Address:		
City:	State: Florida	Zip Code:
School Phone Number: <i>(including area code)</i>		
Teacher Name:	Teacher E-Mail Address:	

Release Statement:

As parent/legal guardian, I acknowledge that my child has written the attached essay. Should he or she win the essay contest, I agree to allow the submitted essay to be distributed publicly. I also understand that if it is discovered my child plagiarized or that the thoughts expressed are not her/his own, the essay will be subject to disqualification.

I, _____
 Print Name of Parent/Legal Guardian), hereby certify the following:

1. I am the parent/legal guardian of _____
2. My child is a legal resident of Florida.

 Parent/Legal Guardian Signature Date