

# **The Frederick Douglass Institute At West Chester University of PA Dr Patricia Grasty Gaines Book Award**

“Where justice is denied, where poverty is enforced, where ignorance prevails, and where any one class is made to feel that society is in an organized conspiracy to oppress, rob, and degrade them, neither persons nor property will be safe.”

-Frederick Douglass  
Abolitionist and Human Rights Advocate  
1817-1895

The Frederick Douglass Institute invites applications for the Dr Patricia Grasty Gaines Book Award for academic excellence, leadership, and community service. This award provides deserving students with grants for textbooks. In recognition of the value that Douglass placed on Education, Literacy, and Social Justice, and in memory of Dr Grasty Gaines, the Frederick Douglass Institute presents worthy recipients with financial support to purchase books. With each Award given, the spirit of Douglass stands alongside the recipient, passing on the keys to freedom, education, and self-empowerment.

To be considered for the award, students must have a cumulative G.P.A. of at least 2.75. They must be enrolled in a full time academic program at WCU, and in good academic standing. Graduate students must be enrolled in minimum of 9 credits, and undergraduate 12 credits. Students must complete an application and meet the criteria indicated on the application form.

**Dr Patricia Grasty Gaines Book Award - (four awards of \$500 each) - will be presented at the annual Frederick Douglass Institute Multi-Cultural Leadership Dinner on **Thursday, May 2, 2013. Award Recipients must attend the dinner to receive their award.****

**Book Award recipients are expected to participate in FDI activities and serve as FDI ambassadors during the 2013-2014 academic year.**

***Please submit all of your materials by Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> by 6:30pm, to [FDOUGLASS@WCUPA.EDU](mailto:FDOUGLASS@WCUPA.EDU) OR Frederick Douglass Institute, Rm. 408 in the Francis Harvey Green Library***

Need more information? Join us on Face book

# Application for Frederick Douglass Institute Dr Patricia Grasty Gaines Book Award

## PART I - Please Print Clearly

### Personal Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ WCU ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(City) \_\_\_\_\_ (State) \_\_\_\_\_ (ZIP) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent address (if different from current):  
\_\_\_\_\_

(City) \_\_\_\_\_ (State) \_\_\_\_\_ (ZIP) \_\_\_\_\_

### Education Information:

Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Placement Year: \_\_\_ Freshman \_\_\_ Sophomore \_\_\_ Junior \_\_\_ Senior \_\_\_ Grad. Student

Overall GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ Expected date of completion: \_\_\_\_\_

### Your Complete Application must include:

1. Application (please specify which award you are apply for)
2. A 200 word paragraph of biographical information about yourself
3. A 400-word essay on **Education, Literacy, and Social Justice**
  - Please see the next page for possible essay topics
4. Most recent unofficial transcript
5. Resume

Send Completed Application in a single word document by April 24, 2013 at 6:30pm to the Frederick Douglass Institute in Francis Harvey Green Library Room 408 or by email at [fdouglass@wcupa.edu](mailto:fdouglass@wcupa.edu)

## **Application for Frederick Douglass Institute Dr Patricia Grasty Gaines Book Award**

**Biographical Essay** (200-word essay): A biographical essay should be about yourself and can reflect a number of topics relating to your academic career, future goals, your relationship to Frederick Douglass, etc.

### **Essay Topic: “Education, Literacy, and Social Justice**

Your essay can focus on a number themes relating to topic. Potential essays may include but are not limited to the following:

- How recent events in Libya, Iran, the United States, and other countries have tackled issues related to human rights.
- How social networks such as Facebook and MySpace, the internet, and cell phones have become resourceful tools for documenting struggles for human rights.
- How threats against human rights affect international relations and efforts for peace and communication.
- Charter Schools vs. Public Schools and the concern over segregated education
- Dream Act and Citizenship
- Don’t Ask Don’t Tell and the Military
- Gay Marriage
- Health Care
- Unemployment Discrimination and the Recession
- Age, race, gender, religious, physical handicap discrimination
- Diversity in the classroom and the dorm room
- Race relations in an Election year.

**You may also focus on any of the following quotes by Frederick Douglass.**

- “No Man can put a chain about the ankle of his fellow man without at last finding the other end fastened about his own neck” Douglass
- “To suppress free speech is a double wrong. It violates the rights of the hearer as well as those of the speaker.”
- “Knowledge make a man unfit to be a slave.”
- “When I ran away from Slavery, It was for me; when I advocated emancipation, it was for my people; but when I stood up for the rights of women, self was out of the question, and I found a little nobility in the act.”