



Sam Houston State University  
Barkats Read to Succeed  
Freshman Essay Contest  
New Student Orientation Program



### Purpose

This essay competition encourages and recognizes incoming freshmen who read and write about the 2012-2013 Barkats Read to Succeed common reader, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, by Rebecca Skloot.

### Essay Topic

The essay should be a short personal narrative related to one of the following themes: coping with illness, overcoming adversity, or confronting an ethical dilemma.

### Eligibility

The contest is open to all freshmen who enroll full-time (minimum 12 hours) at Sam Houston State University in the Fall 2012 semester.

### Prize

A scholarship valued at \$500 will be awarded to the freshman student submitting the winning essay. The winner will also be recognized at the David "Sonny" Lacks student dinner on November 8, 2012.

### Application

Essays must be submitted by October 24, 2012, to [wctr@shsu.edu](mailto:wctr@shsu.edu). Electronic email submissions are preferred. Submissions should be sent as email attachments (Microsoft Word documents, RTF files, or PDF files only). Submissions by traditional mail are also acceptable. Please mail submissions to:

Ann Theodori, Director  
Sam Houston Writing Center  
Campus Box 2333  
Huntsville, TX 77341

### Rules of the Contest

1. All applicants must be freshmen enrolled at Sam Houston State University full-time during the Fall 2012 academic term.
2. All essays must be typed, double-spaced, on white, 8 1/2" x 11" paper and free of any remarks or grade.
3. All submissions must include the submission cover form information on the next page. The essay itself must not contain the student's name since essays will be evaluated anonymously. In other words, the cover form should be the first page of your essay submission. (The cover form will not count toward the word count in the essay.)
4. A student may submit only one entry.
5. Winners will be notified by the Sam Houston State University Writing Center.
6. There is no minimum length requirement. The maximum length is 1000 words.

Sponsored by the Sam Houston State University New Student Orientation Program  
Office of the Vice President for Enrollment Management



SUBMISSION COVER FORM  
The 2012 – 2013  
Sam Houston State University  
Barkats Read to Succeed  
Fall 2012 Freshman Essay Contest

Entry due no later than 4 p.m. Wednesday October 24, 2012

Sam Houston State University Writing Center  
Ann Theodori, Director  
Sam Houston Writing Center  
Campus Box 2333  
Huntsville, TX 77341

Electronic email submissions: [wctr@shsu.edu](mailto:wctr@shsu.edu)

Student's Full Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Student's ID Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Student Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

I am submitting an original essay for the Barkats Read to Succeed  
Fall 2012 Freshman Essay Contest. I certify that this essay is my own work.  
I understand that my essay will not be returned to me and may be used by  
Sam Houston State University for publication in promotional materials.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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