

**STUDENT AWARD FOR THE HEALTH AND DIGNITY OF WOMEN
PRESENTED BY AMERICANS FOR UNFPA**

The Student Award for the Health and Dignity of Women will recognize one student who demonstrates commitment to women's health and/or the promotion of rights of women.

AWARD

The winner will:

1. Travel with Americans for UNFPA staff for five days (approximately) in July 2009 to visit field programs and meet one of the 2009 Americans for UNFPA International Honorees to increase your global understanding of the health and rights of women.*
2. Guest-blog on a leading publication website and AmericansforUNFPAblogspot.com about trip, and participate in media interviews.
3. Lobby your Representatives in Congress about your trip and the need for U.S. support for UNFPA.
4. Host an on-campus awareness-building event about global women's health and dignity in the year after you return from your trip. Americans for UNFPA staff will work with you to help prepare for this event and for your lobby visits to local elected officials.

CRITERIA

The award winner must be a full-time, non-graduating, undergraduate student in the United States with a demonstrated interest and commitment to improving her contribution to the health and rights of women. The awardee must be eligible to vote in the United States. Applicants should:

- Hope to improve the ways that government agencies, non-profit organizations, or educational institutions support the health and dignity of women;
- Have community service or extra curricular experiences that demonstrate an interest in collaboration, activism, leadership and/or global change; and
- Be a culturally sensitive, open-minded, team player with values consistent with UNFPA's mission;

SUBMISSION/SELECTION PROCESS

Short essays, reference info and resume must be *received* by March 9, 2009 at noon. The contest winner will be announced on March 31, 2009.

Send application and essays to: studentaward@americansforunfpa.org.

Or to Americans for UNFPA Student Award, 370 Lexington Avenue, Suite 702, NY, NY 10017.

Americans for UNFPA will cull the nominations to the 12 most inspiring essays. A selection committee of individuals with expertise in the health and rights of women will select the winner from this pool. For the latest details on the contest visit www.americansforunfpa.org or our page on Facebook.

ESSAY QUESTIONS (PLEASE WRITE TWO SEPARATE ESSAYS)

- Discuss why the American people and our government should support UNFPA in its mission to improve the health and rights of women around the world. (300-500 words).
- Discuss how you personally hope to play a role in improving the rights and health of women worldwide, and how experiencing UNFPA programs firsthand would make you a better advocate than you currently are. (300-500 words).

* 2009 International Honorees are selected in early May and their location will determine the Student Award winner's destination. Past honorees were from Cambodia, Ecuador, Madagascar, Malawi, Mexico, Mongolia, Nepal, Niger and Yemen.

**AMERICANS FOR UNFPA
ESSAY CONTEST FOR THE HEALTH AND DIGNITY OF WOMEN**

Name of Applicant: _____

Name of University: _____ Expected Graduation Date: _____

University Department/Major: _____

Contact Information

Address: _____

Telephone number: _____ E-mail address: _____

____ Yes, I am enrolled full-time as an undergraduate at a U.S. institution.

____ Yes, I am eligible to vote in the U.S.

Letter of Reference: Please provide a brief letter of reference from a teacher, supervisor, community leader or other person (not related to you) who can discuss your readiness and interest in joining Americans for UNFPA on trip to visit field programs. During the selection process your reference may be contacted directly.

Referee contact information:

Name of Referee: _____

Relationship to Applicant: _____

Contact Information

Address: _____

Telephone number: _____ E-mail address: _____

Resume or Activity Sheet: Please submit an up-to-date resume, activity sheet or bio with documentation of extracurricular involvement, community service, work experience and/or related coursework.

Note: Applicants are welcome to provide additional information, however, decisions will be made primarily on the answers to the two essay questions. Applicants are encouraged to visit www.americansforunfpa.org or Americans for UNFPA on facebook to learn more about the mission of the organization. Though health and rights of women involve many issues, please target your essay to address one or more of the following: safe motherhood, family planning, HIV prevention, prevention of gender-based violence and promotion of education for women/girls. To comply with UN policy, we ask that you refrain from discussing the topic of abortion in your essays.