

PRESS RELEASE ENLACE FLORIDA 4202 E. Fowler Avenue, SOC 107 Tampa, FL 33620

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COLLEGE STUDENTS TO SHARE "THEIR STORY" IN STATEWIDE ESSAY CONTEST

~Top winner will be announced April 15th in Tallahassee and will receive \$1,000 cash~

Tampa, FL- ENLACE Florida today launched a statewide essay contest for undergraduate college students in Florida asking students to share "their story" of overcoming barriers in getting to college. "This contest gives students across our state an opportunity to share their unique stories of how they overcame obstacles early in life to make it to college," said Paul Dosal, Ph.D., Executive Director for ENLACE Florida. "Through this contest we are able to celebrate student's early accomplishments while encouraging them to continue reaching for higher success," said Undergraduate students attending UCF, USF, FIU, FAU, FSU, UF, FAMU, and Dosal. Hillsborough Community College are eligible to participate. Select participants may be invited to attend ENLACE Florida Day in Tallahassee scheduled for April 15, 2008 where over 200 college students from around the state are expected to meet with state legislators and higher education officials. "There are many untold stories and personal experiences out there that we need to hear and learn about," said Braulio Colón, Assistant Director for ENLACE Florida. "These experiences of overcoming barriers to get to college may help in identifying systemic solutions that will improve college readiness, and access in Florida," said Colón. Contest winners will be announced on April 15th in Tallahassee with the top three winners receiving \$1,000, \$500, and \$250. The contest deadline is March 31, 2008. For more information on how to enter, please visit: www.enlaceflorida.org or call (813)974-3897.

ENLACE FLORIDA is a statewide network funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and managed by NCCEP to promote college readiness, access, and success for Latinos, African-Americans, and other underrepresented students through non-partisan research, communication, advocacy, and support.