



# West Oahu Teen Time Capsule 2020

## Essay & Short Story Creative Writing Contest

### Developing Tomorrow's Leaders - Today:

For today's students, your ability to read, write, and communicate effectively is a critical life skill that can facilitate a lifetime of engagement, thoughtfulness, purpose, curiosity and wonder. West Oahu high-school students are invited to exercise their writing skills and share their thoughts on the events regarding COVID-19.

Specifically, as the world moves through this current COVID-19 pandemic, TeenBuilding USA is giving teens an opportunity to express themselves and share their specific thoughts, fears, hopes and personal experiences through an *Essay & Short Story Creative Writing Contest*. Contest guidelines and prizes are below. See TeenBuildingUSA.org for full Contest rules.

### CREATIVE WRITING ENTRY GUIDELINES

#### **ESSAY guidelines:**

- Min 3000 words, Max 4000 words; Typed, 12-pitch Times New Roman font
- Essay is based on student's experience and discusses any 3 of the following topics:

1. How my life changed during Spring 2020
2. What I learned from the 2020 pandemic
3. My best hopes and worst fears about the 2020 pandemic
4. What my friends and I think about the 2020 pandemic
5. How my family and I are making it through the 2020 pandemic
6. The pros and cons of mandatory social distancing
7. How I received, gave, and managed information during the pandemic
8. The four ways the pandemic changed my family's life
9. The pandemic changed my world, because it changed the world by...
10. If I was in charge during the pandemic, this is what I would have done

#### **SHORT STORY guidelines:**

- Min 3000 words, Max 4000 words; Typed, 12-pitch Times New Roman font
- Create a fictional character;
- Write a story about what their life was like before, during & after the pandemic.

#### **ALL ENTRIES must be:**

- Uploaded as a pdf via the TeenBuilding USA website (see link below); or
- Mailed to TeenBuilding USA and postmarked by 11:59 pm HST May 29, 2020.

**Maximum and Minimum word counts must be strictly followed (3000/4000)**

### PRIZES

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Place Essay & 1<sup>st</sup> Place Short Story**

1. **FREE Chromebook laptop**
2. **Publication of the essay in the upcoming published book "West Oahu Teen Time Capsule 2020"**
3. **5 personal copies of the book "West Oahu Teen Time Capsule 2020"**

#### **Top 20 Essays & Short Stories**

1. **Top 10 essays will be published in "West Oahu Teen Time Capsule 2020"**
2. **Top 10 short stories will also be published in the book**
3. **All Top-10 winners will receive 5 copies of the published book**

TeenBuilding USA is partnering with a publisher and printer to facilitate a published compilation of the top 20 entries into the forthcoming book titled "West Oahu Teen Time Capsule 2020," which will be available for sale on Amazon and other major distributors.

## HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR ENTRY

- ◆ Contest entries accepted until May 29, 2020
- ◆ To enter online visit [www.teenbuildingusa.org/essay-contest.html](http://www.teenbuildingusa.org/essay-contest.html)
- ◆ To enter by mail: TeenBuilding USA, P O Box 2269, Ewa Beach, HI 96706