



**Environmental Center**

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For Immediate Release

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**Four CU Boulder undergraduates will win \$1000 scholarships.**

*The Focus the Nation Climate Change Essay Contest*

Focus the Nation is coordinating teams of faculty and students at over a thousand colleges, universities and K-12 schools in the United States, to collaboratively engage in a nationwide, interdisciplinary discussion about “**Global Warming Solutions for America.**” Focus the Nation will culminate January 31, 2008, in the form of national symposia held simultaneously at over one thousand venues across the country.

As part of the University of Colorado at Boulder’s contribution to Focus the Nation Day, the CU Environmental Center and the Division of Continuing Education and Professional Studies is sponsoring an interdisciplinary essay contest. This is students’ chance to get involved and participate in this historic national event. The committee is looking for essays from the next generation of people who will have to live and work with climate change as a reality. A \$1,000 scholarship, and the invitation to speak at the capstone event on Focus the Nation Day, will be awarded to the winning essay in each category. All essays will be considered for publication on the Sustainable Practices online community. In order to encourage essays from a broad range of perspectives, the committee will accept essays in the four categories, as outlined below.

**Category Descriptions:**

*Policy and Technology:* including but not limited to the role of government, science, research and development, educational institutions, political movements and NGOs, etc.

*Motivating Change:* including but not limited to finding the right message and the right medium, getting people to care, creating international support, moving beyond the fatalistic viewpoint, re-localization and community building, and celebrating the transformative potential of climate change, etc.

*Business Obligations and Opportunities in Response to Climate Change:* including but not limited to how to remain profitable while addressing climate change, using the



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economy to combat climate change, new business sectors and opportunities for carbon mitigation, corporate responsibility and global business approaches, etc.

*Creative and Cultural Expression on Climate Change:* This catch-all category allows participants to express their viewpoints outside of the prescribed categories above. Surprise us with the connections between climate change and your academic discipline.

Papers must be written within the context of one of these categories, and the category must be indicated on the title page. The word count for submissions should be between 1,000 and 2,000 words. Essays will be judged on good writing, sound arguments, innovative ideas and adherence to submission guidelines. All essays must be submitted electronically to [FTNessay@colorado.edu](mailto:FTNessay@colorado.edu) no later than midnight on January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

In addition to the four \$1000 scholarships, the committee is hoping to add additional prizes from local associations and merchants. By participating in this contest, applicants are agreeing to allow CU's Division of Continuing Education to publish their essay in educational and promotional contexts. For submission details and more information please visit:

<http://www.colorado.edu/ContinuingEducation/sustainable/focusthenation.htm>