

Florida Education Fund Laws of Life Essay Contest

THEME "Laws of Life"

PURPOSE The Laws of Life are core values and ideals by which we live. Honesty, perseverance, and the Golden Rule all are examples of these universal "laws" that transcend religions, cultures, and national borders. The Laws of Life Essay Contest offers a young person the opportunity to think about and communicate the principles that guide his or her life. As a participant writes his or her essay, the participant must select the quotation below that expresses a key value and/or ideal by which he or she lives and explain why the chosen value or ideal is important to the way he or she lives his or her life by discussing experiences, lessons learned, and people who have served as living examples of the chosen value or ideal.

- *Character is what you know you are, not what others think you have.* --Marva Collins
- *The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.* --Martin Luther King
- *Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world.* --Nelson Mandela
- *Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today.* --Malcolm X

ELIGIBILITY Members of the Centers of Excellence program (i.e. National Achievers, Believers) in grades 4 through 12 may participate. There are three divisions: Grades 4-5, 6-8, and 9-12.

REQUIREMENTS Essays of 100-300 words must be submitted to:
Imani Asukile, COE director
 36727 Blanton Road
 Dade City, FL 33523-7599

JUDGING The following criteria will be used for judging an essay: Content = 5 points; Presentation = 3 points; and Grammar and Spelling = 2 points. Judges will be secured who understand the writing levels of the essay participants, i.e., judges who understand the writing skills taught for the FCAT test and defined by the Sunshine State Standards: an elementary professional for 4th-5th graders, a middle school professional for 6th-8th graders, and a high school professional for 9th-12th graders.

APPLICATION FORM

(please print)

Student name	Age	Grade	
Home address	City	State	ZIP
Parent or guardian	Home phone		
School	Center of Excellence		
Director's use only	Assigned number		