

# Student Essay / Speech Competitions

**Essay Participants:** 10-12 Grade Students, Public & Private Secondary Schools, The Bahamas

**Speech Participants:** 10-12 Grade Students, Public & Private Secondary Schools, New Providence

**Process:** Guidance Counsellors and/or Business Teachers will introduce the competition within their respective schools, encouraging all business track students to submit an entry.

These educators also will undertake responsibility for the first phase of the competition, reviewing all submissions and selecting one essay for submission to BFSB – as **the** top essay from their respective school. Likewise, in the case of the Speech Competition, only **one** entrant from each school can be entered after an internal selection process.

BFSB and other Sponsors of the 2013 School Outreach Programme/NCAM will judge the entries received and select one overall winner in the Essay Contest and one overall winner in the Speech Competition. Prizes will be awarded to the top winner in each competition, both for the student and the school; all participants will be recognised.

**Student Prize:** Laptop

**School Prize:** Gift Certificate

## Topic:

**A Value Added Tax: Does this Suit a Modern Bahamas?**



Essay Length: 1000-1500 (maximum) words

Entry Deadline: October 25, 2013

Submission Deadline: November 08, 2013

Essays can be submitted (Word Document or PDF) by:

Email: [info@bfsb-bahamas.com](mailto:info@bfsb-bahamas.com) Fax: 393-7112

Hand delivery: BFSB, Montague Sterling Centre, East Bay Street

Speech Competition Length: 5 – 7 (maximum) minutes

Entry Deadline: November 05, 2013

Judging: November 19, 2013

It is anticipated that the Presentations Ceremony for both the Essay Contest and Speech Competition will take place on November 19<sup>th</sup> as well. Details to follow.

( ) We will participate in the **Essay Contest**

( ) We will participate in the **Speech Competition**

**Guidance Counsellor/Business Teacher** \_\_\_\_\_

**School** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_

Fax to BFSB at: 393-7712 or email to [info@bfsb-bahamas.com](mailto:info@bfsb-bahamas.com)

## **Essay & Speech Competition National Career Awareness Month 2013**

### **VALUE ADDED TAX – DOES THIS SUIT A MODERN BAHAMAS?**

Overview: Students should look at the opportunities and challenges of introducing a VAT system in The Bahamas – from a “big picture” perspective and discuss whether this is the right move for the jurisdiction at this time in its economic and fiscal development.

### **JUDGING CRITERIA**

#### **Essay Competition**

##### **Content – 65%**

- Citation/or use of credible sources and information
- Was there a conclusion?

##### **General Understanding of Topic – 20%**

##### **Originality – 10%**

##### **Presentation – 5%**

#### **Speech Competition**

##### **Content & Topic Familiarity – 50%**

- Citation/or use of credible sources and information
- Was there a conclusion?
- Knowledge of the topic

##### **Presentation – 30%**

- Use of body language (eye contact, gestures)
- Use of voice projection
- Stage etiquette
- Convincing/Persuasive

##### **Attire & Posture – 15%**

##### **Time Limit – 5%**

### ***A BFSB/NCAM Initiative***

*Hosted in cooperation with Bahamas Business Solutions Ltd., Bahamas Chamber of Commerce & Employers Confederation, KPMG, Ministry of Finance, and Rotary Club of Nassau Sunrise*