

In recognition of National Women's History Month in March, the Helen M. Upton Center for Women's Studies at Russell Sage College is proud to announce a creative writing contest for high school students. As you know, Women's History Month is a special time to explore and commemorate the many contributions women have made to the world and we would like to encourage high school students to participate with us in *Telling Women's Stories*.

This year's theme is *Women and the Environment*. Students may write a short story, essay, or poem about a woman from either the local or global community who has made a contribution to our understanding of environmental issues. **The deadline for contest submissions is February 6 and winners will be notified by February 20.** Please see the attached flyer for contest details. In addition to a monetary award, the winning submissions will be published in *Laurel Leaves*, The Sage Colleges' literary journal. All participants and their families are invited to attend the Women's History Month Convocation Lecture on March 5 at 7 p.m. in Bush Memorial Hall on the Russell Sage College campus. Winners will be presented with their award at the lecture. Our panel of judges includes:

- Dr. Shaleen Meaney – Assistant Professor, English
- Dr. Nancy Michela – Associate Professor, Nursing
- Professor Kelly O'Connor-Salomon – Director of the Writing Studio
- Dr. Kathleen Donnelly – Professor Emerita, Chemistry
- Kristi Gustafson – Staff Writer, Features Department, *Times Union*
- Rachel Heym – Graduate Assistant, Assistant to the Director of the Writing Studio

In preparation for this creative writing contest, we are pleased announce that we will be hosting **a writing workshop on Friday, January 16, 2009**. Students will have the opportunity to have their work reviewed by college writing tutors and participate in peer discussion of their work. *Space is limited for this workshop, please encourage students to register early.* **All students are welcome to enter the contest whether they participate in the workshop or not.**

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [napiem@sage.edu](mailto:napiem@sage.edu).