

TENTH ANNUAL

## Child Welfare Fund

# Awards for Youth in Foster Care

New York City Teens Only

**5 Grand Prizes of \$1,000 each**  
**10 Additional Prizes: \$400 - \$600**



represent!

The Child Welfare Fund is sponsoring an award to promote a more positive image of New York City foster youth among agency staff, youth workers and the general public. Fifteen young people will be awarded prize money at a ceremony in June 2008. Five Grand Prize winners will receive \$1,000 each, and 10 First Prize winners will receive \$400-\$600 each. The prize money can be spent however the winner likes, although it is recommended that it be spent on education-related activities.

## General Rules

**Who Can Nominate a Young Person:** Entrants can be nominated by any adult (including teachers, mentors, agency staff, youth workers, religious leaders, foster parents, biological parents). The adult must write a letter of recommendation for the young person. Adults should nominate young people who have shown resilience, helped others and achieved personal and academic success. Each nominator may nominate one young person.

**Who Is Eligible to Be Nominated:** Any current or former foster youth in the New York City foster care system who was born in 1987 or later. People born before 1987 are not eligible.

**Grand Prize winners from previous years are not eligible. Other previous winners may apply.**

**How the winners will be selected:** A judging committee will read all entries and choose the winners. The decision of the judges is final.

*All entries become property of Youth Communication.*

**You have to write two essays for this year's contest. The first essay must be less than 1,000 words. The second essay must be less than 500 words. If your essays are too long it will count against you. Here are the instructions for the two essays:**

**Essay #1. If you could change one thing about your foster care experience, what would it be (and why)?**

**Essay #2. Describe a time when you did something that you felt made a positive impact—on your own life, another person, or the system.**

*Hint: A good essay will include a detailed description of your experience and, most important, reflection on how the experience changed your thinking or inspired you.*

## Deadline: March 3, 2008

for submitting the entry form and all accompanying materials.

### To Apply:

- 1) Complete form on reverse side
- 2) Get adult recommendation
- 3) Write both essays
- 4) Submit packet

For additional forms: [www.youthcomm.org](http://www.youthcomm.org)

Mail to:

Autumn Spanne

Represent-Awards for Youth in Foster Care

224 W. 29<sup>th</sup> St., 2<sup>nd</sup> fl.

New York, NY 10001

**Autumn Spanne at: 212-279-0708 ext. 116**

**Child Welfare  
Fund**

**Deadline: March 3, 2008**

# **Awards for Youth in Foster Care**

New York City Teens Only

Please print neatly or type

Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **Information About the Young Person Being Nominated**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Borough \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Young Person's Agency \_\_\_\_\_

Total Length of Time in Foster Care \_\_\_\_\_ Dates of Time in Foster Care (From \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_)

Current School Grade (if any) \_\_\_\_\_ Current School (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

## **Information About the Adult Making the Nomination**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Agency \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

How Do You Know the Young Person You're Nominating? \_\_\_\_\_

(Note: Each young person must be nominated by an adult. Each application must be accompanied by the items below.)

Attached (Please Staple to This Form):

- "Changing Your Experience"—Essay
- "Positive Impact"—Essay
- Adult Letter of Recommendation

Questions?  
Call Autumn Spanne  
at 212-279-0708,  
ext. 116

### **Mail to: Represent**

Awards for Youth in Foster Care  
224 W. 29th St. 2nd fl.  
New York, NY 10001

Fax: 212-279-8856

(If you fax the entry, please also mail a hard copy.)

**Note:** Do not write, rewrite, or type the essay for your nominee. Feel free to read a draft and ask them questions about their ideas, or make general suggestions, but do not do any of the writing for them. The essay must be the work of the young person. (We're not necessarily looking for a perfectly written essay. While we encourage the young person to get help with proofreading, spelling, and other minor mistakes, in judging them we will give much more weight to the ideas presented than to perfect spelling and grammar.) Please note: We can tell when a young person's essay has been reworked or written by an adult, and that will disqualify it.