



dear cancer,
it's me

An essay contest
for high school students
to share their stories about
living with cancer.

Essay Contest Guidelines

ETHICS STATEMENT

No purchase or obligation necessary. Essay submissions will be evaluated in a fair and unbiased multi-round judging process.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Students in the 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th grades.
2. Open to students attending schools located from Van Nuys to Santa Maria, California.

ENTRY RULES

1. Each student may submit only 1 essay.
2. Entrants from last year may re-apply, however essays must be new and original for this contest. You may not re-submit last year's essay.
3. The essay must be the work of a single student and authored by the student.
4. Essay length must be between 500–2,000 words.
5. Essays must be **TYPED, DOUBLE SPACED, 12 POINT FONT** and **SUBMITTED BY MAIL OR E-MAIL (.doc, .docx, .pdf)**.
6. Each essay must include the "Dear Cancer, It's Me..." Teen Essay Contest entry form.
7. Entries must be submitted/postmarked by Thursday, February 28 by midnight. Late entries will not be accepted.
Finalists will be announced the week of March 11, 2019.
8. Awards ceremony will be held on Sunday, April 14, 1:00–3:00 pm.

PRIZES

There are two essay contest categories; 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards will be awarded in both categories.

1. Personal Category – your own cancer
 2. Family & Friend's Category – your loved one's cancer
- 1st place: \$1500 + invitation to the 2019 CSCVSB Gala (Saturday, April 27, 2019) for the winner and one guest
2nd Place: \$1000
3rd Place: \$500

HOW WILL MY ENTRY BE JUDGED?

Personal Voice: Judges will look for an interesting and engaging essay told in your own words. The essay should describe your experience and an overall message about how your experience impacted your life.

Clarity and Style: Judges will look for a clear and consistent focus in your writing and a logical progression of ideas. Good grammar, accurate word choices, correct punctuation and sentence structure is required.

Essay submissions deadline is
Thursday, February 28, 2019
by midnight!

Email your completed essay to:
dearcanceritsme@gmail.com

or mail to:

Cancer Support Community Valley/Ventura/Santa Barbara
Attention: Nikki Amores
530 Hampshire Road, Westlake Village, CA 91361
Mailed entries must be received by February 28, 2019