



Juvenile Welfare Board
Investing in children. Strengthening our community.

H. Browning Spence Education Award Nomination Criteria

Thank you for considering nominating a young person for the **H. Browning Spence Education Awards**, monetary awards to assist with the educational needs of promising youth who are preparing to exit or who have exited the local foster care system, or for youth who are homeless.

PURPOSE: The special role of the **H. Browning Spence Education Awards** is to assist youth ages 17 to 21 who desire to further their education or career goals but may be struggling due to financial or other circumstances. The award was created in 2010 to honor JWB Deputy Director Dr. H. Browning Spence and his twenty-four years of service to the Juvenile Welfare Board, as well as his career of dedication to the well-being of Pinellas County children.

FINANCIAL AWARDS: Each year, three promising youth ages 17 to 21, who are preparing or who have already exited the Pinellas foster care system, receive a monetary award of \$1,000 each.

ELIGIBILITY:

- Youth ages 17 to 21 who are preparing to exit or who have already exited foster care and who lived or are living in Pinellas County are eligible for an award.
- Nominations must be made using the online form and received by the deadline below to be considered. Nominators are encouraged to make multiple nominations using the online form. **A brief essay written by the youth being nominated must be attached/uploaded with the online nomination form.**
- All youth nominated must be available to attend the Annual Cooperman-Bogue KidsFirst Awards Luncheon on Friday, May 3, 2019 from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM at the Hilton St. Petersburg Carillon Park where they will be publically acknowledged and will receive their monetary awards during the luncheon program.
- Youth recipients are asked to give brief remarks at the luncheon event, sharing what the award means to them and reading a brief excerpt from their nomination essay. JWB will provide a youth speakers' coach to assist in preparing winners for their brief speeches.

NOMINATIONS & SUBMISSION DEADLINE: **Nomination deadline is Wednesday April 10, 2019 at 5:00 PM.** The online nomination form can be found by [CLICKING HERE](#). As part of the nomination process, a brief essay written by the youth nominee must be attached (uploaded) with the online nomination form. All questions should be directed to JWB Strategic Communications Manager April Putzulu at aputzulu@jwbpinellas.org or (727) 453-5677.

REVIEW & SELECTION: All eligible nominations will be reviewed and ranked by a selection committee that includes individuals from the Spence Family and JWB Board.

AWARDS: Awards will be announced in early April 2019, at which time the nominator and recipient will be notified. All youth recipients will be honored during the **25th Annual Cooperman-Bogue KidsFirst Awards Luncheon on Friday, May 3, 2019 from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM at the Hilton St. Petersburg Carillon Park** where awards will be made during the luncheon program. Youth recipients and one guest each will receive complimentary tickets to the luncheon, along with assistance for appropriate event attire and speakers' training.