Tusculum College 2015 Finish Strong Scholarship Essay Contest
Official Contest Rules

A complete copy of these rules can be obtained from the sponsor, Tusculum College, at the admissions office of Tusculum College, Virginia Hall, 60 Shiloh Road, Greeneville, TN 37743, during the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, or by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Finish Strong Contest Rules, Tusculum College, P.O. Box 5051, Greeneville, TN 37743.

Tusculum College will conduct the Tusculum College Finish Strong Scholarship Giveaway Essay Contest (the "Contest") as described in these "Official Rules." By participating, each participant acknowledges receiving and agrees to be bound by the Official Rules, as follows:

1. No purchase is necessary to participate in the Contest. The offer to participate in the Contest is void where prohibited. All federal, state, and local regulations apply.

2. The Contest is open only to legal U.S. residents age 18 or older with a valid Social Security Number at the time of entry. Residents of Arizona, Connecticut, Maryland and Vermont are not eligible to enter or win. Additional eligibility restrictions apply as provided below. Currently enrolled Tusculum College students are ineligible to enter or win.

3. In order to be eligible to win, the entrant must also meet the following requirements:
   a. The entrant must have submitted an application to the undergraduate degree programs of Tusculum College and been accepted for admission under its standard admissions criteria, which Tusculum College will apply without regard to whether an applicant submits an entry to the Contest. The entrant must pay the costs of the examination fees and processing fees charged to obtain the information necessary to complete the applicant's application.
   b. Transfer applicants and persons previously enrolled at Tusculum College who have disenrolled and are applying to re-enroll are eligible for the Contest. Students on leaves of absence or returning from leaves of absence are not eligible to enter or win.
   c. In addition to the essay, an entrant must submit official transcripts of all college level work from regionally accredited schools demonstrating: (a) a minimum of 2.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale, and (b) the equivalent of 54 semester hours or an Associate's degree.
   d. Transfer applicants with 45 to 54 credit hours may apply for admission; however, the applicant must meet with a Tusculum College enrollment representative or academic advisor to develop a specific written plan to outline how the applicant will complete the undergraduate degree-completion program within a reasonable amount of time after completing the required coursework at Tusculum College prior to completion of the admissions process. Tusculum College will not be responsible for paying the fees associated with any general education, Gateway or prerequisite courses necessary prior to enrolling in the selected degree-completion program.

4. The entrant must submit an essay, in addition to the submissions that are part of the application process, describing how obtaining an undergraduate degree from Tusculum College will transform the entrant's life. There is no charge or fee to submit the essay or enter the Contest. The essay submitted must contain between 250 and 500 words to be...
considered a valid entry. In addition to the required essay submission, entrants are encouraged to promote actively their participation in the Scholarship Contest via social media, using #finishstrong. Social media participation is not part of the criteria for eligibility or for judging the best essays.

5. Each entrant may submit only one essay for the Contest. One entry may be submitted per person, per email address. The contest will begin on September 1, 2015 and will end at 5:00 p.m. eastern time on September 30, 2015 (the "Contest Period"). All entries must be received by September 30, 2015 at 5 p.m. eastern time.

6. To enter, the essay must be submitted in writing to the Tusculum College admissions office. Entrants may visit Tusculum College's "Finish Strong Scholarship" website at www.tusculum.edu/finishstrong.

7. Tusculum College employees and their immediate family members and household members are not eligible to participate in the scholarship giveaway. Employees, agents, representatives, or affiliates of the media stations used to advertise the Contest: radio stations, television stations and print advertising companies serving the Knoxville metro area, and their immediate family members and household members are not eligible to participate. The term "immediate family members" includes spouses, parents, siblings, grandparents, children, grandchildren, and cohabiting significant others.

8. An individual may win a Contest sponsored by Tusculum College in which a Tusculum College scholarship is the prize awarded only once in any six month period.

9. An individual who wins the Contest will be eligible to enter and win future essay contests for scholarship prizes sponsored by Tusculum College but will be ineligible to enter and win any other seasonal or one-time contests sponsored by Tusculum College.

