

**March of Dimes
New York State Chapter
Staten Island Division**

Announces the
***Tina Russo
Memorial Convocation***

**Essay Competition
for Students**

Guidelines and Information

SEND ENTRIES TO:

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Tina Russo Memorial Convocation ESSAY COMPETITION QUESTION AND GUIDELINES

Submission due date: February 6, 2009

The Staten Island Division of the March of Dimes is pleased to announce its annual “Essay Competition for Students”. The competition is offered in conjunction with the **Tina Russo Convocation**, which promotes student interest in the field of biomedical science. This year, the convocation will be held on **Friday, March 6, 2009** at the **Institute for Basic Research**. All students from public and private high schools are invited to enter the essay competition which directly relates to the convocation presentation. **The essay winner will receive a cash award of \$250 and their school will be presented with a banner recognizing the winner.**

All entries must be received at the Staten Island March of Dimes office no later than **February 6, 2009**. **No late submissions will be accepted.**




The student essay winner will be notified at least two weeks prior to the convocation and will be expected to attend the event.

All materials submitted will not be returned and are the property of the March of Dimes. It is recommended that the school retains copies of all materials submitted.

THE QUESTION:






“How might accessing personal genetic information affect an individual? Would you have a genome study performed on yourself? Why or why not?”

The prize for the best essay will be awarded to an entry which:

-  provides a clearly presented, creative response to the question;
-  answers the question in appropriate essay format, following the directions below; and
-  provides an accurate and properly listed bibliography if an outside source of information is used.

ESSAY FORMAT (REQUIRED)

Any essay which does not follow this format will not be reviewed.

-  All portions of the essay must be typed;
-  The essay must include a cover page with the title of the essay, author’s name, full home address, name of school, grade, name of teacher sponsoring the student, and the date submitted;
-  The essay should be four to five pages long (exclusive of the cover page and bibliography) and should be double-spaced with one inch margins, a 12 pitch font and page numbering;
-  The essay must contain a bibliography (if outside sources are used) that follows the Little Brown Handbook or comparable format;
-  Each entry must include, on school letter head, a sponsor letter from the teacher and school principal acknowledging the student entrant and their understanding of the rules and stipulations of the competition.