

**MERCAZ USA/CANADA - WOMEN'S LEAGUE FOR CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM
ESSAY CONTEST**

AWARDS: FIVE SCHOLARSHIPS IN THE AMOUNTS OF: \$1,000, \$600, \$400 and \$250 (2 X)

ELIGIBILITY:

Applicants must be 14 - 19 years of age

Applicants must be members of a Conservative congregation.

Scholarship will apply to any Conservative movement sponsored Israel program

This year we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the State of Israel. While sixty years of independence is not a lot compared to countries like the United States and Canada, it is certainly an impressive achievement, given the challenges, both external and internal, with which Israel has had to contend since its founding in 1948.

This year's essay question is "Israel at 60: Achievements and Challenges". The question, composed of two required parts, focuses on the past and on the future of the State of Israel:

1. Part One – The Past: Please select one achievement over the past sixty years that you would deem as the most significant that Israel has accomplished since its founding and explain your selection.
2. Part Two – The Future: Please select one challenge facing Israel today that you would deem as the most important issue that needs to be resolved in the future and explain your selection.

While you are free in your selection of the achievement and challenge to discuss, you need to justify your choices within your essay.

FORMAT: Up to 500 words - Typed and double-spaced, accompanied by a passport-size photo. (It is also recommended that the essays be sent in electronically to info@mercazusa.org)

DEADLINE: Postmarked no later than September 25th, 2008, and

MAILED TO: MERCAZ USA/CANADA/Women's League for Conservative Judaism Essay Contest

820 Second Avenue, 10th Floor

OR

1000 Finch Avenue West, #508

New York, NY 10017

Toronto, Ontario M3J 2V5

MUST INCLUDE: Entry form (2nd page) which must serve as title page.

Entry forms are available from MERCAZ USA tel: 212-533-2061, or e-mail: info@mercazusa.org

OR from MERCAZ-CANADA tel: 416-667-1717 or e-mail: mercaz-masorti@intr.net

Entry Forms may also be downloaded from the MERCAZ USA website: www.mercazusa.org.

**WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED DURING THE WOMEN'S LEAGUE CONVENTION,
NOVEMBER 9-12, 2008, AND WILL BE PERSONALLY NOTIFIED THE FOLLOWING DAY.**

MERCAZ USA/CANADA – WOMEN’S LEAGUE FOR CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

ESSAY CONTEST

ENTRY FORM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY / STATE or PROVINCE ZIP or POSTAL CODE

DATE OF BIRTH: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

CONGREGATION: _____

CITY / STATE or PROVINCE ZIP or POSTAL CODE

SCHOOL as of Fall '08: _____

GRADE as of Fall '08: _____

ISRAEL PROGRAM(S) APPLYING FOR (Optional):

