2011/2012 Boston University Trustee Scholarship Competition Essay

Province, Country

Boston University Trustee Scholars are encouraged to develop well-informed and well-reasoned views of important political, social, and artistic issues. We select students who have a sense of how to present persuasive arguments in support of their views. With that in mind, please respond to one of the statements below in an essay of no more than 600 words.

1. Recently countries around the Mediterranean (Egypt, Syria, Libya, etc.) have seen great unrest as populist movements express dissatisfaction with current governments. Should foreign powers (uni- or multilaterally) intervene to prevent violence, or allow the internal dynamic to develop individual, national mechanisms for resolution of democratic disputes?

2. Given the high price of higher education in the United States, some critics have wondered whether a college degree is "worth it." In your view, what is the value of a college degree?

3. Many countries throughout the world cherish and preserve their cultural heritage. Many new African nations have a Minister of Culture, as do major powers such as Russia, England, and China. The United States, by comparison, has no such cabinet position and in fact, the National Endowment for the Arts is constantly under scrutiny and threatened with budget cuts. What role do you believe a nation should take in preserving and encouraging its culture, both historical and contemporary?

Please complete this form and email it along with your essay as an attached Microsoft Word document, Adobe PDF file, or plain text document to **scholars@bu.edu**. Or, you may print the completed form and mail it, with your essay to:

Boston University Scholarship Coordinator 121 Bay State Road Boston, MA 02215

Please note that all application and nomination materials must be submitted by December 1, 2011.