



The Mental Health Association of the North Shore

presents

Additional Information on the High School Writing Competition

**Topic: "What It's Like, or Must Be Like,
To Grow Up as a Female in the 21st Century"**

Something to think about!

"What is the difference between the teenage years for girls in the 21st century and what was it like to be a teenager for your mother, aunt or grandmother?"

How do situations in society today help girls to grow up more prepared to be an adult, or force them to have to grow up and take adult responsibility too soon?

What actions or decisions of girls help or hurt their inner emotional growth?

What are we looking for?

- The essay should be no more than 500 words, typed and double-spaced using a standard 12 point font.
- Include examples and/or personal experiences that tell a powerful and compelling story.
- Your story must relate directly to the topic and have a clear beginning, middle and end.
- Correct spelling, sentence structure & punctuation is important.
- ***Most importantly, express your unique voice!***

1st prize: \$750

2nd Prize: \$500

3rd Prize: \$250

Honorable Mentions: \$50

PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE YOUR NAME OR ANY IDENTIFYING INFORMATION ON YOUR ESSAY! Instead, attach a separate cover sheet with your name, address, phone number, email address, school and grade level. Mail entries to: Mental Health Association of the North Shore, 2120 Lincoln Street, Evanston, Illinois 60201.

Entries must postmarked on or before April 15, 2008. Questions? Contact us at www.mhans.org

Essays will have all identifying information removed. They will be read anonymously by an independent panel of judges. All entries become the property of the Mental Health Association of the North Shore and may be published with the author's permission.

Supported by a generous grant from the Naomi Ruth Cohen Charitable Foundation