

2019 WOMEN'S HISTORY ESSAY CONTEST



DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

~~**DECEMBER 1, 2018**~~

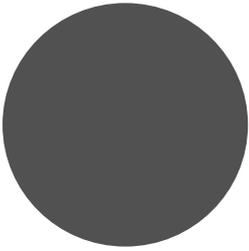
EXTENDED TO DECEMBER 22, 2018

For Florida students in grades 6 – 8

PRESENTED BY THE
FLORIDA COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

PURPOSE

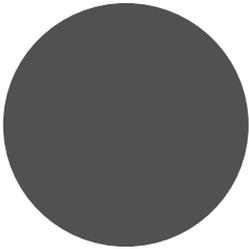
To commemorate and honor members of the Florida Women's Hall of Fame



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

THEME

2019



"If I have a legacy to leave my people, it is my philosophy of living and serving." - Mary McLeod Bethune

One of the nation's most prominent educators and civil rights leaders, Mary McLeod Bethune was born in South Carolina to former slaves. She graduated from college in Chicago in 1894 and returned South to teach. After marriage and the birth of a son, she began a Daytona Beach school that evolved into Bethune-Cookman College.

President Roosevelt appointed her to the National Youth Administration, which was the first such appointment for a black woman. President Truman named her a delegate to the founding conference of the United Nations, and she acted as an emissary to Liberia in 1952. Dr. Bethune was the founding president of the National Council of Negro Women and served as an officer in many other organizations. She also managed business interests and was once the only woman president of an insurance company in America. The most outstanding African-American woman of the first half of the twentieth century, she became a member of the Florida Women's Hall of Fame in 1982.

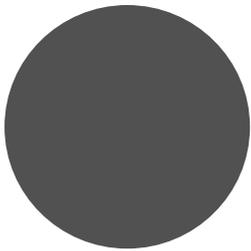
This year, the Florida Legislature approved placing a statue of McLeod Bethune in National Statuary Hall in Washington, D.C., where she will be one of only ten women represented in the Hall, out of the 100 statues on display.

Pioneers like Mary McLeod Bethune who believe in the power of service are inspirations to many, even today. In your essay, discuss the following:

- **Who has been the most inspirational person in your life? (This can be a relative, teacher, historical figure, or another individual whose life of service has made a significant impact on you for the better.)**
- **How did his or her story affect you?**
- **Did he or she change your perspective or spark you to act on a particular issue? In what way?**

For rules and submission guidelines, visit fcsww.net and flwomenshalloffame.org

RULES



- Essays must be received by 5:00 pm on **December 22, 2018**. It is the desire of the Commission for all Florida Middle School students to have the opportunity to participate. Winners will be announced in January 2018.
 - Each contestant must be a legal resident of Florida at the time of submission. All Florida students in grades 6 through 8 (public, private and home-schooled) are eligible.
 - Awards will be made in three categories: 6th, 7th, and 8th grade.
 - Essays should have a title. The title should be at the top of the first page.
- 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.
 - **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 Release Statement.
 - Essays may be submitted via e-mail to essay@fcsww.net (use subject line: FCSW Essay Contest.) 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.

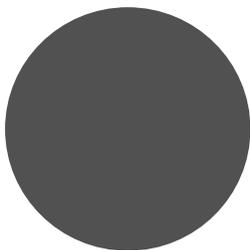
Essays may be mailed to:

Florida Commission on the Status of Women 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 is final.

AWARDS & CRITERIA



Awards will be given to the first and second place winner in each of the 6th, 7th, and 8th-grade categories. **First Place \$100; second place: \$75.** All winners will be honored and asked to read their essay in a ceremony at the Florida Capitol during the 2019 Florida Legislative Education Summit in March 2019. Teachers will also be recognized. Winning essays will be published on the FCSW website during March in recognition of Women's History Month.

Criteria for Judging Essays

- The theme must be clearly addressed.
- Responses should be creative.
- 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!** Engaging a teacher or other adult for review and feedback is encouraged.

ENTRY

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 a parent/legal guardian, I acknowledge that my child has written the attached essay. Should she or he 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



107 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301

(850) 414-3300 / ESSAY@FCSW.NET
FCSW.NET / FLWOMENSHALLOFFAME.ORG