



Linked in Friendship, Connected in Service

Dayton Chapter of The Links, Incorporated  
P.O. Box 381 • Dayton, Ohio 45409-0381

## 2012 Essay Contest Rules

1. **THEME.** Essay must address the theme: “Ready to Serve. What has been your most rewarding public service project and how did it impact you?”
2. **ELIGIBILITY.** Currently enrolled students attending a Montgomery County School (public, parochial, private or equivalent program) in grades 11-12, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.
3. **ESSAY CRITERIA.** Essays must be 1500 words or less and must be written by the student, on 8 ½ x 11” white paper. In addition, essays must be typed and double spaced, English only, properly documented and footnoted to outside sources. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified and any prize(s) awarded will be revoked. Limit one entry per student. **Names should not appear on the essay.**

Prizes will be given directly to the winner. No other arrangements will be made. No cash equivalent or prize substitution will be allowed. If the winner does not and/or is not able to attend the 2012 prom, all or a portion of the prize package may be forfeited, at The Dayton Chapter of The Links’ discretion.

Prize winners will be required to donate four (4) service hours to The Dayton Chapter of The Links, Inc.

5. **ESSAY SUBMISSION.** Entries become the property of The Dayton Chapter of The Links, Inc. and will not be returned. Essays must be postmarked no later than **February 28, 2012**. No partial entries will be accepted. Essay entries can be sent via mail to:

Sebaly Shillito + Dyer, A Legal Professional Association  
40 N. Main St., Ste. 1900  
Dayton, OH 45423  
Attn: Danyelle S.T. Wright, Esq.

Alternatively, essay entries can be emailed to: [Dwright@ssdlaw.com](mailto:Dwright@ssdlaw.com) on or before 5:00 p.m. on **March 2, 2012**. No hand delivered entries or faxes will be accepted.

6. **PRIZES.** One Grand Prize Winner will receive dinner for two, luxury vehicle and/or limousine service, corsage, salon services, to include hair, manicure and pedicure, and reimbursement for two (2) prom tickets up to a \$250 value.

The Second Place Winner will receive a luxury vehicle and/or limousine service, corsage, salon services, to include hair, manicure *or* pedicure, and reimbursement for one (1) prom ticket, up to a \$125 value.

The Third Place Winner will receive a corsage, salon services, to include hair, manicure *or* pedicure, and reimbursement for one (1) prom ticket, up to a \$125 value.

The remaining entrants will have the chance to win a corsage, boutonniere, and/or salon services in a random drawing.

7. **TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF ENTRY.** Entry into this contest implies entrant and parental approval for permission to use the winner's name, essay, and/or likeness in advertising/publicity unless prohibited by law. Entry also releases The Dayton Chapter of the Links, Inc., Clothes That Work and other sponsors from any liability incurred arising out of participation in the 2012 Essay Contest. Prior to the prize award, winners and their parents will be asked to sign a release and consent form. An essay not accompanied by a completed application will not be submitted for judging. All applications must be signed by the student regardless of age, and by the parent of guardian of the entrant.
8. **JUDGING.** Essays will be judged on originality, content, creativity, grammar, punctuation, and vocabulary. The essays will be judged by a panel of judges from the Dayton Chapter of The Links, Inc. The composition of the panel may be changed at any time as to the number of participants without notice; the panel of judges has absolute discretion to choose not to award prizes where no eligible essays are received. All decisions shall be based on the majority of the panel reviewing essays. In the event of a deadlock, the final decisions will rest with The Dayton Chapter of the Links, Inc.
9. **AWARDS NOTIFICATION AND PRESS CONFERENCE.** The winners will be announced on the Clothes That Work website and/or via telephone/email on **March 9, 2012**. Prizes will be awarded at The Fairy Godmother Project prom dress distribution on **March 17, 2012**.
10. For more information, call Danyelle Wright, c/o The Fairy Godmother Essay Contest sponsored by the Dayton Chapter of The Links, Inc. at 937.341.6749.

# 2012 Essay Application and Permission Form

Student's Name: (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

## Check all boxes to verify that your application is complete:

- Signed Application/Permission Form (student and parent/guardian)
- Original essay, within word count limit, conforming to all specifications.
- Student name appears only on this application; it does not appear anywhere on or in the essay; no identifying initials or other marks are on the pages.
- Essay is being submitted prior to the deadline of **March 2, 2012 and or postmarked by February 28, 2012.**

## Permission Form (Required)

### Student Statement and Acknowledgement:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I understand the official rules and guidelines of The Dayton Chapter of The Links, Inc.'s Essay Contest. By signing this form, I certify that my application adheres to the rules and guidelines, and failure to comply with these contest rules will lead to disqualification of my essay from the contest. I know that once I submit my essay, it becomes the property of The Dayton Chapter of The Links, Inc.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sign Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Parent Statement and Acknowledgement:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and reviewed the rules and guidelines for The Dayton Chapter of The Links, Inc.'s Essay Contest and understand that failure to follow the guidelines will result in disqualification of this essay. I approve of my child/guardian's application/ and consent to his/her participation in this competition, and certify that this essay is an original work written by him/her specifically for this contest. I understand that once submitted, it becomes the property of The Dayton Chapter of The Links, Inc.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sign Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian

# Application

To the 2012 Dayton Chapter of The Links, Inc.'s Essay Contest

This application **MUST** be attached to the qualifying essay. An application without an essay is not considered a submission for the purposes of this contest. **All essays must have this application attached.**

**Note: This is the ONLY page where the writer's name will appear on this essay. Do NOT** write your name, initials or other identifying marks on any pages of the attached essay. **Attach this application securely to your essay (staple preferred, if by mail) to prevent it from becoming detached.** Your name and other ID will be removed from this essay before it is seen by judges.

Number of words in attached essay: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name (Print), First: \_\_\_\_\_ Last: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Grade Level:\* \_\_\_\_\_ Name of School: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Other Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School Principal: \_\_\_\_\_

(\*For students in an equivalency program, attach evidence of current classes/grade level)

**Mail or Email Completed Entries (Essay, Application and Permission Forms) to:**

Sebaly Shillito + Dyer, A Legal Professional Association  
40 N. Main St., Ste. 1900  
Dayton, OH 45423  
Attn: Danyelle S.T. Wright, Esq.

No entries will be accepted if postmarked after February 28, 2012.

Email entries accepted through 5pm on March 2, 2012.

No hand deliveries or faxes accepted.