10. Tusculum College reserves the right to limit the number of times an individual may enter a contest or drawing, and may change eligibility and entry criteria for future essay and other contests.

11. The Contest has two rounds. After all the eligible entries have been reviewed, five (5) entrants will be selected from all eligible entries as finalists for the grand prize before the announcement event at the Tusculum College Knoxville location on October 22, 2015. Tusculum College will judge the quality of the essays of the finalists and select the winner as the best written essay on the basis of content, clarity, succinctness and composition quality. Each finalist must be present in person at the grand prize event to win. The finalist must pay his or her own expenses to attend the event.

12. If Tusculum College determines that the entrant with the winning draw is not eligible to receive the grand prize or is not present at the grand prize event, in Tusculum College's sole judgment and discretion, another candidate from among the finalists will be selected and subject to eligibility confirmation. This process of selecting from among the finalists and eligibility confirmation will continue until such time as an eligible candidate for the grand prize winner is selected and confirmed. In the unlikely event that no finalists are found to meet the eligibility criteria of these Official Rules, then the prize will not be awarded. There is no guarantee that the finalists who are selected as the writers of the best essays will be confirmed as eligible under these Official Rules. The finalists and the grand prize winner will be determined at Tusculum College's sole
discretion. Tusculum College, in its sole discretion, may waive the requirement of presence at the grand prize event if the winner is absent for good cause beyond his or her control.

13. One (1) grand prize will be awarded. The grand prize package consists of a tuition-paid scholarship to one of Tusculum College’s degree-completion programs which can be redeemed at any of the Knoxville, Morristown and Greeneville locations and can be applied to pay all of the regular tuition charges for an undergraduate degree-completion program in Business Administration (BSBA), Management (BSM), Interdisciplinary Studies (Education, K-5) and Psychology - Behavioral Health (BABH). Enrollment into one of the four undergraduate degree- completion programs is subject to availability at the respective class location. The winner is responsible for paying all other charges, fees and amounts payable by a student enrolled in the program, and will not be eligible to receive any additional institutional-based scholarships. The prize may be combined with other forms of financial aid available through Tusculum College.

14. All expenses and fees associated with the grand prize not expressly included in the foregoing prize description are the sole responsibility of the winner.

15. Odds of winning depend on a number of factors including the number of eligible essay entries received and eligible entrants participating at any given time.

16. The winner is solely responsible for all Federal, state and local income and other taxes, duties, tariffs, title fees, licensing fees, or other fees for the prize awarded and filing of all returns and notices required by applicable law. All persons who win a prize or prizes valued at $600 or more in any given calendar year will be issued an IRS Form 1099 to report the winnings.

17. All prizes are awarded "as is, where is." Prizes are nontransferable and cannot be exchanged, assigned or converted into cash or its equivalent. No substitute prize or cash equivalent value will be awarded to a winner who declines to accept a prize.

18. All prizes must be claimed in person during regular business hours of the admissions office and within ten (10) business days of winning. After such time, ownership of said prize reverts back to the college to be disposed of at its discretion. The winner then loses all claims and rights to said prize. Proper identification in the form of a government issued identification card such as a driver's license or U.S. passport must be presented by any winner to claim prize. As a condition to receiving the prize, any potential winner must complete and sign a Winner's Affidavit and Release, releasing Tusculum College and the media participants from all liability in connection with winner's participation in the contest and acceptance, use, or non-use of the contest prize.

19. All entrants and winners agree that Tusculum College and the media partners used to advertise the Contest shall have no liability for any injury, misfortune, or damage to either persons or property incurred by entering, participating in, winning or losing any contest and/or by the acceptance, use, or non-use of any prize received in connection with this Contest. Tusculum College may announce the grand prize winner on social media controlled by it but has no responsibility for any social media posting that follows by third parties.
20. All essays, entry blanks, forms, devices, and materials gathered during the course of entry, as well as all information contained on or within, shall become the sole property of Tusculum College to be used, disposed of, or destroyed in its sole discretion. Tusculum College and the media participants used are not responsible for any incorrect or inaccurate information entered by website users, and assume no responsibility for any error, omission, interruption, deletion, defect, delay in operation or transmission, communications line failure, theft or destruction, or unauthorized access to the Tusculum College.

