**Laws of Life Essay Rubric**

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| **Criteria** | **Score** |
| **Compelling Content**  Does the essay include a clearly articulated law of life or other moral message that would make the world a better place if everyone practiced it? Is the essay positive and life affirming and does it have universal appeal? Would most people agree that this is an important law of life? | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ out of 10 |
| **Depth of Understanding**  Did the essay make the reader both think and feel? Is there evidence of the author’s self-reﬂection and genuine learning – does it capture an “epiphany” or a moment when the “light bulb went on”? Does the author relate the law of life to his/her experiences? | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ out of 7 |
| **Originality**  Did you learn something special and compelling about the author? Did the essay capture a value or ideal in a unique and special way? Was the essay moving? | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ out of 5 |
| **Presentation, Grammar and Spelling**  Is the essay easy to read? Is it clearly written? Is the reader able to tell exactly what the author was trying to share? Do ideas and paragraphs ﬂow smoothly? To what extent does poor grammar and spelling distract a reader from comprehending the basic message of the essay? | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ out of 3 |
| **Total Score** | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ out of 25 |