



Business & Professional Women of Pennsylvania

*To achieve equity for all women in the workplace
through advocacy, education, and information.*

Competition Guidelines for participation in the 2018-2019 BPW/PA Young Careerist Program

1. All Young Careerist Candidates must meet the following criteria to be eligible for the BPW/PA Young Careerist Competition:
 - a. Be between the ages of 21 and 35 by the 2019 BPW/PA Convention.
 - b. Be a member in good standing of BPW/PA by Convention.
 - c. Be or have been employed in any business or profession with a minimum of 1 year of full time work experience.
 - d. Understand and support the BPW/PA mission, vision and Legislative Platform.
 - e. Be familiar with the BPW/PA Legislative Platform and pledge not to speak against the Platform issues in the capacity as a Young Careerist Candidate. All Young Careerist Candidates are required to submit a signed copy of the 2018-2019 BPW/PA Legislative Platform confirming their understanding of the Platform and agreeing to the requirements to the competition.
 - f. Be a Young Careerist winner or runner up at the District level.
2. Based on the 2018-2019 BPW/PA theme of **“Celebrating 100 years of Women Helping Women With Passion And Purpose”**, prepare a 4 minute speech from 1 of the 10 topics from the attached list.
3. Young Careerist Candidates may not use props while delivering their speech at the Competition and must remain at the podium during the speech competition and use a microphone if one is available.

All Young Careerist applicant packets must be submitted to the BPW/PA Young Careerist Chair postmarked by May 1, 2019. Electronic submissions are accepted and must be sent via email by 5:00 p.m. on May 1, 2019. The application includes biographical information sheets, a signed copy of the BPW/PA Legislative Platform Statement, the choice of speech topic that will be presented by the participant at the 2019 BPW/PA Convention and a digital photo (head shot-jpg preferred) of the Candidate.

***Celebrating 100 Years of Women Helping
Women with Passion and Purpose***

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Young Careerist Speech Selections

Using our 2018–2019 BPW/PA state theme of “**Celebrating 100 years of women helping women with passion and purpose**”, prepare a four (4) minute speech from one of the following topics:

1. What do you see as the greatest advancement women in the United States have made over the last 100 years? Explain the reasons for your answer and how/why this advancement has impacted you.

2. What can women today learn from the passion and purpose that the suffragettes had for women’s rights? Are any of the takeaways/lessons from the suffragette movement applicable today and why.

3. Choose a woman or girl born within the last 100 years who you believe lives or has lived with passion and purpose. Explain why you believe this and tell us about the history of this girl or woman and why you chose to celebrate her?

4. Choose a topic or activity that relates to women that you are passionate about and tell why you are passionate about the topic or activity. Give a history of your interest and passion in that topic or activity.

5. Who has been the greatest influence in your life and why? Describe how that person lives or lived with passion and purpose.

6. How can we encourage younger women who are interested in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) to embrace it with passion and purpose? What can we do as a society and what if anything can BPW/PA do as an organization to assist younger women who express an interest in these fields?

7. Is equal pay for equal work a passion of yours? If so why?

8. Does the lack of quality, affordable child care act as a barrier for women to obtain equal pay for equal work? What can be done about this issue?

9. Do you believe involvement in sports plays a role in the development of younger women into leaders who live their lives with passion and purpose? In 2018, we celebrate 46 years of Title IX. How important is Title IX today and why?

10. The U.S. is one of the only industrialized nations in the world that doesn’t mandate paid Maternity Leave, and approximately only 11 percent of private-sector American employees have access to such leave. Do you believe that the lack of paid Maternity Leave acts as a barrier to a woman’s gender pay equality and her advancement in the workplace? If so, what if any suggestions do you have?

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