21. All entrants and winners agree to give Tusculum College the irrevocable and unrestricted right to use, re-use, broadcast, post on social media, or publish their name, city of residence, photo, video tape, film or any other likeness, including portraits and pictures, in whole or in part, as part of a composite, retouched or distorted in character or form, and winner's voice, recorded or live, for any reason Tusculum College deems necessary without compensation, unless prohibited by law. All winners release, discharge, and agree to hold Tusculum College and the media participants harmless from any and all claims they may have against Tusculum College and the media participants in connection with the taking, production, or the use of winners' name, city of residence, any photo, video tape, film or any other likeness, including portraits and pictures, in whole or in part, as part of a composite, retouched, or distorted in character or form and without restrictions as to any changes, transformations or alterations, and including winners' voices, recorded or live. All winners further acknowledge that Tusculum College and the media participants owns or will own exclusively any photographs of such winners used for such purposes, including the copyrights in them, regardless of the form in which they have been or may be produced and used, and all winners assign all such ownership rights to Tusculum College.

22. By participating in the Contest, each participant agrees to receive email communications from Tusculum College regarding events and other contests. Any participant that opts-out of these mailings will also remove themselves from the contest.

23. By participating in the Contest, participants agree to be bound by the decisions of Tusculum College personnel. Persons who violate any rule, gain unfair advantage in participating in the Contest, or obtain winner status using fraudulent means will be disqualified. Unsportsmanlike, disruptive, annoying, harassing or threatening behavior is prohibited. Tusculum College will interpret these rules and resolve any disputes, conflicting claims or ambiguities concerning the rules or the Contest and the College's decisions concerning such disputes shall be final. If the conduct or outcome of the Contest is affected by human error, any mechanical malfunctions or failures of any kind, intentional interference or any event beyond the control of Tusculum College, the College reserves the right to terminate this Contest, or make such other decisions regarding the administration or outcome as Tusculum College deems appropriate. All decisions made by Tusculum College are final. Tusculum College reserves the right to waive or modify any of these rules at its sole discretion, with or without notice to entrants and prospective entrants. Tusculum College reserves the right to take appropriate legal action against any person, party or group that makes any effort to disrupt, prevent, influence, or adversely affect the conduct or outcome of the Contest, including without limitation disciplinary action against students for violation of the Code of Conduct.
24. By participating in this contest, each participant agrees to waive any and all claims for damages for death, personal injury, loss of property or property damage that he or she may sustain as a result of his or her participation in the contest and/or the use of any prize, and any damages or losses arising from the implementation or carrying out of the contest or any participant's failure to win the contest or receive the prize, and to release Tusculum College, the media participants, their subsidiaries, affiliates, directors, officers, employees, agents, and all contest sponsors from any and all liability arising out of or connected in any way with his or her participation in the contest, even though that liability may arise out of an intentional act, omission, negligence or carelessness on the part of the persons or entities mentioned above.

25. Information regarding the total number of entrants, the percentage of entrants who became finalists and the names of the finalists and winner may be obtained 10 days after the grand prize drawing by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to the following address: 2015 Scholarship Essay Contest, Tusculum College, 60 Shiloh Road, P.O. Box 5051, Greeneville, TN 37743. Requests must be received by December 31, 2015. Requests received after that date will not receive a reply.

26. The Contest will be governed by the laws of the State of Tennessee. Contest entrants, finalists, winners and other parties having an interest in the Contest submit and consent to the exclusive personal jurisdiction of and venue in the courts of the State of Tennessee situated in Greene County, Tennessee and the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee for all cases and controversies related to the Contest.